

Services for May

- 6<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Rev Keith Edwards  
Holy Communion  
Junior Church
- 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Rev Michael Langley  
Junior Church
- 13<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm Christian Aid Service at  
Princes Risborough Baptist  
Church
- 20<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Mr John Bush  
Junior Church
- 20<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Circuit Service  
Aylesbury Methodist Church
- 27<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Christchurch Worship Group



Tea and coffee will be served after  
the morning service.  
Please join us in the hall.

*Princes Risborough*

*Methodist Church*

*'The Messenger'*  
*May 2018*



*This magazine comes to you with the  
good wishes of the Church*

**Princes Risborough Methodist Church**  
**Wycombe Road**  
**Princes Risborough**  
**Buckinghamshire**

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**Material for the June Messenger by  
 Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May at the latest please.**

***This Church is proud to be a member of 'Churches Together in  
 Risborough' associated with The Baptist Church, Elim Church, St.  
 Dunstan's Church, St. Mary's Church and St. Teresa's Roman  
 Catholic Church.***

*Rotas for May*

	<b>Duty Stewards</b>	<b>Welcoming Stewards</b>	<b>Bible Readers</b>	<b>Tea/coffee</b>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Mr M Pullen	Mrs M Stevens Mrs B Oates	Mrs M Stevens Mrs J Gerrard	Mrs C Palmer
13 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs J Gerrard	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mrs S Hunnisett
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs M Judd	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Miss P Scott
27 <sup>th</sup>	Miss M Dore	Mr & Mrs D Robbins	Mr & Mrs D Robbins	Mrs S Wilson

<b>Weekend</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Grass Cutting</b>	<b>Cleaning</b>
5/6	Mrs B Oates	Mr B McCleery	Mrs S Wilson
12/13	Mrs O Nicolle	Mr G Hudson	Mrs B Hudson
19/20	Mrs D Robbins	Mr N Trout	Mrs K Trout (YDA)
26/27	Mrs M Stevens	Mr C McMullan	Mrs F McMullan



If unavailable, please arrange an exchange or replacement, notify the steward, and amend the porch and vestry lists. If you would like to be involved as a welcoming steward or Bible reader, or any other rota please speak to Joe Needham (01844 343246), or one of the Stewards.

Those who kindly provide flowers please leave the wrappings in the vestry so that the stewards have something to wrap them in when they distribute them after the service. We could always do with more than is provided so if anyone has any suitable paper please leave that in the vestry or the vase cupboard.

## Diary Dates for May

3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Christian Aid Lunch
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Longwick Village Fete
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Fairtrade stall
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Retiring Collection
7 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Circuit Holiday
8 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Tuesday Fellowship</b> /Methodist Women in Britain
10 <sup>th</sup> May	SALT
10 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Thy Kingdom Come
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Breakout
<b>13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Messenger Deadline</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Service at Swanbourne
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Pulse
13 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Christian Aid Week
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Pastoral Committee meeting
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Concert at AMC
20 <sup>th</sup> May	Later
24 <sup>th</sup> May	SALT
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Breakout



## Future Dates

26 <sup>th</sup> June	Church Forum
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Induction of Rev Vanessa Rye
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Summer Concert

**Weekly Church Notices:** Please contact Mrs Maureen Judd by telephone (01844 344935) or e-mail - maureenjudd@maureenjudd.plus.com, by noon on Friday with any information to go into the weekly notices . *Maureen Judd*

**Rest Day**—Rev. Keith Edwards' 'day off' is a Wednesday; please try to respect this whenever possible.

## From the Manse ...

We live in a world that is constantly changing and evolving, and sometimes it feels like we as a church are stuck in a rut. I once heard a definition of a rut which is this - *"a rut is a coffin with the ends kicked out!"* We need to grow as a church and that involves change which can be difficult.



I wonder if the early church felt the same way. In Acts we read of how they came together for worship, prayer and to support one another and their community, a huge change from worshipping in the Temple. We also read about the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, which we will celebrate on the 20<sup>th</sup> May, and how it made such a change to the lives of the disciples that they went from being timid and behind closed doors to being bold proclaimers of the gospel. And we read in Acts 2:42 - 47 of how the early church was and how in v47, *"the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."*

We hope that the circuit consultation on the 20<sup>th</sup> June will enable us to embrace the changes we see around us and within. As we look at our calling, that we come together for worship, prayer and to support one another and our community. And that we grapple with that difficult calling, evangelism; reaching out to others as bold proclaimers of the gospel.

