

Services for March

- 4th 10.00am Rev Ann Henman
Holy Communion
Junior Church
- 11th 10.00am Mr Arthur Sara
Junior Church
- 11th 6.00pm Joint Service at our Church
- 18th 11.00am Rev Fred Ireland
Church Anniversary
- 18th 6.00am Circuit Service at Aylesbury
Methodist Church
- 25th 10.00am Rev Keith Edwards
- 29th tba Watch weekly notices
- 30th 10.00am Good Friday service at the
Baptist Church, followed by
Procession of Witness



Tea and coffee are served after the morning service. Please join us in the Hall.

Princes Risborough

Methodist Church

'The Messenger'

March 2018



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

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Buckinghamshire

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**Material for the April Messenger by
 Sunday 11th March 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 March

	Duty Stewards	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
4 th	Mr M Pullen	Trout Family	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mrs S Wilson
11 th 10 am	Mrs C Palmer	Mr J Drake Mrs F McMullan	Mr J Drake Mrs V Haydon	Mrs M Stevens
11 th 6 pm	Miss M Dore	Mr J Needham	Miss M Dore	
18 th	Mrs M Judd	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mrs B Oates
25 th	Mrs J Gerrard	Mrs M Stevens Mrs B Oates	Mrs M Stevens Mr M Pullen	Mr J Needham

Weekend	Flowers	Grass Cutting	Cleaning
3/4	Miss P Scott	Mrs M Stevens	Mr D Stevens
10/11	Mrs D Robbins	Mr Greg Hudson	Mrs B Hudson
17/18	Mrs B Willett	Mr N Trout	Mrs K Trout
24/25	Mrs M Judd	Mr C McMullan	Mrs F McMullan
31/1 April		Mr B McCleery	Mrs S Wilson



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 March

1 st March	Christian Aid Lunch
1 st March	CTR Lent talk
2 nd March	Women's World Day of Prayer
4 th March	Fairtrade stall
4 th March	Retiring Collection
6 th March	Church Forum
7 th March	Parking Review
8 th March	CTR Lent talk
9 th March	Breakout
11th March	Messenger Deadline
12 th March	Silent Prayer at St Dunstan's
15 th March	CTR Lent talk
18 th March	Anniversary Lunch - service starts at 11.00
18 th March	PRMS Afternoon Tea Concert
18 th March	Later
20 th March	Tuesday Fellowship
22 nd March	CTR Lent talk
23 rd March	Breakout
25 th March	Start of Summer time



Future Dates

1 st April	Dawn service
21 st April	Lighthouse Quiz
27 th April	Princes Centre Quiz
7 th – 11 th May	Circuit Holiday

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

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

From the Manse ...



As I write this my dad and I are clearing the house of my aunty Bunty who passed away in January. She was a lovely lady who reached the age of 96. I remember her as a tidy lady and her house seemed to be quite the same with a few pieces of crockery neatly displayed. However, as we looked through cupboards and wardrobes we began to find hoards and hoards of stuff, seemingly enough crockery and clothing and bedding and food to fill the house to the brim – and that was before we went out to the shed!

When you step back from what appears to be, and take a look at the bigger picture we see how easy it is to accumulate so much clutter!

That reminded me of a colleague Chris Gardner who preached on Luke 9:2-4 *and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. He told them: "take nothing for the journey – no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra tunic."*

Jesus sent the disciples out with nothing but the gospel. Chris suggested that in our present age we seem to live a gospel that is cluttered. Cluttered with our individual experiences, with our individual interpretations and if we are not careful, our own truths. We can be so wrapped up in the detail of the message that we forget to look at the bigger picture, i.e. what the message actually is – which is this;

That Jesus came to give life to all and that we might live that life to the full, here and now, not in the future. The liberation that Jesus offers is that we can be who he calls us to be right now. Our lives can sometimes become so cluttered that we lose sight of this wonderful message.

It's easy to clean my auntie's house and throw away some of the rubbish, but what about our lives? As we approach Lent we have the opportunity to take a step back and reflect on the bigger picture. Who is this Jesus and what does he mean to me in my life? and, is there any clutter in my life that is stopping me being the person he wants me to be?

Yours in Christ

Keith Edwards

Church News

Junior Church

Dates for March are 4th and 11th.

