



The Messenger

December 2015 &
January 2016



This magazine comes with the best wishes
of Princes Risborough Methodist Church

Princes Risborough Methodist Church

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*Material for the February Messenger to the Editors by
Friday, 15th January 2016 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 Parish Church and St.Teresa's
Roman Catholic Church*

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From the Manse -

Dear Friends,

It is the season of Advent leading up to Christmas. For us as Christians, Advent is an opportunity for reflection – who is this Jesus? What does he mean to me? Have I a real relationship with him?

I remember going on a trip with a very spiritually aware colleague from work around Christmas time. She was interested in my faith, but only from

a distance. I finally managed to tease out of her a one-line summary of why she wasn't a Christian – "I can't believe that a single human was responsible for creating all of this."

Creation is one of those topics that can cause great debate especially among scientists. Natural selection and evolution are the flavour of the day, so much so that any religious expression of our humanity (especially Christian expression) is slammed by those who would see all expressions of faith stamped out or privatised, and especially so at Christmas time. I have been reading about "Intelligent Design", a theory that suggests that even where natural selection and evolution take place, they do so in the framework of intelligent design - they are not random but rather guided. And therefore we are here not because of a freak accident millions of years ago, but because of a creative intelligent designer – God.

As Christians we may feel we know this because we believe that the tiny baby whose birthday is celebrated all around the world on the 25th December is none other than Jesus, the redeemer and creator of the world and everything in it. We are his creations, made, as Genesis puts it, in "His image" and created for relationships with God and with each other. So who is Jesus for you? And who can he be for your neighbour, or friend or colleague?

You see, God created us to relate to one another, to pass on the revelation

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of Jesus Christ born on Christmas Day, the saviour of the world, the world that he created, and through His blood, redeemed. But what good is that news if we don't communicate it when we have the eyes of the whole world upon us – It's Christmas!! Let's celebrate it together.

So perhaps this year, as our President of conference urged us, you can seek out that **one** person, and introduce them to the real Christmas. Bring them to one of our many events or services and let them experience the true joy that only Jesus can bring. And may we all share a blessed Christmas indeed.

Grace and peace to you – *Keith*.



Christmas ...

Carol Service on Sunday, 20th December at 3pm, led by Rev. Keith Edwards, followed by refreshments. Offers of mince pies or other delicious offerings would be welcome. Please let Judith or Barbara know if you can bring along something.. There will be no Morning Service on that day.

Christmas Eve Communion at 8pm led by Rev. Keith Edwards.

Christmas Morning 9.30am led by Mrs. Dawn Edwards. There will be a collection for Action for Children.

There will be no Church Service on Sunday, 27th December.

Junior Church & Creche

The new helpers' rota is now in place.

Our dates in December are the 6th and 13th. The 20th December being our Carol Service at 3pm. In January, 10th, 17th and 24th.

- Fran McMullan.

Christmas Lights



With Christmas fast approaching, it's time to dust off those old Christmas albums, stock up on plenty of mince pies and start looking forward to this year's Princes Risborough Christmas Lights event.

This year the Princes Risborough Festival Committee, Market Group, Princes Risborough Town Council and Wycombe District Council have been working together to obtain new lights and infrastructure for this year's switch-on. It will make

Christmas 2015 in Risborough bigger and better than ever!

This year will see new lights in the Market Square, High Street and Bell Street. Festival Chairman Richard Stevenson said, *"the old lights needed to be replaced, and on behalf of the town I would like to thank everyone who contributed"*.

To accompany the new lights we have a host of music and fun in the Market Square, starting at 5pm on Friday 4th December. We have performances from St Mary's Church and local school choirs, Allstars Academy, an array of stalls, hot food and more. To top this Father Christmas will be stopping by to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Sarah Harding to switch on the new lights at around 7.30pm..

The Festival Committee also wishes you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing you all on the 4th December.

