

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY, GROVE & WANTAGE SECTOR


The Methodist Church

CGW NEWS



June 2021

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Contributions for the **next Newsletters** should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 6th June** and **Sunday 27th June** to wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com
Tel : 01235 766655 / 07710 214601
Editors : Gill & Gordon Skidmore

Sunday Services and Church Activities

Please see page 16 for the arrangements this month.

Wantage Morning Worship will be shared each week on Zoom at 10:30
(for access to these please contact Rev Keith Underhill)

Texts for Services at home for each Sunday are posted on the websites.

Grove web site is found from www.wantab.org.uk

Wantage web site www.wantagemethodist.org.uk

Circuit web site www.wantab.org.uk

Circuit YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpMj71hDzpMhVj6t_ZQt0w

Each week Wesley's Chapel in London will continue to live-stream worship, adapted for no physical congregation.

Service times: Wednesday 12:45, Thursday 12:45, Sunday 9:45 and 11:00.

All these services will be available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA>

More information about all of this can be found at

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/seasons-and-themes/worship-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

From the Manse.....

With a touch of a button or a swipe of a finger, modern technology is able to give us answers to all those questions that come to mind whenever we want.

Whether it is trying to work out from which film you recognise the actor in the television programme you are watching, where a particular quote can be found, or when a certain monarch reigned, our tablets and smart phones come to our aid and the answers can be on our screens almost instantaneously.

Over the past few weeks I have made good use of a couple of recent Apps that I have purchased for my iPhone. Interestingly enough both are about being able to identify things.

The first one was bought to help us identify bird song, particularly when we are out and about enjoying the many walks that we are blessed to have around us. No longer do we ponder what kind of bird is singing that beautiful song that is the accompaniment for our journey - for the App allows us to record the bird as it is singing and within the few seconds it takes to make a comparison with its on-line database, we have not only the bird's name, but also a picture of it and some information about the particular species - all very clever.

It is a far more sophisticated version of a previous App I had which would describe the sound made by our panting dog running towards us as "Wind"! Sadly, it isn't able to deal with those birds who decide to simply stop singing as soon as you get your phone out, almost as if they know what you are doing and are just playing games with you.

The second App uses images rather than sound to give us the information we seek. This one is to help us to identify plants, flowers, shrubs and trees. You simply take a photograph of something you wish to identify and find out more about and just like the bird song App, within seconds, the image you have taken is compared with all the thousands stored within its on-line database and you are given all the information you need.

Needless to say this has been of great help and assistance up at the allotment as we try to identify what is coming up and if what has broken through the soil is what we planted or simply a weed. So it was more than gratifying to get the confirmation that what I thought were potato plants coming through were indeed the ones we had planted there.

It will also recognise if there is problem with the plant and what to do to help remedy and rectify it.

As we seek to follow in the footsteps of Jesus as his pilgrim people, I wonder how in the words that we say and the deeds that we do, an App might identify us? If after searching its on-line database would recordings of what we say or captured images of our deeds result in the display on a smart phone or tablet simply saying "Disciple"?

With love and God Bless

Keith

CGW News Publication deadline dates

I am expecting the Early Summer edition to be something of a supplement and should only need to cover things arising from the progress the CV19 easing.

Early Summer	Sunday 6 th June	-	short supplement
July	Sunday 27 th June		
August	Sunday 18 th July		
Late Summer	Sunday 15 th August		
Harvest	Sunday 12 th September		
Autumn	Sunday 3 rd October		
November	Sunday 31 st October		
Dec/Jan	Sunday 28 th November		

Cornerstone Coffee Shop

John Hogston

The shop is now open normal hours.

Monday to Friday 9:30 am – 4:00 pm.

Saturday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

You can purchase cards, Fairtrade items and books. It is suggested that if you wish to have a meal you phone the shop to reserve a table. (01235 772280)

Cornerstone is seeking volunteers to help during the day. Please phone Cornerstone on 01235 772280 if you could possibly help. Saturday looks quite difficult to staff.

Smiles & Groans

Thanks to Rev Tony Buglass on Facebook

Experience is that thing you have just after you need it.

Have you ever tried eating a clock? It's really time consuming, especially if you go for seconds.

Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.

Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing is like shovelling the drive before it has stopped snowing.

A child's greatest period of growth is the month after you've purchased new school clothes.