I've used this analogy before from Michael Jackson's song:-

I'm looking at the man in the mirror,  
I'm helping him to change his ways.  
I'm looking at the man in the mirror,  
If you want to make the world a better place,  
Take a look at yourself and make a change.

I believe that we are called to make the world a better place, and that will mean taking a good look at ourselves and how we can better be the church God has called us to be. The prayer initiative "Thy Kingdom Come" and the Circuit Consultation will enable us to have plans for the future. My favourite bible passage is this from Jeremiah 29:11-14

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you," declares the Lord.*

Grace and Peace to you, Keith

## Church News

### Junior Church

Junior Church will meet on **6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May**

*Fran McMullan*



Happy Birthday to Brandon Paul, grandson of Chris and Barry Palmer, who will be 11 on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

### Fairtrade Stall.

There was no Fairtrade stall in April as John Vicary was away, but I hope to have one with renewed stock on **6<sup>th</sup> May**. Please support it if you can.

*Judith Gerrard*

### Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection on **6<sup>th</sup> May** for our charity, One Can Trust. Please support it if you can.

*Judith Gerrard*

### Church Forum

Our next Forum will be on **26<sup>th</sup> June**, please put the date in your diary and make an effort to attend this meeting

*Pam Scott*

### Pastoral Committee meeting

The next Pastoral Committee meeting will be on Wednesday **16<sup>th</sup> May**.

*Fay Sheppard*

*Pastoral Committee Secretary.*

### Christian Aid

*Christian Aid Week* is **13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May**. The Christian Aid United Service will be held on Sunday **13<sup>th</sup> May** at 3.00pm at Princes Risborough Baptist Church.

### *Christian Aid Lunch in May*

There will not be the normal lunch during Christian Aid Week, as it would clash with the Royal Wedding on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May, so it has been moved to its normal time in the month of Thursday **3<sup>rd</sup> May**, to be held as usual in the Baptist Upper Hall from 12.00noon to 1.30pm.

*Margaret Stevens*

### SALT Group

SALT Group will be meeting on **10<sup>th</sup> May** at the home of Joe Needham and on **24<sup>th</sup> May** at the home of Maureen Judd. We are currently studying 'Prayers of the Old Testament'. If you wish to join us please contact Victoria Haydon (01844 274996), Joe Needham (01844 343246) or Maureen Judd (01844 344935).

*.Joe Needham*

Unfortunately the 'My Donate' function on the web site is still out of action. However if you would like to make a donation towards our forthcoming refurbishment projects please send a cheque made payable to the 'Princes Risborough Centre Ltd' and send it to Kim at the Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, HP27 ODP. If you would like to book a hall or offer support in any way please telephone Kim, our manager, on 01844 345105.

*Maggie Wooster Keyte*



### *Thank you ...*

A big "Thank You" for all the lovely flowers, cards and best wishes which I received from so many of you for my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. I had a wonderful time, I was very spoiled; a happy time to remember. My love, thanks and best wishes,

*Olive Nicolle*

### **A Moving Preacher**

Terry Stewart

I saw Terry Stewart and his wife, Mary, who were at my service at Stoke Mandeville Methodist Church on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> April. He asked me to pass on the message to the folk at Princes Risborough that the rose we gave him as a leaving present is doing extremely well. His daughter is looking after it until they move into their new home in Sleaford, Lincolnshire, to be nearer to her, in the summer, as they are going abroad again shortly.



*Marilyn Dore*

## Princes Centre Update - April 2018

It has been a fairly quiet month and, as is inevitable, client numbers have been rather changeable with some in hospital or dying, and others coming for trial sessions or joining on a permanent basis. However, provision of a variety of activities remains constant, such as pottery sessions, cookery sessions, games of all types, quizzes, bingo, entertainment, singing and much more.



Recently a number of clients went to the free concert and coffee morning organised by St Mary's Church, as one of their 'Community Acts of Kindness' for Lent, which they thoroughly enjoyed. It is hoped that the band will visit the Centre and make a repeat performance.

St Patrick's Day was celebrated with entertainment, and clients getting involved with dip-dyeing flowers, colouring competitions and a quiz. Some clients have also been busy decorating Easter Eggs which are at present hanging on the trees outside McColl's in Horns Lane.



