

Services for July

- 1st 10.00am Rev Keith Edwards
Holy Communion
- 8th 10.00am Mr Peter Honeyball
- 8th 6.00pm United Service at St Mary's
Parish Church
- 15th 10.00am Local Arrangement
- 22nd 10.00pm Rev Ann Henman
- 29th 10.00pm Miss Marilyn Dore

Services for August

- 5th 10.00am Mr Ken Harris
- 12th 10.00am Local Arrangement
- 19th 10.00am At Chinnor Methodist Church
- 26th 10.00am Rev Ann Henman

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

Princes Risborough Methodist Church

'The Messenger' *July/August 2018*



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

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**Material for the September Messenger to Peter Willett by
 Sunday 12th August 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 August

	Duty Stewards	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
5 th	Miss M Dore	Mr J Drake Mrs F McMullan	Mr J Drake Mrs J Gerrard	Mrs B Oates
12 th	Mrs M Judd	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Mr J Needham
19 th		<i>At Chinnor</i>	<i>At Chinnor</i>	<i>At Chinnor</i>
26 th	Mr M Pullen	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mrs C Palmer

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



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.

Rotas for July

	Duty Stewards	Welcoming Stewards	Bible Readers	Tea/coffee
1 st	Mrs M Judd	Mrs M Stevens Mrs B Oates	Mrs M Stevens Mr M Pullen	Miss P Scott
8 th AM	Miss M Dore	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Mrs T Sheppard Mr J Needham	Mrs C Palmer
8 th PM			Mrs M Judd	
15 th	Mrs C Palmer	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mr & Mrs N Trout	Mrs B Oates
22 nd	Mrs J Gerrard	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mr & Mrs V Baker	Mrs S Wilson
29 th	Mr M Pullen	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mr & Mrs G Hudson	Mrs M Stevens

Weekend	Flowers	Grass Cutting	Cleaning
30 June/1 July	Mrs V Spires Lane	Mr J Needham	Miss P Scott
7/8	Mrs N Baker	Mr J Needham	Miss P Scott
15/16	Mrs C Palmer	Mr N Trout	Mrs K Trout
22/23	Mrs D Robbins	Mr B Palmer	Mrs C Palmer
28/29		Mr K Smith	Miss M Dore

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 ...



Dear Friends,

I wonder if you are ever like me? Are you easily distracted? I find that sometimes I may have several important things to do, and yet I seem find less important things to distract me from doing them. This is especially so when what I am supposed to do has a deadline – like writing an article for the church magazine - it seems as though even the most trivial thing suddenly becomes an important distraction.

We have just celebrated Ascension and Pentecost and read of the wondrous works of the Holy Spirit through the disciples, bringing thousands into a relationship with the living Lord Jesus. We know our calling to bring that saving news to others, to be witnesses throughout our community. We have priorities as set out by the Methodist Church that encourage us to speak to our neighbours of our faith using language and examples that they can understand. Yet we find ourselves easily distracted from that work.

In the 4 weeks leading to the Circuit Consultation we have had thematic preaching on the purpose of the church, our reason for being, summed up in the 4 areas of “Our Calling” which are Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Evangelism. We also recognise that we need to be equally active in all of those areas. Yet so often we find ourselves distracted, something more important, or perhaps the reality is that something easier, comes along and takes us away from our main focus. Surely one of the key issues we face as a church is that of “making more followers of Jesus” with the spin-off benefit that some may become members of our church. This is something that is so important that the Methodist Conference asks what is stopping us from doing this important task – how can we have an impact in our communities, how do we make plans for growth – no distractions! Hopefully the Circuit consultation has enabled that process to begin in our church.

But we would do well to remember, there is a deadline. Jesus promised to return and it doesn't matter how many distractions we can point to, we need to be found doing the work that he has called us to, spreading his free and saving grace throughout our community.

Grace and peace to you - Keith

Church News

Junior Church

Junior church will meet on 8th and 15th July, and then we will be taking a break in August.

Fran McMullan



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Claire Haydon who will be 8 on 18th August and Caitlin Paul who will be 14 on 28th August.