Jerusalem is on fire, tears fall like rain

Following a joint [statement](#) with Methodist partners for peace in Jerusalem, here is a first hand account of life in the region from our local mission partner:

My name is Angleena, I'm a Mission Partner with the [Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem](#). I have travelled around the Holy land over the last three years being a part of the chaos and beauty. Now I watch as Jerusalem, Gaza and the land around is on fire and tears fall like rain. The fire has been fuelled by injustice, human rights denied, occupation, oppression, a broken divided society, failed politics and failed leadership. All who live in this land are affected in one way or another. The fire has been stoked over many decades. Last Monday was Jerusalem Day, a national holiday, a day where hundreds of Israeli settlers marched celebrating control over the Holy City in the six-day war in 1967. Saturday, 15th May is Nakba which means 'catastrophe' in Arabic, when Palestinians remember the day in 1948 when they fled or were expelled from their land, homes and over 400 villages were destroyed. For some it's a time to celebrate, for others to weep. Decades of history fuels the fire.

Things started to look up as a war was waged against a pandemic of Covid-19, with Israel's vaccination programme and it seemed a war against sickness, disease and loss of life from a virus was being won, as it became under control. Life started to go back to some form of normality. Then another pandemic raised its ugly head. Jerusalem is on fire, but it's a fire of hatred of division, disunity, injustice, pain, rage and suffering. And when things started to become normal the racism, distrust, anger and frustrations returned. Freedom of worship, equality and human dignity is not offered to all, as we have seen during Ramadan. Orthodox Christians are celebrating Easter, but many locals were barred from entering the Old City for the Holy fire ceremony in the Holy Sepulchre. Police barriers forbidding entry to both Muslim and Christians. Jerusalem is on fire, and tears fall like rain.

Jerusalem represents all the people of the land and as we hover on the brink of another war; there are no winners. There is civil unrest, towns are burning and people are being killed, injured, displaced and traumatised. They are tired from constant sirens and bombardments. Jerusalem is on fire and tears fall like rain as Jerusalem wages war against a new pandemic. As Gershon Gorenberg poignantly writes "The cracked bridge has collapsed, the frayed rope has snapped. Weep damm it, weep for us. Weep for this season of wildflowers, weep for the dead and the living, weep for God who can't get us to stop, weep for humanity. Somehow this will stop, we will see each other's face, each other's pain. We will realize this cannot go on. We will find each other. It is what can come after anger and grief, what must come, I have to believe"

Yesterday I attended the installation of Jerusalem's new Archbishop Hosam Naoum at the Anglican Cathedral, where Christians travelled from all over the land to attend. An uplifting, moving service in dark times, brought some relief and joy as we celebrated, praising God. He reminded us of the importance of Christian unity, and unity that is needed in the world. Jerusalem is on fire and tears fall like rain. It can happen in any community where there are systems that rob people of dignity,

hope and equality. May the church of Christ weep damn it and shine brightly speaking out and against injustice everywhere, praying for solutions for the rage and fires lit, praying for a just peace.

May the rage turn to hope in Jerusalem, in Gaza, in the West Bank, in all the land between the Jordan and the sea we call Holy and may the people find each other. Thank you for your continued lament and prayers for the peace of Jerusalem; may it stop burning and the tears stop so lives can be restored and all can freely enjoy the wildflowers.

[Angleena Keizer](#) is a Methodist Mission Partner in Jerusalem.

Methodists join other Christians in appealing for peace and an end to provocative actions in Jerusalem

Statement from the World Methodist Council, Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and the Methodist Church in Britain, which are partners in the Jerusalem Methodist Liaison Office.

We stand together to support the Patriarchs and Heads of Churches of Jerusalem who have [expressed their concern](#) about continuing violence in Jerusalem and who have called on those in the international community to put an end to what they describe as ‘provocative actions’.

We have been horrified by the scenes of violence in east Jerusalem which threaten the fragility of the Holy City, and call on the Israeli Government to permanently halt the threatened evictions of Palestinians from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah, where clashes have also taken place.

We urge calm on all sides and ask the politicians to enable an environment where justice and healing can be experienced by all and we join with the Heads of Churches to continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. We continue to stand in solidarity with our Christian sisters and brothers who live and work in the Holy Land.

Leadership on a Journey

An exhibition that will showcase the influence of Black British, Asian and British global diaspora leaders on Methodism

‘As shoes for your feet, put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the Gospel of peace.’ Ephesians 6.15

The [Museum of Methodism](#) at Wesley’s Chapel in London is curating an exhibition in conjunction with the national Church that will showcase, through objects and stories, the influence of Black British, Asian and British global diaspora leaders on Methodism.

