

Services for April

- 2nd 7.00pm Rev Mr H Moon
Maunday Thursday
- 3rd 10.00am Joint Good Friday Service
- 5th 10.00am Rev Mr H Moon
Holy Communion
- 12th 10.00am Mr & Mrs Neville Trout
Reader service
- 19th 10.00am Rev Mrs R Williams
- 26th 10.00am Miss Marilyn Dore

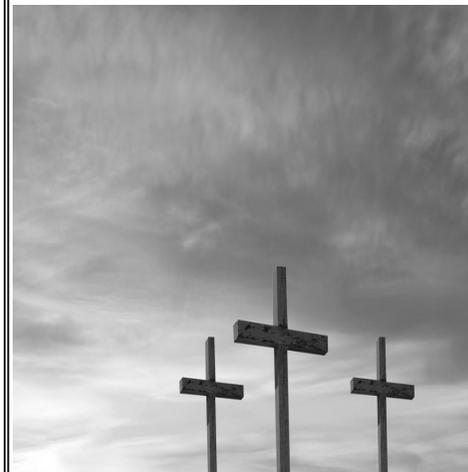
Services for May

- 3rd 10.00am Mr David Neville
- 10th 10.00am Rev Mrs R Williams
- 17th 10.00am Rev Dr H Ofori-Attah
Holy Communion
- 24th 10.00am Rt Rev Dr Andrew Shergold
- 31st 10.00am Local Arrangement

Princes Risborough

Methodist Church

'The Messenger'
April / May 2026
Easter / Pentecost



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

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

**Minister: Rev Heegon Moon
Tel: 07342 992358**

**Superintendent Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson
Tel: 07300 105277**

Circuit Website: www.aylesburyvale.org.uk

**Steward contact: Mr Mike Pullen
Tel: 01844 343188
email: mhpullen44@gmail.com**

Interim Editors: Mr Neville Trout / Ms Vicky Spires

**Material for the June / July edition of *The Messenger*
to the editors, by Sunday 10th 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, St John's, Kimble
Free Church and St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church*

Rotas for May 2026

	Duty Steward	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
3rd	Miss M Dore	Mrs M Stevens & Mrs B Oates	Mrs M Stevens & Ms Y Ayoola	Mrs F McMullan
10th	Mrs J Gerrard	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Ms Y Ayoola
17th	Mr J Needham	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Ms P Scott
24th	Mr N Marriner -Kyle	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mrs S Wilson
31st	Mr M Pullen	Mrs T Sheppard & Ms V Spires	Mrs T Sheppard & Ms V Spires	Mrs M Stevens

Weekend	Flowers	Cleaning	Grass Cutting
2/3	Ms V Spires	Miss P Scott	Mr J Needham
9/10	Miss P Scott	Mrs K Trout	Mr N Trout
16/17 (YDA)	Mrs D Robbins	Mrs N Baker	Mr K Smith
23/24	Ms Y Ayoola	Miss M Dore	Mr B McCleery
30/31	Mrs D Robbins	Mrs B Hudson	Mr G Hudson

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 (07507 416421) or one of the other Stewards.

Those who kindly provide flowers, please leave the wrappings in the vestry so that the stewards have something to wrap the flowers in when they distribute them after the service.

Rest Day — Rev. Heegon Moon's 'day off' is Monday; please try to respect this whenever possible.

Rotas for April 2026

	Duty Steward	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
2nd	Mr M Pullen			
3rd	Mr J Needham	Mrs M Stevens & Mrs B Oates	Mrs M Stevens & a Baptist Member	
5th	Miss M Dore	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Ms P Scott
12th	Mrs J Gerrard	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mrs S Wilson
19 th	Mr N Marriner-Kyle	Mrs T Sheppard & Ms V Spires	Mrs T Sheppard & Ms V Spires	Ms V Spires
26th	Mr M Pullen	Mr J Drake & Mrs F McMullan	Mr J Drake & Mrs M Cookson	Mrs M Stevens

Weekend	Flowers	Cleaning	Grass Cutting
4/5	Tuesday Fellowship	Mrs B Hudson	Mr G Hudson
11/12		Mrs F McMullan	Mr C McMullan
18/19		Mrs D Pullen	Mr M Pullen
25/26	Mrs S Wilson	Mrs M Stevens	Mr D Stevens

Volunteers Wanted

If any of you can help with taking a turn as a Welcoming Steward (being there to greet people as they arrive for church, give out hymn books, etc as required and to take the offertory forward during the service) it would be much appreciated. The more help we have the fewer occasions that each person does it – note that it does require those involved to arrive at church about 30 minutes before the service starts.