CTR (*Churches Together in Risborough*) have been asked to lead Carol singing between approximately 6.30 and 7pm, so if you are able to pop down to

add a little volume to the Carols, please do come along.

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Christmas Card & Christian Aid

Our Church Christmas Card, made by Junior Church, will soon be available. We are invited to sign the card to exchange greetings to friends within our Church family and a donation in lieu of postage &c. is requested to raise funds for Christian Aid.

Donations may be returned (clearly marked) via the collection plate or passed to a Steward. A smaller version of the signed card will be sent to friends who have moved away or are unable to attend Church.

To enable us to benefit from UK Aid (*a scheme whereby the UK Government pledged to match every donation made to the Christmas Appeal between 6th November 2015 and 5th February 2016*) envelopes will be provided alongside the Christmas Card in addition to those in the Messenger.

Malaria is a leading cause of death in Nigeria, with an estimated 250,000 children dying each year. It's particularly dangerous for pregnant women, with the disease contributing to an estimated 11% of maternal

deaths. Money raised will go to support projects in Nigeria aimed at tackling this deadly disease. Envelopes can be returned via the offertory either having signed the Christmas card or simply return the envelope from the Messenger as in previous years. Many thanks for your continued support, it's much appreciated.

The monthly luncheons will be on Thursday 3rd December and Thursday 7th January at the Baptist Upper Hall from 12 until 1.15pm. Everyone is welcome. It's good that we now have regular attendees and several who attend whenever they can. I hope they all feel welcome as they are helping to raise money whilst enjoying a meal at the same time. – Margaret Stevens.

Three wise owls!

The three wise men travelled for days before reaching Bethlehem arriving after the birth. They stood and viewed the scene in awe and knelt reverently in the Lord's presence, then gave gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

Three wise women would have stopped to ask directions and

arrived before the birth. They would have delivered the baby, cleaned the stable and cooked a meal before giving the baby really useful gifts.

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Christ for Christmas

A campaign under this heading has been launched in an attempt to 'bring the message of Christmas to those who have forgotten it.'

The aim is to spread the true meaning of Christmas through a national poster campaign. A recent survey by ComRes on behalf of the campaign showed that more than half of the UK population (53%) do not consider celebrating the birth of Jesus through religious services an important part of Christmas.

The campaign '*wants to unite Christians across the country behind the message of Christmas starts with Christ and provide them with the tools to spread this truth in a meaningful way.*' To find out more and perhaps request a free resource pack, check the website.

christmasstartswithchrist.com

Christmas Lunches

Saturday, 5th December at
Waddesdon Methodist Church,
and

Saturday, 12th December at
Stewkley Methodist Church -
ticket only!

Christmas Concert by Candlelight

Presented by the Chinnor Silver
Band at St. Dunstan's Church,
Monks Risborough, 16th
December at 8pm. Tickets £8
each available from The
Elephant's Trunk, Duke Street or
Pat Kimber 01844 273942.

Please M'lud

It was Christmas week and the Judge was in a benign mood as he asked the prisoner what he was charged with.

'*Doing my Christmas shopping early*' replied the man.

'Why, that's no offence,' said the Judge. 'How early were you doing it'.

'Before the shop opened' replied the defendant.

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What to give this Christmas?

Your time : Look for ways to help those who cannot help themselves.

Your love : Give love freely to those who need it most and deserve it least.

Your life : Your life was a gift to you from God. Make it a gift from God to others.

Your Lord : Jesus is the greatest gift of all. Introduce him to a friend.

Might there be more to Christmas?

Combining the Gospel of Luke with a short introduction to the person at the centre of Christmas, a book with this title takes you on a journey from Jesus' birth, through to Jerusalem, where the story reaches its climax.

It's an ideal giveaway, a great introduction for those new to church and is perfect for sharing with those who have questions about the Christian faith. This thought-provoking and stimulating take on the greatest story ever told is available for just £1.99 (+ p&p) and you get 25% off if you order 10 or more copies. Visit the Bible Society on-line shop to place an order.

Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal

A very big 'Thank you' to our Church family, Gatensbury Place residents, The Secret Garden Pre-School parents and many other family and friends for their support and the fantastic amount contributed in any way by providing boxes, goods and money towards the items for filling these boxes together with the transportation costs.

25 Family and 5 Elderly shoeboxes have been packed very full and sent on their way to families in Eastern Europe to give them the extra special gifts for Christmas. Thank you for your support for this worthwhile project. – Pam Scott.

Fairtrade Stall

The November stall resulted in £71, well done to everyone, and there will be a stall after the services on 6th December and 10th January. – *Judith Gerrard.*

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Quiz - How well do you know your Christmas Carols?

1. Excluding Jesus, how many 'kings' appear in Carols?
2. Who sang the first Carols celebrating Jesus' birth?
3. Which Carol begins with bells ringing?
4. Exactly how should 'Good Christian men rejoice' according to the Carol?
5. In the Carol 'It came upon a midnight clear' what line follows 'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men...'
6. In the Carol 'It came upon a midnight clear' what line follows?
7. Which two Carols both identify the birthplace of Jesus in their first lines?
8. 'He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all'. Now complete the verse.
10. Which Carol has a calypso rhythm?
11. Which Carol is written as if it is being sung by the Magi themselves?

12. Which Carol finishes with this message – 'All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace'

Answers on page 20.

Smile ... twice!

A vicar was invited to have tea with a family who attended his church. While there, he noticed the small son staring at him. Tactfully, the vicar asked the boy if he was interested in his dog collar. "Yes," said the boy, "we have someone at our school who wears something like that because they kill fleas and ticks for up to three months."

Two nuns were shopping in a supermarket and passed the drinks section. One asked the other if she would like to buy some beer. The other nun nodded but said she was unsure about being seen buying it. The first nun told her not to worry and picked up a six pack and took it to the till. When she saw the check-out lady had a surprised look, the nun said, "The beer is used for washing our hair." The cashier, without blinking an eye, reached under the counter and put a package of pretzels in the bag with the beer,

saying, "Here, don't forget the curlers."

Steering Group
will meet on 2nd February
2016.

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Café Church

Our first Café Church was held on Sunday 1st November. It was a more informal form of worship, allowing the act of worship to take place in a relaxed manner.

On arrival we were greeted by the music of the Beatles: "*All you need is love*" The church had changed from formal seating to tables and chairs arranged in café style. The stewards and helpers had been busy not only re-arranging the church but preparing hot croissants, fruit buns, juices and all the ingredients of a continental breakfast. The Minister appointed to lead the act of worship, Rev. Steve Watts together with his wife, Valerie, who is also his AV technician, was there. A few members of the congregation began to arrive somewhat slowly. Was this going to be a disastrous experiment? We couldn't sit in

our usual places or by the person they normally sit by. We were not sure what was going to happen. Perhaps we were all a little outside our comfort zone.

Then the church quickly began to fill. More tables and chairs were needed. Croissants were brought in, together with butter, marmalade and sugar, suddenly it was hectic and great.

The theme of the service was LOVE. In his down-to earth style, with a touch of humour and indeed his self deprecating humour, Steve Watts brought to a new level of understanding of true Christian love, for which I for one am most grateful. The service used modern music. Something with which some of us struggle, but it was so appropriate in this setting.

I hope we can repeat this on future occasions, it was different for us, but maybe if we are to develop and grow we need to take on board activities which may make us feel just a little uncomfortable. This was a very different type of act of worship and it is good that we have had the courage to go ahead and try something different. After all we are all different, with our various likes and dislikes, so the Church needs to try and meet all our needs for worship. If a different type of worship is

attractive to our younger members then we must all be prepared to embrace change from time to time.

Thanks again to the helpers who made the service possible and to Steve and Valerie Watts for leading us in a memorable and uplifting act of worship.

- Vic Baker.