Explaining the aims of the exhibition, the Revd Dr Jennifer Smith, Superintendent Minister of Wesley’s Chapel & Leysian Mission, said: “Our responsibility as a Museum is to give all of us a fuller sense of history to help us navigate the future. This is heritage as mission, and deeply about forming and re-forming Methodist identity to resource our mission today.”

In preparation for the 'Leadership on a Journey' exhibition, the Museum is asking people to send a photo of themselves or a person they want to nominate for the exhibition, and the shoes they wear to do their work in whatever walk of life. Dr Smith says: "Sometimes our leaders can feel superhuman or so far away that it is hard to think about emulating them or leading ourselves. Exhibiting the shoes of Methodist leaders, we are reminding ourselves that the longest journey begins with one step."

The Museum of Methodism is currently displaying a pair of boots belonging to the Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal which he wore during his Presidency of the Methodist Conference and which carried him from Sheffield to London during his Presidential year to protest the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees. These boots are displayed alongside the equally worn 18th century leather shoes belonging to John Wesley.



Speaking about the resonance of shoes on a life's journey, Dr Bhogal, said: "I will never forget the first shoes I ever had in Nairobi. A shoe maker came to our house to measure me up. I wore them for my first big journey, from Nairobi to London. I am a walker, now I mainly use boots like those on display in the Museum.

"The guru who inspires me a lot has no feet, no hands, no eyes. He says you can travel far without going anywhere, speak without uttering a word, see without looking. So what do shoes say and show? What journeys and messages and visions do shoes inspire in you? Who are people you would nominate for this Museum display with this in mind?"

Bevan Powell, Equalities and Diversity Adviser for the Methodist Church, said:

The "***Leadership on a Journey***" exhibition celebrates the rich diversity of Methodist people and their incredible contribution to British Methodism. The story of these modern-day disciples and their selfless acts of kindness and love of others, will be captured through their shoes worn to provide comfort and protection as they travelled the long and sometimes difficult road of service and leadership. This is an exciting exhibition which I hope will inspire greater focus on the contributions of black and Asian people to British Methodism. The exhibition reflects many of the aims of our '*Strategy for Justice, Dignity and Solidarity: Towards a Fully Inclusive Methodist Church*'."

The exhibition will run between 5th September and through Black History month until 26th November 2021.

A Prayer for India

Lord,
We cry out for the nation of India.
We have seen the fires burning and understand how heavy a loss this is.
We grieve with those grieving.
We pray for the families and friends of those who have died and have
been unable to be with them;
Unable to hold ceremonies to mark their deaths.
Comfort them in their grief.

Lord,
As the suffering continues and numbers rise,
We pray for a dramatic change in this situation.
Give wisdom to the leaders and decision-makers,
Guide them to the path of restoration and healing in the midst of this
pandemic.
Lead them on the right path.

Lord,
Strengthen and protect India's frontline workers as they face the colossal
task of caring for so many with depleted resources.
As hospitals are overwhelmed and oxygen runs short,
We cry out for healing and sustenance.
We pray for All We Can's local partner in Odisha as they continue to
support their local communities,
Particularly as they navigate restrictions and lack of resources.
Lord, help them and hold them close to you.

Lord,
We cry out for the nation of India.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Childrey

We sadly said goodbye to Doug on the 7th May with a socially distanced service at the Chapel. Michael played the organ which was lovely to hear and Robin gave a wonderful tribute to his father. Doug will be missed by all in Childrey and at the Chapel.

We have put a plaque (Doug's Corner) and flowers in Doug's usual place in the Chapel as a remembrance to him. (Photograph attached).



The Chapel is going to be used on Monday mornings by a newly-formed Mother and Baby Support Group which is being co-ordinated by the Rev Andrea Colbrook from St. Mary's.

For the foreseeable future Childrey will be open for Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month.

Sunday 23rd May 11:00 am led by Ian Sturt

Sunday 13 June: 11:00 am led by Rev. Keith Underhill

Sunday 27 June: 11:00 am led by Rev. John Rowland

Prayers:

We remember in our prayers:

Pat Legge, Vicky, Robin and Becky and the Legge family grandchildren.

Keith, Leonora and. Andrea, David, Arnold, Joy Gee, Jean

and all those unknown to us who are in need of our help.

Christian Love to all.

Grove

Eric Thomas

It is with sadness we share the news, Eric Thomas died peacefully at home on Friday 14th May at 2:00 am. Eric has been treasurer, organist and property steward for many years at Grove Methodist Church and held other positions within the circuit. We will all miss Eric and his witty comments.