Fran McMullan

Fairtrade Stall.

The stall in February took £47.50, thanks to all who contributed.

The next stall will be after the service on 4th March, so please have a look and buy something delicious if you can!

Judith Gerrard

Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection after the service on 4th March for our current charity, One Can Trust.

Judith Gerrard

Anniversaries



to Sarah Haydon, who will be 17 on 3rd March and Adam Judd, who will be 16 on 8th March.

Congratulations to Barry and Chris Palmer, who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 23rd March.

Transport to Church

If you require transport to or from any of the Sunday services or other events please speak to a Steward.

Church Forum

This will be held on Tuesday 6th March at 8.00pm at the Church. Agenda and reports will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Pam Scott

United Services

These monthly evening services starting at 6.00pm are held either in our Church, the Baptist Church or St. Mary's Church. We are grateful to the ministers for leading these services.

The next service will be held on Sunday 11th March at our Church.

Christian Aid

The regular monthly luncheon will be held on Thursday 1st March from 12noon till 1.15pm in the Baptist Church Upper Hall.

Margaret Stevens

Tuesday Fellowship

Our next meeting will be on 20th March in the Church hall at 2.00pm, which will be our AGM, when we will look back over the past year and look forward to the next year.

New members are always welcome to join us.

Pam Scott

be combined with the internal restructuring of the lower hall area and will require considerable outlay. Also we have been advised that the kitchen floor needs replacing and this would coincide with replacement of some of the fittings and the installation of a dishwasher. Another project is the car parking area which needs to be extended to relieve the congestion and enable the bus to turn before exiting. At present the driver has to reverse and there are usually taxis and other vehicles parking on the access.

If you wish to contribute financially to our continuing refurbishment needs, you can donate online by visiting www.princescentre.org.uk, and by clicking on the 'My Donate' button. If you would like to book a hall or offer support in any way please ring Kim, our manager, on 01844 345105.

Maggie Wooster Keyte

Silent Prayers

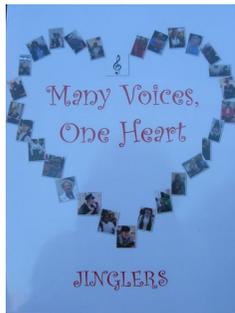
The next meeting will be at St. Dunstan's Church Hall, on Monday 12th March at 8pm.

We need silence to help us to get a proper perspective on our lives; to hear the still, small voice of God, and to refresh our inner being. All are welcome to these meetings of any faith or none. Each meeting lasts about 45 minutes to an hour. The meeting starts with some simple relaxation exercises, a short passage from the Bible to reflect upon in the half hour of silence, followed by a time of sharing of our experiences, if people wish.

The Revd James Tomkins (01844) 275944 or jamestomkins@btinternet.com.

Princes Centre Update - February 2018

We are very pleased to welcome Kate and Clair who recently joined the staff. Kate is working with the clients and Clair is working in the office. We have also had an influx of new clients from the Tring area and hope that they will enjoy our wonderful facility. This helps to balance client numbers as, unfortunately, we regularly lose clients when they pass away or become too unwell and have to go to live in a nursing home.



Last October our Jingers Choir were taken to the Westcott XYZ Music Academy and a video recording was made of their singing. The recording was duplicated by Alpha Duplication and the resulting DVD [pictured] is now available. It is an hour long and, if you are feeling low, it is guaranteed to lift your spirits when viewed. The DVD includes an 8-page leaflet including photos and comments from the clients which indicate how beneficial attending the Princes Centre is for them. If you would like to purchase one and thus support the Princes Centre at the same time, please contact Kim or any of the trustees. We would like to thank all those who helped with their time, patience and costs enabling this DVD to be produced.

We have recently applied for another grant from Tesco to introduce a vegetable garden. We hope the application will be accepted and then later this year we will join the voting in our local store. So, in the meantime, when you go shopping in Tesco, be sure to receive some blue tokens and keep them for when you are able to support the Princes Centre in this way.

Our last Quiz and Bingo evening held in January was a great success and a total of £650.00 was raised which will be used to enhance the experience of the clients. The next one is arranged for Friday 27th April starting at 6.30 pm for 7 pm start. The cost will be £10 per person for the quiz, including a meal, and if you wish to join in with the bingo this is a little extra.