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Tuesday Fellowship

In October Philip Derbyshire, a Trustee of the Charity ROPE, came and talked to us and showed us pictures.

In October 2014 Philip took part in a climb of Mount Kilimanjaro with a group of five from the UK and he raised over £2400 for this charity. This was Philip's first visit to Africa and he took the opportunity to visit projects supported by ROPE in Kenya and the surrounding area. A donation of £50 was given to ROPE from Fellowship Funds. It was good to have Sue and David Neil join us for this meeting and also welcome Chris Palmer and Judith Gerrard.

Our next meetings are 17th December and 16th January. All are welcome.- Pam Scott.

Christmas Crafty Coffee Morning

Saturday 5th December

at St Mary's Church from 10am to 12 noon. All proceeds to Lighthouse. - Coffee/Stollen/Christmas Gifts/Raffle for Christmas Hamper, etc.

R.O.P.E.

Relief for Oppressed People
Everywhere

This small Amersham based charity is our Church's chosen charity for 2016 and a **retiring collection will be taken on Sunday, 3rd January 2016.**

Please support them if you can. We continue to collect used postage stamps which Judith is happy to receive - don't forget to leave a good border round each stamp!

The latest edition of their newsletter is in the church porch, giving information on the Syrian refugee crisis and details of their work in Ghana, Kenya, Cambodia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Nepal and South Africa.

Rope has a booklet "Lifeline, gifts worth giving", which is also in the porch. It lists a number of "alternative Christmas gifts" you can buy

from £3 to £750.00 for needy people that ROPE knows.

They celebrate their 25th anniversary next year with a Thanksgiving Service at King's Church, Amersham on Saturday, 5th March.

-Judith Gerrard & Peter Willett.

Church Forum

8th March 2016 at 8pm

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Self Denial

Our Covenant Service on 10th January is traditionally the time when we think about 'Self Denial' and how we can support further the work of The Methodist Church Fund for World Mission to assist our Mission Partners working overseas. Envelopes are available for any contribution you are able to make and it would be appreciated if you are able to complete the Gift Aid Declaration. Please would you return these envelopes to me or via the collection plate during January. Thank you, your continued support is very much appreciated. – Pam Scott

Covenant Service

10th January, 2016.

We hold an annual Covenant Service, at which we celebrate all that God has done for us, and affirm that we give our lives and choices to God. The traditional Covenant prayer makes it very clear that this affirmation is a serious one that embraces the whole of our life, in all its parts. Most people find it quite tough to say, and really mean it. But the prayer is so central to the Christian life that other Churches have also adopted it. In our culture we tend to prize our ability to make decisions and choose our own path in life. It can feel very hard to give that up. But this prayer is like a love poem. It is about surrendering to God in love and joy.

The Methodist Covenant Prayer

*'I am no longer my own but yours.
Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing,
put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you,
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you,
or brought low for you;*

*let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all
things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be
it.
And the covenant now made on
earth, let it be ratified in heaven.'*

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Joint services

These services, held alternately in our Methodist Church and St. Mary's Parish Church, are so valuable and we are grateful to Rev. Keith Edwards and Rev. David Williams for leading them. The next one will be at our own Church at 6pm on 10th January. If you haven't attended one, please do. You won't be disappointed.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18th – 25th January 2016

There will be a special service on Sunday, 24th January at 3pm at St. Peter's Church, Owlswick, organised by the Rev. James Tomkins. Please come along.

A reminder

Ministers' rest days –

- ✓ Rev. Keith Edwards
Wednesdays
- ✓ Rev. Helen Kirk
Fridays.

The Princes Centre

We were sad to hear of the death of Peter Wotton, a founder member of the Risboro' Cares Charity. He contributed to the continued provision of Day Care services in our local area. Our thoughts are with his family.

A total of £815.57 was raised from our recent collection at Tesco. With gift aid this totals over £1,000. Thank you all for your help. There will be another collection there on 4th December when the Jingers choir will sing for an hour in the morning.