Looking ahead, Lucy, the Community Champion from Tesco, who gives so much of her time for the Princes Centre, is soon going to start a little gardening group for those clients who would like to do things out in the garden once the weather improves. A visit to the Chinnor Railway is also being arranged.

Things are quiet on the project front although a kitchen design company recently came and gave some useful advice on planning the refurbishment of the kitchen. As the floor has to be replaced for hygiene purposes it has been decided to replace some of the old cupboards at the same time and to acquire an industrial dishwasher. This project should hopefully go ahead later this year.

The Parish of Bledlow with Saunderton and Horsenden recently held a Lent Lunch at the Holy Trinity Church in Bledlow and this resulted in a number of the attendees making donations for the Princes Centre for which we are very grateful.

## Tuesday Fellowship

Our March meeting was our Annual General Meeting, which was chaired by Rev. Keith Edwards. We reviewed what we had done over the past year and looked forward to the year ahead. From our funds accumulated during the year we agreed to donate:-  
£50 to our Church Funds  
£50 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance  
£50 to Risborough First Responders

This month we will not be holding our normal meeting, but will be joining with The Methodist Women in Britain Spring Event at Stoke Mandeville Methodist Church on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May** at 2.30pm.



The Speaker will be Mrs Sandra Goodwin, National President, Methodist Women in Britain, and her talk will be entitled '**Titfers, tatties and toilets' Life in Bolivia, a land of contrasts.**

This is an annual event for groups from the Aylesbury Vale, Wycombe and Amersham Circuits.

Please join us, transport can be arranged so please contact me if you have any queries.

New members are always welcome to join us.

*Pam Scott*

## Lighthouse

Please let me have any unused wallpaper, as I am collecting it for the craft tent at Lighthouse.



It doesn't matter what the pattern is as we will be using the reverse side. Many thanks.

*Fran McMullan*

## Church Anniversary

It was good to see Fred Ireland leading our Anniversary Service in March. A considerable number of us (42 people) came to the lunch afterwards; an opportunity to chat and enjoy a happy time together. There were many delicious contributions of food, and helpers to share the preparation and washing up. Pam's carrot and orange soup was popular as usual, and the excellent quiches and salmon were enjoyed with many side dishes. The varied desserts always seem to be a delight, so thanks to everyone for their contributions and generosity, which resulted in us sending £126 to "Mission in Britain".

*Judith Gerrard*

## Thy Kingdom Come 10<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May.



Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, and the Methodist Church is a major partner in this initiative. It invites all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to know Jesus. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, and the Secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, are inviting people around the world to join with this campaign.

The Circuit Leadership Team has been encouraging all churches in the Circuit to take part this year, and for each church to have a prayer event during this time; for example, a prayer walk, prayer stations, setting up a prayer wall or a prayer tree. There are lots of other ideas on the website: [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) to consider.

Swanbourne Methodist Church's response is to invite everyone to their evening service at 5.00pm on Sunday, 13th May, to share in their 'Thy Kingdom Come' event.

To conclude this initiative, there will be a Circuit Celebration at Aylesbury Methodist Church on Sunday, 20th May, starting at 6.00pm. How other churches in the circuit will respond to fill in the time between these two services is not known.

The church stewards are organising something for our church, but the precise details are not known at the moment, but will be published in the weekly notice sheets. Maureen Judd writes; "prayer is generally a very touchy subject in Methodism; it's the Evangelical churches that seem to be better than us.

However, that does not mean to say we can not try, and this national prayer initiative is a good opportunity. Part of prayer is a conversation with God and it doesn't have to be in fancy language, it can be a hymn, a poem, the Lord's Prayer (or part of it). It can be written down or a silent prayer. I am reminded of two lines of a hymn; 'Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed'. (Singing the Faith number 529; why not read the whole hymn?) Please do not be embarrassed about what to say; just say nothing, but we have some prayer books available to help; just come and support the stewards in our prayer time; when we have planned it! Thank you".

*Peter Willett*

## Fundraising made easy

### Easyfundraising



Easyfundraising does exactly what it says; it raises funds for a good cause, which in our case is Princes Risborough Methodist Church, with minimal extra effort required on your part.

If you or other family members do internet shopping, why not join other members of the church, who have already registered, by going to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to register? You select Princes Risborough Methodist Church as the cause you support. Then all you need to remember when you want to do online shopping is to first of all log on to the easyfundraising website, and then find the retailer you want.

Try it! It's easy and worthwhile!