We still have much to do to make the centre fit for purpose. The lower hall porch needs replacing and extending so that new doors can be placed to enable clients with disabilities to access the area independently. This project needs to

Services in Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Maundy Thursday: 29th March

We normally have a Maundy Thursday Holy Communion service at 8.00 pm, but details of this service cannot be found at the time of going to print, so any announcement about it will be made through the weekly notice sheet.

Good Friday: 30th March

There will be a joint service between the Methodist & Baptist Churches in the Baptist Church, starting at 10.00 am, which we will be leading.

After this service we will walk with members from the Baptist Church to the Elim Church car park for the CTR Good Friday Service, which will start

at 11.15 am. Other churches in CTR will be having "Walks of Witness" from their respective churches all converging at the Elim Church. This service will be led by Rev Keith Edwards.

Easter Sunday: 1st April

Members of all local churches are invited to meet at 6.00 am in the Whiteleaf Cross Car Park for a short Sunrise Service at 6.10 am above Whiteleaf Cross. Hot drinks and bacon sandwiches will be available afterwards.

The morning service at our church, starting at 10.00 am, will be led by Marilyn Dore.

Les Rixon; a tribute.

Following a brief announcement in the February Messenger about Leslie's death just eleven days after his 90th birthday, we can now say a little more about him. A number of church members helped to fill St. John's Church, Lacey Green, for his funeral on 6th February, which was conducted by Rev Keith Edwards.

In the eulogy we heard that Les had spent his whole life in the village and that his two great loves were cricket and Lacey Green Methodist Church. Les was a keen player but he also worked behind the scenes to keep the cricket ground in good condition. He was devoted to the village Methodist Church and was very sad when it closed. Although he started coming to our church, he never transferred his membership to us. The words; "he was a true gentleman" were used more than once in this service; a great tribute to a lovely man. It is perhaps apt and also natural that after the service, he was buried in the graveyard of Lacey Green Methodist Church; at home at last in more ways than one.

Anniversary and Lunch

We will celebrate our church anniversary on **18th March** with our morning service at the later time of **11am**, when our preacher will be Rev. Fred Ireland, who now ministers in Witney. Many of you will know Fred from his years in our Circuit and the occasions when he led our worship here in Risborough. We look forward to seeing him again and hearing his message to us.



The service will be followed by lunch which will feature soup, quiche and salads, and a selection of puddings. There is a list in the church porch for you to sign up if you would like to come, and for volunteer helpers. We will need to set up the day before and there will be plenty of washing up!

Please contact me on 01494 449732 if you can prepare a dish (expenses will be paid). Everyone is welcome, and tickets for the lunch are £5 for adults, £2.50 for children.

Any profit from the lunch will go to the "Methodist Church World Mission Fund" and the "Methodist Church Mission in Britain Fund", which will be our church's effort in supporting these funds.

Judith Gerrard



CTR Lent evening talks. "A story to tell – my journey of faith."

CTR is supporting a series of evening talks, which will take place at Costa Coffee in the High Street between 7.30pm and 9.3-pm on four Thursdays in March. Refreshments will be available.

They are:-

- 1st March "A rollercoaster ride with God" by Melissa Stone
- 8th March "Let go and let God" by Deborah Purfield of CATHOD
- 15th March "Highways and Holiness" by Canon Tony Bundock
- 22nd March "Working with Oxfam & outreach to Africa" by John Shaw

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 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!

Princes Risborough Music Society

Princes Risborough Music Society is a friendly Society of about 60 members. Rehearsals are at Princes Risborough Secondary School on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome. Please contact the Membership Secretary on 01844 344083.

On **18th March** we will be performing Faure's Requiem and supporting programme at St. Lawrence Church, West Wycombe at 3pm. This will be an afternoon tea Concert. Tickets price £12.00 will be available from The Risborough Cook Shop, Art and Office, Library or choir members and on line at www.princesrisboroughmusicsociety.org/contact-us

If you need transport, the Community Bus will be running. Please contact 01844 34554 to book a seat.

Brenda Chubb

Lighthouse

'Christmas 2017' Quiz.