The Jingers will also hold a concert in St Mary's Church on Friday 11th December from 10.30

to 11.30am at which the Fundraising Group will be holding a raffle. Please come along and enjoy their singing.

Our recent Quiz and Bingo evening raised £522, some of which will provide Christmas gifts for elderly clients, some of whom have no close family.

The Nationwide Building Society have offered to send a group of volunteers to help with odd jobs in December and TSB also continues to support the Princes Centre with monthly coffee

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mornings. The organisers of the Monks Risborough Horticultural Show and the Risborough Horse Show have both sent substantial donations recently, which are much appreciated. Many thanks also to all our supporters who continue to donate time or funds to further the refurbishment of the buildings. A special thank you to all those generous people who have contributed through the 'My Donate' scheme, which amounted to over £880 last month.

We now have spaces available for people who wish to sample what we have to offer. If you are lonely, or are a carer and wish to give your relative the opportunity to socialise with

others with similar problems, and join in various activities, whilst giving yourself a break, please contact our manager, Kim, on 01844 345105, and she will be delighted to offer a free taster session. Our daily charges are extremely low in comparison with home care hourly rates, or Bucks County Council rates, and transport and meals can be easily arranged

Everyone is welcome to 'Pop In' at the Centre on Clifford Road on Friday mornings between 10am and 12noon for companionship and a cup of coffee and a piece of cake.

- Maggie Wooster.

Transport ... If you need transport to a Church service or event please ring Beverley Hudson on 343932 and she will try to help

One Can Trust

Please support this appeal. Our Church box ends up at the Food- bank HQ in High Wycombe, before distribution. A list of needs is on the box in the church hall. - Marilyn Dore.

Quiz night & Fish and Chips!

in aid of the Karibuni Trust

on Saturday January 23rd at
Fairford Leys Church and
Community Centre starting at
7pm. Tickets £10 to include fish
and chip supper, bring your
own drink, alcohol allowed.
Tables of 8. If you would like
to make up/be in a team please
contact Joe Needham (01844
343246

joe.needham@btinternet.com)

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Post Party

Christmas

Saturday 30th January 2016

from 3pm – 6pm. Always a fun
occasion with a delicious tea.
Everyone but everyone is not
only invited but encouraged to
come along. Join in or simply
watch. A list for attendees
and those offering food or help
will be posted In the Church
porch in the new year. If
anyone will organise a game
then please speak up!

SALT

*(Sharing & Learning
Together)*

Everyone is welcome to join this
informal group meeting on
Thursday evenings in private
homes, beginning with a cup of
coffee. It is always wise to
check times and venues. - Please
speak to Victoria, Maureen or
Joe for more details. The last
meetings of the year are 3rd and
17th December.



A challenge! If you haven't yet
dipped your toes into the
Easyfundraising website, do it
now! Just please make that
little extra effort when shopping
online. Such a simple way of
raising money for our Church
funds without costing you a
penny.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Please contact me if you require
further information.

-Joe Needham

New Address ...

William & Theresa Dore move into their new home on 3rd December and their new address is :

Sea Vista
Gelliswick Bay,
Milford Haven,
Pembrokeshire.
SA73 3RS
'Phone 01646 693723

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Avoid these at Christmas!

Law makers are busy people...

1. In 1551 Edward VI decreed that everyone should go to Church on Christmas Day or go to jail. Added to that you should walk to Church. So put away the horses and carriages or any other means of transport..

2. Of course you could take a chance and drive to Church in your car, or even get on your bike, but be careful where you park. Under an Act of 1780 when George III was on the throne the police could confiscate and sell any vehicle

parked close to a Church. The money being distributed among the poor and needy.

3. Charles II forbade anyone whatsoever to do or exercise any worldly labour on 25th December.

4. Under the 1975 Sex Discrimination Act if you advertise for a Father Christmas you must make it clear that women can apply.