Some of us also do the Bible Readings, but there is no obligation to do those as well if you don't want to. If you are able to help, please let me know so that I can include you on the rota in future months.

Joe Needham

From the Manse ...

Dear Friends, Looking back to this time last year, we were devastated by the conflict in Gaza. The ceasefire had collapsed, airstrikes resumed, aid was restricted, and the humanitarian situation intensified. At the same time, the war in Ukraine had already continued for three years. Many of us felt that things could not get worse. Sadly, we were wrong.



By the time you read this, I hope these events will have passed into history. But as I write, I am hearing heart-breaking news from Iran, Lebanon, and other parts of the Middle East. The suffering we see today goes beyond what many of us imagined at the beginning of 2026. As the conflict spreads across the wider Middle East, it is not hard to feel uncertain about where our world is heading.

In moments like these, we face two possible responses. One is to feel pessimistic and defeated. The other is to continue hoping and praying, trusting that God is still at work in the world. As Christians, we hold on to hope because we believe that God is sovereign and that His purposes will ultimately prevail. Faith reminds us that the road of Jesus is enduring, leading through Holy Week, and especially through Good Friday. On the way to Calvary, the cross stood before Jesus, and the disciples must have felt like it was the end. But as we know, the story did not end there. Easter morning came, and even Easter was not the final chapter. The risen Christ later poured out the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, strengthening and transforming his once-fearful disciples. God continued His work of renewal and hope, even through their weakness.

At the same time, we cannot ignore the painful realities around us today. Many people are losing their lives, and families in Iran and the wider Middle East are grieving. Our hearts cannot remain untouched. Scripture calls us to live with compassionate hearts. As Paul writes in Romans 12:15, we are to “weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice.” Let us pray that God will be with those who suffer, comfort those who grieve, and guide the world towards lasting peace.

So let us choose hope over despair, and prayer over helplessness. Let us trust that God is present in the darkest valleys, working all things together for good: *And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* (Romans 8:28) Let us pray faithfully, hope patiently, and work for peace wherever we can. May we carry the cross with courage, trusting that beyond the darkness of Good Friday, the light of Easter awaits as we continue the journey towards Pentecost and beyond. As we journey forward, may we walk faithfully in the way of Christ. Amen.

Tuesday Fellowship

Our February meeting was our AGM chaired by Rev. Heegon Moon when we reviewed the last year and looked forward to the coming year. Donations were made to our Church, The Salvation Army, WaterAid, National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society, The Churches Trust and Risborough Lighthouse.

At our meeting on the 21st April at 2.00pm we are to be joined by a Princes Risborough Neighbourhood Police Officer who will talk to us about local issues that we should be aware of and answer any questions we may have.

Our meeting at 2.00pm on 19th May will be led by David Robbins.

All are very welcome to join us at these meetings.

Pam Scott

SALT Group

The SALT group (Sharing And Learning Together) will resume meeting in person (rather than remotely on Zoom), with meetings planned for April 16th and 30th followed by May 14th. We will meet from around 7.40 pm for a cup of tea or coffee, with bible study commencing at around 8pm – please see the weekly notices for information on whose home we will be meeting in. We will be starting new studies over the coming weeks and you are welcome to join us; because each session is 'self-contained', you do not have to attend every time if that is not possible for you. If you do want to 'try us out' please contact either Victoria Haydon or myself.

Joe Needham

Table Top Games

We meet every **Friday** between 10.00am to around 12.00 noon, to play Scrabble, Upwords, and Rummikub, to name but a few. The attendance fee is £2.00 and refreshments will be served.

Sue Wilson

Ladies' Coffee Morning

Barbara Oates has kindly offered to host our next coffee morning for the ladies of the church on Saturday 11th April starting 10.30am. Please see Vicky for further details or check with Barbara for her address.