'Thank you'

A big 'Thank You' to you all for the cards and best wishes which I received for my 70th birthday. I had a wonderful time with many happy memories. My love and thanks, Best Wishes

Pam Scott

Fairtrade Stall

I hope to have a Fairtrade stall after the service on 1st July, which means you can browse the goods while waiting for the barbecues to heat up.

Judith Gerrard

SALT Group

SALT Group will meet on July 5th and July 19th at the home of Maureen Judd from 7.30pm, and we shall be

continuing our look at 'Prayers from the Old Testament'. We shall not be meeting during August, Even if you have not been to SALT before, you are welcome to come and try us out! Please contact either Maureen Judd, Victoria Haydon or Joe Needham.

Joe Needham

Princes Risborough Town Festival, Saturday 7th July

There will be a **Street Fayre** as part of this festival day, open from 1.00pm till 6.00pm, where from this church, Fran will be having a fundraising tombola stall to raise funds for Lighthouse. She asks that you put aside any unwanted items that you think would be suitable for either the adults or the children's tombola; such as toiletries, chocolates, soft toys and drinks, which can be brought to church for storage, or Fran can collect them. In previous



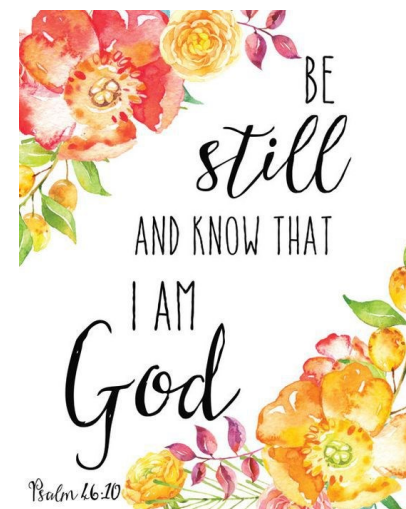
years we have also sold jams, preserves and fresh produce, which can be brought along on the day.

There will be a Churches Together in Risborough stall publicising the work done for the young people of this area through Breakout, Later and Lighthouse.

Diary Dates for July/August



1 st July	First Sunday Café, Stone
7 th July	Town Festival
8th July	United Service at St Mary's, 6pm
8th July	Sea Sunday
8th July	Action for Children Sunday
10 th July	Pulse
13 th July	Breakout
14th July	Coffee Morning here at PR Methodists
15th July	Rural Mission Sunday
16 th July	Silent Prayers at St Dunstan's
17 th July	Tuesday Fellowship
21 st July	Summer Concert
22 nd July	Songs of Praise at AMC
27 th July	Princes Centre Quiz
30 th July to 3 rd August	Lighthouse week



Characteristics of a Servant Leader

As recommended to us By Ann Henman in a recent sermon.

- ◇ The servant/leader is servant first, to whom followers grant leadership after they have been well-served.
- ◇ The servant/leader's openness to inspiration and insight provides vision and direction.
- ◇ Invites others to go along and trusts them to do also.
- ◇ Always knows and can articulate the bigger goal, the vision, the dream, which excites followers' imaginations and sustains their spirits.
- ◇ Is an intent listener, knowing that genuine listening both builds strength in others and provides information for problem solving.
- ◇ Can systematically neglect the less important while choosing to do the more important.
- ◇ Empathises with others by being able to get into their shoes. Genuine interest in and affection for followers.
- ◇ Possess foresight about what is going to happen when in the future, and the ethical resolve to act on that while action is still possible.
- ◇ Perseverance – one step at a time towards the goal in spite of frustrations.
- ◇ Views institutions as necessary to our survival, but believes that they must become people-building institutions, not people destroying institutions.
- ◇ Recognises the preparation to lead must become a top priority.
- ◇ Knows that change must start within oneself, not "out there"; that all problems are inside oneself, not "out there".
- ◇ Knows when to withdraw and regroup or take time for re-orientation.
- ◇ Accepts people without qualification; never reject the person, but may reject performance.
- ◇ Can tolerate imperfection in self and others.



Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th July from 10.30am to 12.30pm

The 'Men' of the church are organising a coffee morning to which all are invited. Weather permitting, there will be tables outside the front of the church in order to draw attention to our presence.

Vic Baker is asking any men who can help on the day to contact him.