5. The ancient custom of kissing under the mistletoe is threatened by the Human Rights Act.

6. If you have your Christmas meal in an hotel or restaurant you must not have more than 3 courses. This was decided by William IV in the People's Charter of 1836 and it still stands.

7. According to the Unlawful Games Act passed by Henry VIII in 1541 you can't take part in any sports other than archery, leaping and vaulting on Christmas Day.

8. If you think you can go shooting, think again. An 1831 Act of William IV states that the only use allowed for a gun on the 25th December is to defend yourself or your country.

9. The Prevention of Bribery & Corruption Act states that employees of a company must refuse Christmas gifts other than small items such as diaries and calendars.

10. So sit down and eat a mince pie as long as it wasn't made on Christmas Day. Henry V111 introduced a law in 1536 which said nobody shall be 'concerned with their preparation'.

11. As for Christmas puddings, in the same Act he described them as 'abominable and idolatrous things to be avoided at Christmas'.

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Whitechapel Mission

Barbara and John Drake attended a Service of Thanksgiving at Whitechapel on Sunday, 15th November last and have kindly left the service sheet and the 2015 Annual Review in our Church porch for us to read. You are challenged to find the time to read both. We are reminded that Whitechapel Mission is a Methodist Church with a worshipping congregation, holding quarterly services.

The trustees write 'On our website and in our Annual Review there are many statistics showing the numbers of people using the different services that are provided. Looking at past reviews there is one trend that is inescapable and it is that the number of people turning to the Whitechapel Mission just keeps on increasing. Last year we reported that the number of different people helped during the year had exceeded 5,000 for the first time. This year that figure had increased to 5,332. In the annual review for 2011 it was reported that for the first time the number of breakfasts served had exceeded 100,000 and it has been above that figure every year since. Last year was 108,184.

If only the Whitechapel Mission wasn't needed! But the clear message behind these figures shows that it is and that it will be for a long time to come. For no matter how hard Tony and the staff work and no matter how many successes they report, the number of people needing their services keeps rising and every morning at 6am there will be a queue of people outside waiting for the doors to open.

The danger of statistics is that they are figures, numbers, something to be reported. But these numbers are more than this, they each represent a living, breathing human being, behind every one of which is a story of how they find themselves at the Mission. They come for help. For

almost 140 years, through wars, the depression, economic boom-times and a few 'busts' there have been people willing to answer the call to help those in need. Without the staff, trustees, volunteers and donors down the years there would be no Whitechapel Mission today to help those individuals who come to begin to find their place back in society.

Support takes many forms, donating food, clothing or money, volunteering, or maybe telling our story to family, friends, neighbours or work colleagues and encouraging them to become part of 'The Whitechapel family'. Whatever form your support takes 'Thank you'.

Finally we remember that this is

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God's work, and so we give thanks to Him for the successes, ask Him to forgive us when we have fallen short, and ask for His blessing on the work here for His Kingdom in the coming year.'

The 2015 Review is a 'must' read, heart breaking though it is.

Please continue to remember the Whitechapel Mission and donate warm clothing, toothpaste and toothbrushes, soap etc. Look on their website for details of urgent needs.

A reason to shout Hallelujah!

The Royal Mail announced that this year's specially designed Christmas stamps will feature scenes from the nativity story. The stamps feature scenes from the Biblical story of the nativity from the Annunciation and the birth of Christ.

**Christmas isn't a date – it's a
state of mind and heart.**

Film Nights at at St. Dunstan's Church

Saturday, 23rd January at 5pm

'Big Hero 6' (PG)

A fabulous Disney film of high
tech heroes

Free marshmallows

Saturday, 30th January at 7pm

'The Second Best Marigold
Hotel' (PG)

The next instalment from the
hotel that promises everything
but usually fails to deliver!