Vicky Spires

Diary Dates for April

2nd	Maunday Communion, PRMC, 7.00pm
3rd	Joint Good Friday Service, PRMC, 10.00am
3rd	CTR Easter service by Tesco roundabout 11.00am
5th	CTR Easter Sunrise Service, Whiteleaf,, 6.30am
5th	Easter Communion. Bring flowers to decorate the cross
11th	Ladies Coffee morning at Barbara Oates home 10.30am
13th	Bereavement Group, Chapter House St Mary's, 3.00pm
16th	SALT, venue TBA, see Notices. 7.40pm for 8.00pm
21st	Tuesday Fellowship, 2.00pm
30th	SALT, venue TBA, see Notices. 7.40 for 8.00pm

Diary Dates for May

2nd	Ladies' Breakfast, St Mary's Hall, 9.00am
11th	Bereavement Group, Chapter House St Mary's, 3.00pm
14th	SALT, venue TBA, see Notices. 7.40pm for 8.00pm
19th	Tuesday Fellowship, 2.00pm
31st	Big Band Concert for Karibuni, Wycombe Swan, 3.00pm

Forthcoming events

23rd June	Church Forum, 7.30pm
5th July	Big Sing, PR Methodist Church, 6.00pm
17th July	Church BBQ after Morning Service

Prayers of Intercession

Heegon would like to invite members of the congregation to prepare and lead the Prayers of Intercession at his services at Princes Risborough.

If you would like to take part or have any questions, please speak to Jennie.

Jennie Marriner-Kyle

Smile

Why did the choir bring a ladder to church?

They heard the high notes were way up there!

Who was the first comedian?

Samson—he brought the house down!



Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle is 'here for you' so if you know of someone who would appreciate our prayers, please contact anyone in the table below.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Prayer Circle.

Name	Preferred contact	Email/Mobile
Vicky Spires	Email or text	E: vixspireslane@gmail.com M: 07786901454
Anna Rogers	mobile	E: amrogers@talk21.com M: 07496853701
Chris Palmer	Email	E: christinepalmer100@gmail.com M: 07709556785
Maureen Judd	Email	E: maureenj148@gmail.com
Beverley Hudson	Email	E: beverleyshudson@gmail.com M: 07969366625
Neville Trout	Email	E: Kathryn.trout@tiscali.co.uk
Kathryn Trout	Email	E: kathryn.trout@icloud.com M: 07743341563
David Robbins	Email	E: drobbuk@yahoo.co.uk
Judith Gerrard	Email	E: judithgerrard.ww@btinternet.com

Vicky Spires

Weekly Church Notices

Please contact Mrs Maureen Judd by telephone, 01844 617650, or email: maureenj148@gmail.com by noon on Friday with any information to go into the weekly notices.

Joint Easter Services

This year's joint Good Friday Service with our PR Baptist and Kimble Free Church friends will be held at PRMC and led by Heegon, starting at 10.00am. This will be followed by a 30 minute CTR service held by the "Tree of light" next to the Tesco's roundabout, starting at 11.00am.

The CTR service on Easter day is on Whiteleaf Hill, starting at 6.30am.

The Stewards

Easter Offering 2026

The theme this year is **Unbound: a gospel that breaks barriers**. This is the 143rd year of raising money, first for women in the Mission field and now for the wider World Mission fund, back in 1900 £1655 was raised across the Connexion.

The Easter Offering Collection forms a huge part of the World Church budget allowing the work of Mission partners and Nationals in Mission partnership to continue.

Easter Offering Gift Aid envelopes will be available for your gifts. Please give generously to provide the necessary resources so that God's love may be shared in practical ways throughout the world.

Please return the envelopes via the Church collection at Easter or the few weeks after.

Thank you for your generous giving, your prayerful support and interest.

Pam Scott



Congratulations to Fay Shephard who celebrates a special Birthday on April 21st.

David Robbins

Christian Aid week May 10th—May 16th

Since 1957 Christian Aid week has been an opportunity to make a difference to the disadvantaged of the world.



This Christian Aid Week, your support could help mothers in Nairobi (Kenya) facing the devastating reality of urban poverty and the daily struggle to feed their children.

By funding urban farming projects alongside specialist training from Christian Aid's partner *Beacon of Hope*, you can help parents living in crowded informal settlements fight food insecurity, grow fresh vegetables in small city spaces and earn an income to support their families. Help them protect their children from hunger and grow a more hopeful future.