Vic Baker

World & Home Mission Boxes

It is now time for World and Home Mission boxes to be opened again and I shall be pleased if those people who hold boxes would let me have them as soon as possible. Thank you.

Pam Scott

Tuesday Fellowship

Our next meeting is on 17th July at 2pm, when we have very kindly been invited for a Garden Tea at the home of Noreen and Vic Baker.

Our August meeting is on 21st August at 2pm at the Church and you are invited to join us.

Pam Scott

Charity Bike Ride

On a cool but dry Sunday morning I took part in a 60 mile charity bike ride which went around Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse area. It was a very pleasant ride but after a cool start the rest of the ride was taking off layers of clothing as it got warmer, luckily at the end I still had a layer of clothing on!

We completed the ride considerably quicker than anticipated in just 4.5 hrs. Thank you for all who sponsored me. We raised £206.00 for the Against Breast cancer charity and £65.00 for the Wycombe Homeless Connection.

Mike Pullen



First Sunday Café

While we are enjoying the summer sunshine, Stone Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road, will be having a Ploughman's Lunch with cake/tea/coffee from 12.30pm till 2.00pm on Sundays **1st July**, to which you are all invited.



Songs of Praise

The annual 'Songs of Praise' Circuit service on **22nd July** at Aylesbury Methodist Church starting at 6pm, will feature hymns written by Charles Wesley, so we will definitely know them all, and everyone is welcome to attend.

For those wishing to sing in the augmented circuit choir, there will be a main rehearsal at the church on Friday, 20th July, starting at 7.45pm. For those wishing to come to any of the earlier rehearsals, these will be held on Fridays, 22nd and 29th June and 13th July also at 7.45pm. The choir will be singing two anthems, one of which is likely to be by S. S. Wesley



Action for Children Sunday

This special Sunday for Action for Children will be celebrated on 8th July, and envelopes are included with the Messenger if you would like to make a donation. Envelopes can be returned via the collection, and I will be taking in any collecting boxes for counting at the beginning of the month too.

Action for Children supports and protects over 370,000 children and young people in the UK every year by stepping in early to stop abuse and neglect, finding loving foster homes, and supporting young carers. Their aim is to make life better for children in as many ways as possible, and to influence policy and campaign for change when necessary.

They say that Action for Children works 'by doing what's right', 'by doing what's needed' and 'by doing what works'.

Judith Gerrard

The next Quiz night is arranged for Friday 27th July 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. Please ring Kim if you would like to come.

If you would like to make a donation towards our forthcoming refurbishment projects please send a cheque made out to the 'Princes Risborough Centre Ltd' 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 ring Kim, our manager, on 01844 345105.

Maggie Wooster Keyte

Café church for Father's day - June 17th

I always find the promise of a second breakfast of croissants, scotch pancakes and coffee persuasive, even on Father's day, and café church has always delivered. Not everyone's style, it must be said, but the informality of café church adds a different dimension to a Sunday morning gathering.

For us it was helpful in showing our church to an enquiring friend of Ellen's in a good, fun, and welcoming light. Keith had us making

catapults for straws and cotton buds to show our ingenuity; answering a bible quiz on fathers; solving anagrams of suitable attributes and making different words from the word father (over 50 according to the table behind us, but we didn't actually see the evidence!) It was all by way of celebrating what fathers can bring to



parenting (I found that bit rather daunting when I tried to measure up) and indirectly looking at our relationship with God through that prism. Thanks, Keith, for such a relaxed event and for the opportunity to talk and do things with others in the fellowship outside our normal row of chairs or coffee table. Thanks also to those that set up, provided the breakfast and tidied away again. Perhaps the best verdict was from Ellen's friend who plans to come again!

Neville Trout

The Princes Centre



We are proud to tell you of more wonderful news. Our manager, Kim was invited to a Rotary Club dinner recently and discovered she was there to receive the Paul Harris Fellow award for her work with the Princes Centre. This is the highest award the Rotary Club can bestow upon an individual, and is not normally awarded to people outside of the organisation.

We recently had a very welcome visit from Bucks County Council along with Professor Ruth Farwell CBE, the High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, who was very impressed with the work of the Centre.