Free speciality tea

Bring your own snacks/drinks.
All children must be
accompanied by an adult

Tickets: adults - £3, children £1
available from Johanna Powell
01844 343996 or Rachel Ungi
01844 761535

A useful New Year
Resolution is simply
to remember to write 2016
instead of 2015 on letters and
cheques!

December Rotas

Welcoming Stewards :

6th : The McMullan family
13th : Mr. and Mrs. G. Hudson
20th : Mr. and Mrs. B. Palmer (3pm)
25th : Mr. and Mrs. D. Robbins
27th : No Service

Bible Readers :

6th: Mrs. C. Palmer and Mrs. V. Haydon
13th : Mr. and Mrs. G. HudsonJ. Drake and Mrs. M Judd
20th : Carol Service
25th : Mr. and Mrs. D. Robbins

Cleaning :(Saturdays)

5th : Mrs. C. Palmer
12th : Mrs. K. Trout
19th : Miss Pam Scott & Mrs. J. Gerrard
24th : Mrs. C. Palmer

Flowers :

6 th : Mr. K. Smith	13 th : Mrs. B. Oates
20 th : Mrs. D. Robbins	25 th :

Refreshments :

6 th : Mrs, B. Willett	13 th : Mrs. C. Palmer
20 th : Mrs. J. Gerrard & Mrs. B. Oates	

If unavailable for any date listed, please arrange an exchange or replacement, notify the Steward and amend the porch and vestry. Please contact a Stewards if you are able to offer help with any of these duties.

December diary dates

- 3rd : SALT group meet SALT group meet
- 3rd : Christian Aid Lunch at the Baptist Church Hall
- 4th : Christmas Lunch for the over 75s
- 5th : Christmas Crafty Morning Fair at St. Mary's
- 5th : Christmas Lunch at Waddesdon Methodist Church
- 5th : Christmas Lights/Carol Singing
- 6th : Junior Church with Creche
- 6th : Fairtrade Stall after Morning Service
- 12th : Christmas Lunch at Stewkley Methodist Church (ticket only)
- 13th : Junior Church with Creche
- 16th : Candlelight Concert at St. Dunstan's Church
- 17th : Tuesday Fellowship meet
- 17th : SALT group meet
- 20th : Carol Service at 3pm

Stewards:

- 6th : Mr. Mike Pullen – 01844 343188
- 13th : Mrs. Judith Gerrard – 01494 449732
- 20th : Miss Marilyn Dore – 01844 345537
- 24th : Mrs. Maureen Judd - 344935
- 25th : Mr. Will Richmond – 01844 342448

Quiz answers :

1. Five – Three Kings bearing gifts. King David: Good King Wenceslas.
2. The heavenly choir of angels.
3. Ding dong merrily on high.
4. 'With heart and soul and voice'.
5. 'From heaven's all-gracious king'.
6. A star and angels.
7. Once in royal David's city....O little town of Bethlehem.
8. 'And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall'.
9. See Him lying on a bed of straw.
10. Silent Night.
11. We three Kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we travel afar.
12. While shepherds watched their flocks by night.

January 2016 Rotas

Welcoming Stewards:

3rd : Mrs. M. Stevens and Mrs. B. Oates

10th : Mrs. F. Shephard and Mr. J. Needham (am) Mr. J. Needham (pm)

17th : The McMullan family

24th : Mr. and Mrs. J. Drake

31st : Mr. and Mrs. G. Hudson

Bible Readers:

3rd : Mrs. M. Stevens and Mr. W. Richmond

10th : Mrs. F. Shephard and Mr. J. Needham (am) Mrs. M. Judd (pm)

17th : Mrs. J. Gerard and a Junior Church member

24th : Mr. J. Drake and Mrs. V. Haydon

31st : Mr. and Mrs. G. Hudson

Cleaning: (Saturdays)

2nd : Miss M. Dore

9th : Mrs. C. Palmer.