Our sympathy, prayers and love are with Judy, Paul and Jacqui, Jenny, Dean, Ellie and Chloe.

Zoom fundraising Coffee Morning for M.H.A., **Saturday, 12th June** at 10:00 am. Roger and Margaret Bett are hosting the Coffee Morning for Methodist Homes for the Aged at 10 am on Saturday 12th June. It will be on Zoom and we hope you will join us if you can. Please let Roger know so that he can send you the invitation link nearer the day (telephone 01235 868286, email roger.bett@btinternet.com).

Donations for M.H.A. can be made in cash or cheque (made payable to Grove Methodist Church) in an envelope clearly marked M.H.A. and given to Roger, to Ian Sturt, 2 CollinSmith Drive, Grove, handed in at Sunday worship, or by bank transfer (details from Roger).

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christian Aid fundraiser in May. A total of £230 was raised. Thank you very much.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who are in poor health or have other difficulties and problems compounded by the very different time we are living through. Our thoughts and prayers are especially with Judy and her family. We think of all who have missed the close contact with their family and special friends during this past year and we are thankful that it is becoming possible to meet up again as restrictions are eased.

Wednesday Zoom Coffee mornings each week are open to all. They are a good opportunity to keep in touch, find out news, share your thoughts and listen to what other people have to say. If you would like to join us on Wednesday mornings (usually 10:30 am) please let Keith know. You will then receive a weekly invitation by email and can join in as and when you are able to. Our thanks go to Keith, Ian and Roger for hosting the coffee mornings. They are much appreciated.

THE BEST
OF ALL IS
GOD
IS WITH US.

Wantage

Morning Worship

We start having services **in chapel** from **Pentecost, May 23rd**. Services will commence at 10:30 am. As before, there will be the same Covid-19 protocols in place as we had last autumn to help keep everyone safe.

If you wish to come to the service please would you let Ann Barber know in advance either via [email annbarber7@gmail.com](mailto:annbarber7@gmail.com) or by telephone 01235 767152. This will assist us to fulfil our responsibilities to Track & Trace.

You will need to wear a face mask at all times (unless you are exempt) and use hand sanitiser on the way in and out. If you have a smart phone, please scan the Covid QR code or tick your name on the list of those attending.

Sadly, we are still unable to sing in church at this time, or have refreshments afterwards.

Please be aware of one another as you enter and leave the building.

We are conscious that for a variety of reasons not everyone will feel ready to return to church at this time and so the reflective orders of service for use at home will continue to be sent out and the services from church will be Zoomed for those who wish to join us from home. These transmissions will open at 10:15 and it would help those hosting the service if people could **log in before 10:28 please** so that you can be let in before the service starts. If you arrive later you could have to wait for the host to let you in while they deal with the start of worship and the first hymn. We are working to develop a larger technical support team for morning worship.

We recognise that not everyone has access to internet facilities and even where they do, do not find Zoom works for them.

We shall move to relax the distancing rules as the summer progresses in line with any advice we receive.

Pastoral

Ann Barber

Shirley Tucker: It was with much sadness we learned that Shirley died on Tuesday 4th May at Coxwell Hall Nursing Home in Faringdon. She had lived there for seven years because of her ill health, and so had been unable to worship with us for a long time. Throughout that period Arnold had visited Shirley there, almost daily for a long while, until, with lockdown restrictions, this was no longer possible. Shirley was a loyal member of our Church for very many years, and is held in deep affection by all of us who remember her. She was never reluctant to share her Christian faith and what it meant to her. Always friendly, smiling and cheerful, Shirley was able to help and encourage others. A funeral Service for the family will take place at the Crematorium, and hopefully, at a later date, a Thanksgiving Service will be held in our Church. In the meantime, we offer thanks to God for Shirley's life and Christian

witness. We think of Arnold and his children, Jane, Belinda, David, and Stephen, and their families, and hold them all, with love, in our thoughts and our prayers.

We are sorry to learn that Eric Thomas has died, knowing that this will be a huge loss, first of all to his family, but also to Grove Methodist Church. We assure Judy and all of the family of our love and prayers for them in their sadness. Also, we will pray for all of Eric's friends in his church, where he was not only the organist, but a well-loved and longstanding member of their church family. They are in our thoughts and we pray for them all.

Having recorded Richard George's good progress last month, unfortunately the news is less good now. Richard suffered a stroke when he was in Didcot Community Hospital and so had to return to the JR. Despite being very unwell, in a telephone conversation with him last week, he was remarkably cheerful as always and so keen to send his love to everyone at church. Having promised that his message would be conveyed, I also assured him of our continuing thoughts and prayers for him.