Thank you to everyone who supported this quiz, which raised a total of £512.00. Congratulations to Mrs Vera Solman, who won the £25.00 cash prize.



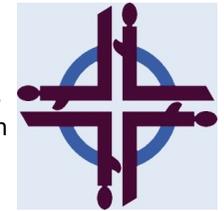
Lighthouse Quiz Night.

The quiz night will be held on Saturday, **21st April** at St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough with a prompt start at 7.30pm. The cost is £5.00 each, but you will need to bring your own drinks and nibbles (no red wine, as spills will stain the church floor). There will be a raffle and a 'heads and tails' game. Offers of raffle prizes will be welcomed. There will be tables of eight, and to book a table, please phone Jamie; booking is essential!

Jamie Carter (01844 273286)

Women's World Day of Prayer

In Princes Risborough, the Women's World Day of Prayer will be celebrated on **Friday, 2nd March**, by a service at St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church, meeting at 10.45am with the service starting at 11.00am.



The Women's World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women from many traditions, which is symbolised by an annual day of celebration on the first Friday in March by coming together to observe a common day of prayer.

Through this World Day of Prayer, women from around the world affirm their faith in Jesus Christ, acknowledging that prayer and action are inseparable with both having immeasurable influence in the world, as they share their hopes and fears, their joys and sorrows, their opportunities and their needs.

The service for this years' Day of Prayer has been written by the Christian women of Suriname based on the theme "All God's Creation is Very Good".

The start of British Summer Time



Don't forget the clocks go forward 1hr at 2.00am on Sunday 25th March 2018.



Circuit Holiday

You are invited to join Helen Kirk from **7th – 11th May** at Suncliff Hotel in Bournemouth. The cost is £355 per person. At the time of going to print there are 26 people booked on the holiday. There are no single rooms left, but there are plenty of twin and double rooms still available. Included in the cost are trips each day to local places of interest.

If you want further details please contact Pete & Jane Honeyball on 01844 351096.

Youth Matters



Later Group for 11-18 year olds

The Later Group continues to meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month, which this month will be 18th March. There are 10 young people who regularly attend, with a few others who come occasionally. Most are from families who attend local churches but 5 are from non-church families. Whilst a number of our older teenagers moved on at the end of the last school year, we have welcomed 3 newcomers to the group.

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! In January we had a trip to the bowling alley in Aylesbury, travelling there and back in the Community Bus which was driven by Peter Willett, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone.



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. Husband Chris and I set up the hall and equipment, and organise food and drinks for the evening. This ensures there is always enough adults present for safeguarding purposes. The cost of the evening is approximately £20 which covers the cost of food and drink, and this is paid for by CTR.

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

Promotion of Risborough Area Community Bus



Risborough Area Community Bus

Providing local transport for the local community

Princes & Monks Risborough, Longwick, Bledlows, Kimbles, Ellesborough and Speen

The Risborough Area Community Bus runs regular services Monday to Saturday mornings. We serve three routes around Monks Risborough, Trees and Fields (the estate behind Marks and Spencer) and out to Longwick every day. We also serve outlying villages - Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays there are two services to The Kimbles and Ellesborough via Monks Risborough and Askett; Tuesdays we serve Speen and Wednesday and Friday Bledlow Village and Bledlow Ridge.

It is a 'Hail and Ride' scheduled service picking up and dropping off passengers anywhere along the route. Timetables are available at the Library, on the bus or visit our website, www.racb.co.uk for more information (including a detailed route map).

Anyone can use the bus; concessionary Passes are accepted and children under the age of 16 travel free; for anyone else a small charge of £1.50 per journey or £2.00 on the village routes.

For more information please visit www.racb.co.uk email info@racb.co.uk or call our co-ordinator on 07941963097.