16th : Mrs. B. Hudson

23rd : Mrs. F. McMullan

31st : Mr. and Mrs. D. Robbins

Flowers:

3rd : Mrs. B. Oates

10th : Mrs. M. Stevens

17th : Miss P. Scott

24th : Mrs. D. Robbins

31st : Mrs. M. Stevens

Refreshments:

3rd : Mrs. B. Oates

10th : -

17th : -

24th : -

31st : Mrs. M. Stevens

January 2016 diary dates

3rd : Retiring Collection for ROPE
7th : Christian Aid Lunch at the Baptist Church Hall
10th : Junior Church with Creche
10th : Fairtrade Stall after Morning Service
15th : Last date for February Messenger material
16th : Tuesday Fellowship meet
17th : Junior Church with Creche
23rd : Quiz & Fish and Chips at Fairford Leys Church for Karibuni
24th : Junior Church with Creche
24th : Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service 3pm at Owlswick
30th : Post Christmas Church party 3pm – 6pm

Stewards :

3rd : Mr. Will Richmond
10th : Mr. Mike Pullen (am)
17th : Mrs. Maureen Judd
24th : Mrs. Judith Gerrard
31st : Mr. Mike Pullen

Telephone

01844 342448
01844 343188 Miss Marilyn Dore (pm)
01844 344935
01494 449732
01844 343188

Weekly Church Notices : Please contact Will Richmond by telephone (3432448) or e-mail () with any information regarding weekly notices.

“As the old year retires and a new one is born, we commit into the hands of our Creator the happenings of the past year and ask for direction and guidance in the new one. May He grant us His grace, His tranquillity and His wisdom!”

- Peggy Toney Horton, *Does God Want Us to Be Happy*

Merry CHRISTMAS

THANKS BE UNTO GOD FOR HIS UNSPEAKABLE GIFT.

2 COR 9:15

December 2015

6th 10am : Rev. Keith Edwards

Holy Communion Service & Junior Church & Creche

13th 10am : Mr. John Shaw

Junior Church & Creche

20th 3pm : Rev. Keith Edwards

Carol Service

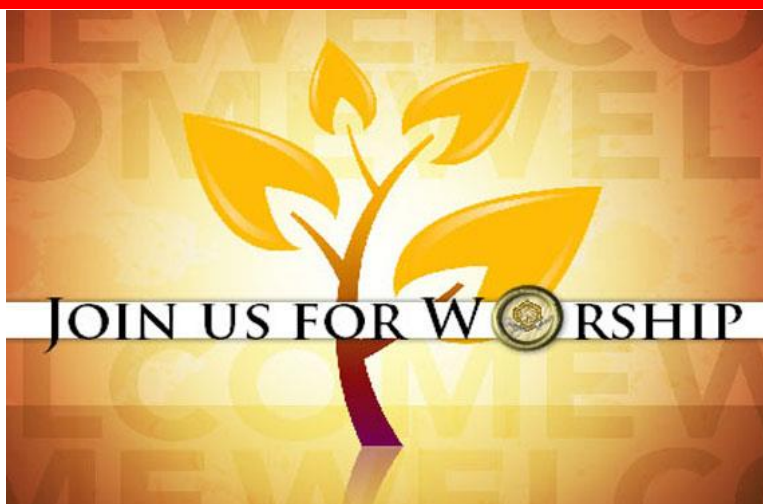
(Please note - no Morning Service)

24th 8pm : Christmas Eve Communion Service

25nd 10am : Christmas Day

Mrs. Dawn Edwards

27th Please note - no Service



in January 2016

- 3rd** 10am : Mr. Colin Watts
- 10th** 10am : Rev. Keith Edwards
Covenant Service/Junior Church & Creche
6pm : Joint Service with St. Mary's Parish
Church held here
- 17th** 10am : Aylesbury Creativity Group
Junior Church & Creche
- 24th** 10am : Rev, Irena Byron – *Junior Church & Creche*
3pm : CTR Joint Service at St. Peter's Church,
Owlswick – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 31st** 10am : Rev. Ann Henman