Margaret Stevens / Neville Trout

Mercy Ships donations



Mercy Ships is our current charity, but we should have decided a new charity to support at the recent Church Forum. Our collection at the beginning of February raised £73, but there was no charity collection in March because we had the Anniversary lunch - which usually accidentally results in a considerable 'profit' for charity.

Since Mercy Ships was founded in 1978, the organisation has provided more than 117,000 transformational specialised surgical procedures. These surgeries include maxillofacial reconstructions, contracture release for severe burns, correction for orthopaedic problems in children, cleft lip and palate repair, ophthalmology and dental services. Mercy Ships, a non-governmental organisation, is also committed to boosting the capacities of local healthcare systems through sustainably designed surgical education, training, and advocacy programmes.

Mercy Ships has provided additional training to more than 54,300 local professionals in their areas of expertise. Expanding its fleet with a new purpose-built hospital ship, designed to similar specifications as the Global Mercy with a focus on designated training spaces, will allow Mercy Ships to increase its capacity to collaborate with host nations in training and advocacy efforts.

Judith Gerrard

Karibuni Children Fundraising News.

Last year Karibuni Children put on a number of events to mark the charity's thirtieth anniversary, including a charity concert at Wycombe Swan Theatre featuring the LP Swing Orchestra. Their programme, entitled '100 years of Big Bands', involved a range of familiar big band musical numbers and songs. This concert was greatly enjoyed by a large audience and a follow-up concert at Wycombe Swan Theatre has been booked for Sunday 31st May at 3pm. Book tickets on-line or by telephone: 0343 310 0060.

For the golfers amongst us, there is a Karibuni Golf Day at Sandy Lodge Golf Club in Northwood on Thursday September 17th at 1.30pm.

If you are considering changing your energy supplier and are a supporter of Karibuni, you are asked to consider Octopus Energy. For each supporter who switches to Octopus Energy, Karibuni Children receive a £50 donation and the Karibuni supporter will receive a £50 credit on their first bill. This link will take you to the 'get a quote page' for Karibuni supporters. "Octopus.energy/quote/?affiliate=karibunichildren".

Supporter David Lynn, and friend, are going to trek to Everest Base Camp in order to raise funds for Karibuni. You will be able to follow their progress on the Karibuni Facebook and Instagram pages and can sponsor them using this link: https://www.justgiving.com/page/david-lynn-2?tm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

Further information and tickets (where required) can be found on the website www.karibuni.org.uk/shop or by email office@karibuni.org.uk or telephone 01296 614887.

All the above information is taken from Karibuni Newsletters.

Bereavement Drop In

This group meets on the second Monday of every month throughout the year offering a warm welcome to anyone struggling with the grief of bereavement. We share together over a cup of tea or coffee, talk about our experiences or just listen. Many find comfort in talking about their loved ones with others who know what they are going through.

We next meet on 13th April and on 11th May in the Chapter House at St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough, at 3.00pm, and everyone is welcome, of any faith or of no faith at all. Please contact Rose Williams on 01844 274225 if you need further details.

Princes Centre — March Update

What a lovely month we have had here at The Princes Centre! With some brighter weather arriving there has been a real sense of positivity and energy as our clients continue to take part in activities, spend time together, and enjoy everything the centre has to offer. Our older clients have had a wonderful time taking part in seasonal activities. They celebrated Pancake Day for one and of course each client enjoyed tasting one once they were ready! We did Valentines crafts which were a great way to encourage creativity while helping to promote fine motor skills. We also welcomed a singer into the centre, who provided a lovely afternoon of entertainment that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Our younger clients have been busy with a wide range of group outings and sessions and have been on trips such as visits to Tring Museum and bowling, as well as travelling together by public transport to help build confidence and independence. They have also continued with their weekly gym and swimming sessions, supporting them to stay active and healthy.

Across both centres, we're proud to partner with New Beginnings Day Nursery, Bourne End and Princes Risborough Day Nursery. Through our partnership, we have enjoyed hosting the children weekly, which brings joy to both our older clients and the little ones.

We recently hosted our first "Princes Communi-Tea Cafe Lunch Club." with the aid of our younger clients. We welcomed 16 members of our community, who joined us for a delicious roast pork lunch and plenty of great conversation. Lunch Club will be held on the third Friday each month at the Risborough Centre. We look forward to welcoming more people from the community and surrounding areas. Our April lunch club will take place on 17 April.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Indoor Carboot Sale, raising £328.53 to fund future client activities. Our next event is on Saturday 6 June. Other news: Come see what we're all about! Book a free taster session for yourself or a loved one and experience the Centre firsthand. Call Mags: 01844 345105 or Marina (Bourne End): 01628 527024 today!