Church flowers: This edition of the Newsletter is, for good reason, appearing in advance of its title, *CGW News June 2021*. Its early publication precedes a long awaited day – the re-opening of Church for Sunday morning Services on 23rd May. Much planning and preparation has gone into this special progressive step, to ensure that everyone's safety is protected. One small item on the checklist is the provision of flowers. In pre-Covid times the organisation was simple, and a large number of people shared the responsibility. It is less straightforward now, not least because access to the building is more difficult for non-keyholders. To simplify matters, an alternative plan will be trialled. In place of a vase of arranged cut flowers, it's proposed that a pot plant will be substituted. The advantages of this change include the reduced frequency for replacement, and exclusion of necessary access to the building for arranging and watering etc. To begin with, we will plan around the expectation that a plant could stay in Church for three Sundays. This can be reduced if it appears too long. If it is still healthy and looking nice, it can then be pastorally offered to a member of our church family as appropriate. The previous means of drawing up a rota by signing the list in the corridor is no longer failsafe, as not everyone who may be willing to do the flowers will be returning to regular Sunday worship. So we need a new plan for that too. May I invite everyone who is **willing to supply a plant** to let me know, please? [Telephone: 01235 767152, email: annbarber7@gmail.com] Having received offers from several people, hopefully, I can then arrange a rota, and whatever arrangement is easiest for getting the plant into church before the Sunday Service. For anyone who may find it difficult, I am happy to collect the plant from you, or you could drop it off at my house – whatever arrangement is easiest for you. I will look forward, hopefully, to hearing from everyone who is willing to be part of the 'Church Flowers Team', and thank you in advance.

Praying for each other: In June the people listed below will be included in the prayer time when all of the members of Eileen Rennie's House-group, 'meet' to pray in their individual homes. **On June Grunwald's List:** Nicky Atkinson, Stella Belcher, Graham Godfrey, Agripinia Kilpatrick, Eileen Rennie, Roy Scholes, Jim Hughes, Sonia Wilkie and **on Rita Lawrence's List:** Kay Goodwin, Pam and John Leake, Carole and Keith Robbins, Helen and John Carter.

In addition to the names listed above, those in our church family, who through frailty or ill health can no longer worship with us on Sundays, will also be prayed for by name at Eileen's house-group.

Prayer list

Eileen Rennie

Loving God, we praise and thank you for your living word that guides us, encourages us and inspires us as we look to the future. We pray that as we plan ahead we will take with us all that we have discovered in the last fifteen months of what is important in life. Help us to work together for the growth of your kingdom here in Wantage. May we be diligent in prayer, reading your word and putting others before self. Help us to consider your wonderful creation and learn to appreciate it and save it. Let us embrace the opportunities for seeing life afresh and praising you in all that we do. Amen.

Please pray for:

Bethan Grant, Jane, Alan Bunn and family, Carol Mackinder, Emma Wright and family, Anne, Betty, Alex and Brian, June Coppock, Alastair Wright and family, Caroline, Adrian, Pauline Hawkins, Charlie Webb, Alan Smith, Michael Clegg, Richard, June C., Howard Hill, Margaret Watts, Gill Morton, Diana, Len and Ann Hutton, Judy Thomas and family as they mourn the loss of Eric, all at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors, our Ministers, Deacon, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, YMOSES, kids@church and Street Pastors. Those members of our church family who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us. If you or the person/people you have put on the prayer list would still like to be in the Early Summer Newsletter, please let me know by Friday 4th June in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline. Eileen Rennie Telephone 01235-224284, e-mail eileenrennie@icloud.com (Please note change of email address)

Tuesday Afternoon House Group

Eileen Rennie

As the month of June dawns once more we hope for Summer sunshine to refresh us and renew our vigour.

Although it is still difficult to predict when we may be able to physically meet as a group, we do look forward in faith to everything continuing to move forward slowly and cautiously. Meantime we will still just have to keep in touch with each other in whatever way we can, passing on news as we get it. Prayer time on Tuesdays at 3 pm in our individual homes will continue as we pray for people and situations locally and globally. I will continue to email the group each Monday with details of our

prayertime for the current week. Please let me know if there is someone or some situation you would like us to pray for.

Thank you to those members of the group who have let me have their thoughts on how they see the group continuing in the future. When restrictions allow I will arrange a date and a suitable venue where we can meet to exchange ideas and plan for the future. This is a wonderful opportunity for new beginnings as we all continue on our faith journey.