### 😊 Smile ...

A keen golfer asked the minister whether golf was played in heaven, so the minister said that he would make some inquiries. The two met a few days later and the minister said that he had some information - both good and bad. "The good news," he said, "is that there is golf in heaven. The bad news, you are teeing off at 11 on Friday morning!"

*Contributed by Joe Needham*



### Circuit Holiday

This church sends its best wishes to Rev Helen Kirk and church members from this circuit for their Circuit holiday at Suncliff Hotel, Bournemouth, from **7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May**, hoping they have a great time together. They will have an action packed time with trips out each day to local places of



**Aylesbury Methodist  
Church & Centre  
Buckingham Street, Aylesbury**

**33<sup>d</sup> ANNUAL  
ORGAN CONCERT**

**Presenting Concert Organist**

**Joseph Nolan**

**Organist of Perth Cathedral, Australia**

**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 @ 7.30 pm**

**(Doors open at 7.00 pm)**

**Entrance: £12.00**

**Or £10.00 If booked in advance.**

**(Students entrance free)**

**Tickets available from the Church Office  
on weekday mornings or direct from  
Derrick Matthews (01296 488076)**

**News from Princes Risborough Baptist Church**

The church is pleased to announce that they are soon to have a new minister. Rev Vanessa Rye and her husband, John, will be moving into Princes Risborough on 18<sup>th</sup> May, and her first service will be on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> June.




Before training for the ministry, Vanessa worked as a primary school teacher. She and John have two grown-up daughters and have been members of Didcot Baptist Church since 1996, where, since her ordination in September 2012, she has been an Associate Minister.

Members of all the other churches in the town have been invited to attend Vanessa's Induction service at the Baptist Church on Saturday, **30<sup>th</sup> June** at 3.00pm and look forward to you sharing this happy occasion with them.

*Peter Willett*

**Summer Concert**

Vic Baker is organising a "Summer Concert with Afternoon Tea" at our church on Saturday, **21<sup>st</sup> July** at 4-00pm. The concert will be given by "The Downley Descants" a community choir based in Downley, where their Director of Music is Louise Langley LRAM. Tickets will cost £10.00pp, with school children having free entry. Please telephone Vic on 07894159544 to book your tickets or to ask for more information.



# Longwick Fete

Village Green, Longwick, Bucks.  
**Saturday 5th May 2018**  
 12pm ~ 5pm

Garland Parade & Maypole Dancing  
 Punch & Judy Show  
 Dog Show  
 Traditional Morris Dancing  
 MEGA slide & Inflatable Assault Course  
 Dancing & Singing performances (by Allstars Academy)  
 Go Karts, Pony Rides, Birds of Prey  
 Fairground Rides  
 Raffle-Win an IPAD  
 Tombola & Bar  
 Fish & Chips, Pizza and Scouts' BBQ  
 Win a week's holiday near Alicante  
 Craft Stalls

£1 for adults,  
 free for children

Facebook page.  
 @mail.com

'Little and Large'  
 will be on parade!




## Youth Matters



### Later Group for 11-18 year olds

The Later Group continues to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, which this month will be **20<sup>th</sup> May**. There are ten who regularly attend, and a few others who come occasionally. Most are from families who attend local churches but a few are from non-church families.

The meetings offer table tennis, table-top football, snooker, giant Jenga and the wii, plus our lovely large grass area outside to run around in. There are additional activities and challenges as and when we think of them!

At the end of each evening there is a 'God Slot' when we rely on a member of the clergy from different churches in the town to provide a 10 minute thought-provoking activity or discussion. Revd James Tomkins from St. Dunstan's Church, continues to coordinate 'volunteers' for the God Slot, and keeps parents updated with a monthly email reminder of the meeting dates. Ryan Romano from St. Mary's Church attends each Later Group meeting and works directly with the young people and has a good relationship with them. Chris and I set up the hall and equipment, and organise food and drinks. This ensures there is always enough adults present for safeguarding purposes.

We hope that a few more teenagers will join in the coming months to swell the numbers back up to 16/17 per meeting.

*Fran McMullan*



### Informal Bible Study for school years 10-13

Meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at St Mary's Chapter House from 6-8pm.



### Breakout We meet Fridays from 5 - 6.15pm at Elim

Church, during term time, and have games, craft, Lego, puzzles as well as watching an episode of an exciting DVD called Friends & Heroes, where we watch the adventures of a group of friends who also tell a Bible Story which is part of the theme for that particular week. We next meet on **11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May**.

*Doline Gadd*