The Princes Centre



THANKS

Church Anniversary

It was good to welcome our previous minister Keith Edwards back for our anniversary service and to hear how he had immersed himself in his mid-Wales circuit, (and was using as much of the Welsh language as possible.) Thanks Keith.

The lunch after our Anniversary Service seemed to be a tremendous success due to so many volunteers cooking main course dishes, delicious desserts, and all the other help required setting out the tables and chairs, serving up, washing up and clearing away. Thank you to all who helped in any way. It was good to be part of such a happy occasion.

Somehow, £170 was raised from the nearly 40 people who attended, supplemented by generous cooks who did not all claim for ingredients as we intended. The Church Forum has the enjoyable job of deciding which charity benefits. Thank you all!

Judith Gerrard

Men's Group Coffee Morning

Thank you to all those that turned out to support the Men's Group coffee morning at the end of February, either in the kitchen, through donations of cake or simply by being there and consuming! Together we raised £132 which will be donated to Lighthouse.

Thanks too for the support for the Fair Trade stall, which took more than £80 over the same Saturday and Sunday.

Neville Trout

CTR : Churches Together in Risborough

At the CTR meeting in January, we reviewed the activities which had taken place since our last meeting.



In particular, it was felt that the Carol Singing with the Ellesborough Silver Band at the Christmas Light Fayre had gone well, though it would have been better with more singers present. Both CTR services – Advent Sunday at St Dunstan’s and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Baptist Church were very well organised, though attendance from some churches was poor (always a good number of Methodists!).

The idea of having Study Groups in the various churches open to members of other churches for both Advent and Lent has not been successful – a common study book was proposed for Advent, but only the group from Little Kimble Free Church attracted people from another church and for Lent, churches were left to organise their own group(s) if desired.

Easter plans for CTR services are on the same basis as have taken place in recent years – a Service at 11am in the Market Square on Good Friday (April 3rd), and the Dawn Service at 6.30am to take place on Whiteleaf Hill (above the cross) on Easter Sunday (April 5th). Refreshments after the Dawn Service will be provided by St Dunstan’s by the Whiteleaf car park.

Plans for Lighthouse Week (July 27th – 31st) are being developed - further details and requests for help will no doubt be coming in due course. The proposal for a ‘Light Feast’ alternative to Halloween as a Post- Lighthouse outreach event needs further planning if it is to go ahead as originally envisaged.

Joe Needham

Ladies' Breakfast

The next Ladies’ Breakfast will be on Saturday May 2nd in St Mary’s Hall at 9am. Our speaker will be Richard Lodge from the charity “Chosen” who work to liberate those entrapped in sexual exploitation. Please let Rose know if you are coming by Thursday April 30th (rosewilliamsgp@yahoo.co.uk or 01844 274225).

All ladies welcome.

Rev Rose Williams

2026 World Day of Prayer.

The World Day of Prayer 2026 in the UK was observed on Friday, March 6, with the theme “I Will Give You Rest: Come,” prepared by women from Nigeria.



The theme, “I Will Give You Rest: Come”, is inspired by Matthew 11:28-30 and focuses on offering spiritual rest and encouragement, reflecting the experiences and faith of 4 Nigerian women.

We were welcomed at St John’s the Evangelist, Lacey Green, and later enjoyed their hospitality. The service was well attended and much appreciated by the 44 attendees.

Next years’ service will be at St Mary’s, Princes Risborough.

Vicky Spires

The Repair Barn

I can recommend the Repair Barn, at Culverton Farm on the Wycombe Road, for anything you have that needs mending.

They sharpened my mower and mended my extending garden loppers so that I can use both again very effectively. I am so pleased to have been able to save these tools from contributing to the mountains of waste our society produces.

I think the workers in the Repair Barn are mainly volunteers because they only make a nominal charge which seemed ridiculously small for the time involved.

They are open weekdays in the mornings to 1pm, and you can take items to them and collect another day.

Judith Gerrard

Easter Prayer

Lord, we praise you this Easter season. Change our lives. Change our hearts to be messengers of Easter joy and hope.



We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our risen Lord forever. Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!