We do all look forward to the time when we can all meet together again. In the meantime pleased be assured that you are all held in prayer.

If you have any queries you can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or e-mail: eileenrennie@icloud.com. Please note new email address.

Community Drop In Café

Eileen Rennie

Lots of positive news still continues in the roll out of the vaccine with already over 36 million people in the UK having received their first vaccine and over 19 million having received their second dose. At the time of writing we now look forward to some further restrictions being lifted on 17th May to give us some additional freedoms to enjoy. However we still need to be cautious and vigilant as new variants of the Covid 19 still appear to be happening and there is concern over the Indian variant in parts of the UK. Having been patient thus far I am sure we will all be prepared to take the cautious approach for a little longer.

As always it is good to be able to keep in touch with some of you through phone calls and also to see you sometimes when we are out for our daily exercise and now we may even be able to sit and chat a little longer. We know how much so many people are looking forward to the time when we can once again join together on Monday mornings for chat and refreshments. Pleased be assured that as soon as we have some definite news on re-opening we will be letting you know. You are all held daily in prayer.

When the happy day comes and we are able to meet again the donations will be going to Clean Slate, a low cost, long term listening and support service for all victims of abuse and mental illness. Our sincere thanks to our willing volunteers waiting in the wings to be able to resume service again. They too have missed seeing your friendly faces and hearing your news. When normal service is resumed we look forward to welcoming you all back.

For further information contact either Eileen Rennie or June Grunwald.

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche, 01235 764310



Our range of projects continues to diversify. Some members of the group are knitting bottle green school jumpers for Future Pillars Zambia. This charity came and gave a talk at Wednesday Fellowship and we have some local trustees living in Abingdon. Please contact June G for wool or a pattern. Helen is soon to send off the first of the baby blankets that have been knitted for SSNAP (Support for the Sick Newborn and their Parents). There are also knitters who are faithfully adding to the stock of Christmas angels. Enjoy whatever you are knitting and thank you for supporting the different projects.

Knit & Chat will be in the Hall at Church at 2pm on the first and third Mondays of the month (**7th** and **21st June**). There will be zoom access at 2:15 pm on each occasion so please contact Helen if you wish to join in at any time. Do let know June G if you wish to join our Facebook group and keep a lookout for photos and news on the church website.

Thank You

A very sincere thank you to all my friends in our Church Family for the good wishes I received on my 80th birthday. To say I was overwhelmed by the socially distanced choir of six ladies who burst into song when I answered the ring at my door bell mid morning that day is an understatement! Thank you also for the lovely bouquet they brought from the Church Family along with the most beautiful birthday card containing several pages beautifully compiled, by non other than Ann Barber, with all your lovely messages. All of this was so much appreciated so thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I hope to be able to let you all have sight of the card when we can once again meet together. At the time of writing the bouquet is still looking beautiful! *Eileen*

Users: Weekdays in the Hall

It is intended to bring things back into use in a controlled way. The programme for the next few weeks is as follows:

May 28th or later Mother & Toddler group on the hall in the morning – then weekly.

May 28th Community Fridge in the Hall in the afternoon – then weekly until the end of August.

June 7th, 21st 2 pm Knit & Chat in the hall

June 12th, 19th, 26th Wantage Music Festival – closed sessions.

June 21st 7:30 pm Wantage Council meeting in the hall. (tbc)

July 7th Wantage Stage Musical resumes weekly on Wednesday evenings.

July 10th Caritas Workshop – day.

DIARY for JUNE

Sunday 6th

DEADLINE for JUNE NEWSLETTER

Monday 7th

2:00 pm Knit & Chat in the Hall (also 2:15 pm on Zoom)

Saturday 12th

Grove Fund Raising Coffee Morning -Zoom

Monday 21st

2:00 pm Knit & Chat at church (also 2:15 pm on Zoom)

Services during May/June

MAY

Sunday 23rd

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Keith Underhill
10:45 am Grove Peter Hemmings
11:00 am Childrey Ian Sturt

Sunday 30th

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Helen Carter
10:45 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill

JUNE

Sunday 6th

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Keith Underhill
10:45 am Grove Helen Carter

Sunday 13th

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Carol Sturt
10:45 am Grove Peter Hemmings (tbc)
11:00 am Childrey Rev Keith Underhill

Sunday 20th

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Frederick Obeng
10:45 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill

Sunday 27th

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion
10:45 am Grove Ian Sturt
11:00 am Childrey Rev John Rowland