The enlargement of the car park in front of the Princes Centre has been completed recently and the result is very good. The removal of the grass and shrub area which was difficult to maintain and of no benefit to our clients has completely changed the approach to the building and vastly improved the safety of all those using the area, and for the bus which no longer has any difficulty when leaving the premises to take clients home. It also makes the building more attractive as a venue as there are better parking facilities for the public.

We would like to thank Sheila and her band of volunteers who came recently and did some work in the rear gardens. They are now very attractive and clients can enjoy sitting or participating in activities outside on warm days.

The Jingers are practising hard for their concert in St Mary's Church being held during Festival week. It is from 10.30 am to 11.30 am on Friday 6th July and is guaranteed to lift your spirits. Please go along and support them. That same day we will be holding a bucket collection outside Tesco so if you are in the vicinity, please shop at Tesco and on your way in throw a few coins into our buckets. All the money collected is helping to make the Princes Centre a perfect venue for the needs of our clients and any local organisation which wishes to meet there.

The trustees are looking for two volunteers. We would like to be able to contact someone on occasions to do minor repairs around the centre and we are looking to recruit another trustee. The trustees meet formally once a month and the current vacancy is for a trustee with experience of fund-raising, particularly national and regional grant applications and major gift fund-raising.

Lighthouse (Monday, 30th July to Friday, 3rd August)



In April 2018 Lighthouse Princes Risborough became a registered charity in its own right. This has been instigated as a way of protecting those people who manage and represent Lighthouse from having to take personal liability for the organisation.

This is in conjunction with Princes Risborough Lighthouse coming under the umbrella of 'Lighthouse Central' alongside 7 other Local Lighthouses. This means that so many things can be shared between the different Lighthouses; such as the website, children/volunteers data base, teaching materials, policies and procedures etc. hopefully reducing the workload, sharing good practice and providing greater support for each other.

You can find out more about it by looking at: <https://lighthousecentral.org/>

Thame Lighthouse has decided to take a rest this year, and will return in 2019. This of course means that the Princes Risborough Lighthouse is likely to have many more children who want to attend this year. Provision is being made for an approximate 25% increase on normal numbers, so I would ask anyone who is considering volunteering to please go onto the web site and complete the volunteering form. We will need many extra hands!

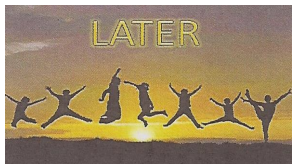
Please could I remind everyone to check their garages and lofts for any unwanted rolls of wallpaper, and to ask their family and friends to do the same? It doesn't matter what the pattern is like as we will be using the reverse side.

There still remains one important role to be filled; a prospective "Little Lighthouse co-ordinator" for the preschool age range, who is needed to shadow the current co-ordinator this year, with a view to taking over the role from 2019.

Finally, we very much value your financial support - please see me if you would like to make a donation.

Fran McMullan

Youth Matters



Later Group for 11-18 year olds

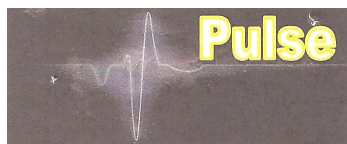
The Later Group continues to meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The last meeting of this academic year was on 17th June, when everyone enjoyed a barbecue in the garden.

There are twelve 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. Each evening there are games and fun activities and of course, there is always food! The evening closes with a 'God Slot' by a member of our local clergy.

Later meets again on 16th September for a visit to Green Park Outdoor Centre to participate in 2 activities: Jacobs Ladder and Crate stacking. They will use the community bus for transport.



Fran McMullan



Pulse is an Informal Bible Study for school years 10-13, meets on **10th July** at St Mary's Chapter House from 6pm-8pm led by Ryan Romano.



Breakout

We meet Fridays from 5 - 6.15pm at Elim Church, during term time. We 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 **13th July**. After a break in August we will meet again in

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!

Silent Prayers

The next meeting will be at St. Dunstan's Church Hall, on Monday **16th July** 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.

Just Like God

A grandson was visiting his grandmother one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" As the grandmother mentally polished her halo, she said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

Comment from this month's Editor

Sometimes thoughts , prayers, articles you spot or just life come together and a striking common theme emerges. I know there is thinking going on in the faith communities in Princes Risborough about witness and invitations to new people moving to the town and surrounding villages as a result of housing development. Rural Churches Sunday material urges us to consider our position in the community, appreciate and value what we do and are, and consider ways we can grow together in faith, fellowship and numbers. Sea Sunday also provides a prompt to consider people, needs and outreach which, living where we do far from the sea, are not normally in our thoughts.