RISBOROUGH PARKING REVIEW - 2018

The general consensus is that the new parking restrictions introduced in some roads last year has been a great success in easing parking problems. Indeed, many residents from other roads have asked if parking restrictions could be introduced in their roads where they consider inconsiderate parking now occurs. The parking committee, consisting of road representatives, PRTC and Risborough Area Community Bus, and led by our County Councillor, has drawn up draft proposals for informal consultation with town residents to gauge their views. The following roads have been identified for possible implementation of parking restrictions:

- a. **The Retreat, Highfield Rd, Berryfield Rd, St Teresas Close, The Avenue, Crossfield Rd and Little Park.**
- b. **Shortborough Ave, Westmead, Berndine Rise and Windsor Hill.**
- c. **Longwick Rd to Railway Bridge, Brook Rd, Cannon Place and Pursell Place.**
- e. **Clifford Rd, Culverton Hill and Merton Rd.**
- f. **High Street.**
- g. **Fields and Trees Estates.**
- h. **Willow Way.**
- i. **Residential Parking Permit Areas.**
- j. **Wellington Avenue. To consider** double yellow lines outside Windsor Lodge.
- k. **Mill Lane and St Dunstan's Close.**
- l. **The Fairway.**

The Committee will hold an informal consultation with town residents on 7th March in St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, between 3-8pm to test reaction. There is also the option to email risborough.parking.review2018@gmail.com. Once informal consultation has been completed, proposals will be submitted to Transport for Buckinghamshire for costing.



Pulse **Informal Bible Study** for school years 10-13
Meets on 2nd Sunday of the month at St Mary's Chapter House from 6-8pm.



Deeper **Deeper Worship Evening** for anyone
Meets on 4th Sunday of the month at St Mary's Church from 6.30-8pm.



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 meet on **9th and 23rd March**

Doline Gadd

dolinegadd@googlemail.com

Three short prayers for the Lenten period

Lord may Lent be a time of inward searching that makes me more able to look with compassion at the needs of the world. **Amen**

Thank you Lord for desert experiences, when being confronted with myself makes me realise my need of you. **Amen**

Lord, you've guided us through the difficult days of Lent, encouraging us along the way. We pray as we move towards the darkest day, that you will not forsake us but remind us of our Saviour's ultimate gift and promise of new, abundant, eternal life for all who believe and trust in him, your precious son, Jesus. **Amen**



Our superintendent's new appointment.

In compliance with a request from the Secretary of Conference, Rev. Gareth Powell, that the Circuit churches be informed of Helen's new appointment, Mike Pullen read out Helen's following letter at the beginning of our service on 18th February.

A Message from Rev Helen Kirk

Dear Friends,

Last month I was approached by members of the Connexional Leaders Forum to consider putting my name forward for the role of a District Chair. Throughout my ministry I have always believed that part of my calling is to be under the discipline of the church and thus to be willing to be stationed wherever the church sees fit. Therefore after much prayer and conversation with our own District Chair, Rev Helen Cameron, I decided to allow this calling to be tested.

On Thursday 15th February I was officially nominated to be the Chair of Chester & Stoke District and to take up that role on 1st September 2019. This is not something I have looked for, indeed I find myself surprised and slightly astonished by the news, however I have accepted the nomination which will go to Methodist Conference this June to be confirmed.

I will of course continue to be the superintendent of the Vale of Aylesbury Circuit for the next 18 months and will continue to serve to the best of my ability. I am deeply grateful for all the love and support my family & I have received from the circuit and my decision to accept this nomination has not been an easy one to make. We have been very happy here and it will be hard when the time comes to leave, however that needs to be balanced by my calling which is to serve the church wherever I am sent. I hope you can appreciate this.

Thank you all for the many ways in which you minister.

Yours in Christ

Helen

Members of Princes Risborough Methodist Church send their congratulations and best wishes on this news; Chester & Stoke District's gain is sadly the Vale of Aylesbury Circuit's loss. (Ed).



*Vale of Aylesbury
Methodist Circuit*

**THE PROCESSION OF PALMS
and
THE MORNING OF THE
DAY OF DAYS**
by Malcolm Williamson



**An act of worship for Congregation and Choir
recalling some of the events during
Passiontide and Easter.**

**Presented by the Circuit Choir together with the
Choir of Tring Parish Church and friends from
other local churches and choirs under the direction
of Cliff Brown**

Led by the Rev Helen Kirk

Aylesbury Methodist Church
Sunday 18th March 2018 @ 6.00 pm

**(Repeated at Sts. Peter & Paul, Tring on
Sunday 25th March @ 6.30 pm)**

EVERYONE WELCOME
Refreshments will be served in the Hall after the service.