Recently in our evening United service Dan Beasley from St. Mary's preached on "I believed and I spoke", an unsettling thought for many of us unused to vocalising our faith. Finally, the prayer attributed to Francis Drake, spotted by happenstance in the Methodist Recorder in Yorkshire, seemed to me to bring these strands together in a call to consider what we do, rekindle our sense of voyage and purpose, and finally to be prepared to dare, dream and take risks.

Perhaps we might try to take the prayer's theme of "disturb us Lord" as our focus as a church and congregation for the coming few months?

Did God Make me?

A little girl was sitting on her Grandmother's knee, as she read her a bedtime story. From time to time the little girl took her eyes of the book and reached up to stroke her Grandmother's wrinkled cheeks . Then stroked her own cheek. Finally she said. " Grandma, Did God make you ?" . Yes Grandma replied. " God made me" Then the little girl asked " Did God make me ? " Yes" her Grandmother replied " God did make you ." There was a pause before the little girl said " Getting better isn't he ?"



Summer Concert

Vic Baker is organising a "Summer Concert with Afternoon Tea" at our church on Saturday, **21st 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 costing £10.00pp, with school children having free entry, are now available by phoning Vic on 07894159544.

Also contact Vic if you need more information.

Bible Quiz

Q What book of the Bible first mentions Tennis ?

A. *Genesis. Which says that Joseph served in Pharaoh's Court.*

Q Who was the wisest financial investor in the Bible. ?

A *Noah. Who floated his stock while everyone else liquidated their assets.*

Q What is the Lumberjack's favourite book of the Bible ?

A *The Axe of the Apostles.*

Found in Church Notices:

The staff at the Church Charity Shop have cast off clothing of every kind and they can be seen after the service in the back room.

You will find next week's preacher pinned to the inside of the front door.

Special Sundays to Celebrate this summer

1st July — Conference Sunday

This year based in Birmingham 28 June -5 July

8th July — Action for Children Sunday

Action for Children supports and protects over 370,000 children and young people in the UK every year. Your donations are welcome for this charity on Sunday 8th.

8th July — Sea Sunday

Sea Sunday is the global celebration of the enduring and vital work of the “Mission to Seafarers”. It has been happening every year for over 160 years. Although Princes Risborough seems about as far away from the sea as you can get in the UK, we might like to take some time to think about seafarers in our global world. Piracy, shipwreck, abandonment and separation from loved ones are just a few of the problems merchant seafarers face. Around the world, The Mission to Seafarers provides help and support to the 1.5 million men and women who face danger every day to keep our global economy afloat.



The Mission works in over 200 ports in 50 countries caring for seafarers of all ranks, nationalities and beliefs. Through a global network of chaplains, staff and volunteers the Mission offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers through ship visits, drop-in seafarers' centres and a range of welfare and emergency support services. Help can be in the form of just providing a telephone link home or providing legal assistance in cases where crew are just abandoned by ship- owners who fail to pay wages or provide for the crew.

15th July - Rural Mission Sunday

Rural Mission Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate the life of the rural church. We know that rural Christians can and do make a real difference to their communities. However, that is not always how it feels; we can often feel overshadowed by larger urban and suburban churches. Sometimes we don't always think that small churches 'do mission'. Rural Mission Sunday is an annual event celebrating the work of small rural churches So it's important to

stop, reflect on what we do and give thanks.

Growth can mean different things to different people, particularly in the context of our lives as Christians. We grow in our relationships with each other as we spend time together week by week. We grow in our relationships with God as we engage in discipleship. And we grow in number as we share with our friends and neighbours the good news of Jesus.

As we celebrate Rural Mission Sunday 2018 we pray that you will experience growth in all of these ways!

Prayer published in the Methodist Recorder

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too pleased with ourselves,
When our dreams have come true
Because we dreamed too little,
When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess
We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity
And in our efforts to build a new earth,
We have allowed our vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,
To venture on wilder seas
Where storms will show Your mastery;
Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.

We ask you to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push back the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.