

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY, GROVE & WANTAGE SECTOR


The Methodist Church

CGW NEWS



MAY 2022

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Contributions for the **next Newsletter** should be sent to the editor by email, phone
or in writing by **Sunday 22nd May 2022** to
wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com
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Editors : Gill & Gordon Skidmore

Sunday Services and Church Activities

Wantage Morning Worship will be shared each week on Zoom at 10:30
(for access to this please contact Gordon Skidmore)

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

CGW News Publication deadline dates - 2022

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| June | Sunday 22 nd May |
| July/August | Sunday 26 th June |
| September | Sunday 21 st August |
| October | Sunday 18 th September |
| November | Sunday 23 rd October |
| December/January | Sunday 20 th November |

From the Manse.....

Listening to or watching the news at this time can feel distressing and upsetting as we are confronted with stark images of so much suffering. From the invasion of Ukraine to the current state of British politics, we are aware of so much that is wrong and broken and we are left wondering what we as individuals can possibly do.

Without wanting to sound trite, we can and should write to our Member of Parliament expressing our concerns and we can and should pray.

These two actions are of course intimately and inexpressibly linked and can be found deep within the D.N.A. of Methodism. John Wesley spoke of the need for personal piety (faith) and social action. He knew that they were the two sides of the same coin.

The other thing that we can do is to make difference where we are. We may not find ourselves walking in the corridors of power, but we do walk along the streets of our neighbourhoods. We may not have conversations with world leaders, but we do have conversations with those we meet on a daily basis. We may not be responsible for the actions of the powerful and the influential, but we are responsible for what we do.

Through careful listening to one-another, a generosity of spirit and kindness, putting the needs of others first, seeing those who are 'strangers' to us through God's eyes and looking at our communities from God's perspective, we can help to bring about change and transformation and make the world a better place.

In Micah 6:8 we are reminded of this simple truth;

*“What does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.”*

Earlier this year a new Connexional initiative was launched within the Methodist Church picking up on this Old Testament passage. “Walking with Micah” is a two-year project to help the Methodist Church to explore what it means to be a justice-seeking church.

In the everyday and ordinary, in the busyness of where we live and work, we are called to make a difference. May God help us to do just that.

With love and God Bless

Keith

Ukraine

Prayers for Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

Amen

Loving God, your Son Jesus Christ, wept over Jerusalem.

Today, we weep over Ukraine.

We weep for those uprooted from their homes and lives.

We weep for those cowering in basements.

We weep for those who have witnessed death and destruction on their streets.

We weep for those separated from parents, from children, from spouses and siblings.

We are amazed at the resilience of people seeking to comfort those in need and so we pray for Governments opening up borders so that Ukrainians can have safe passage.

We pray for churches and individuals providing food, clothing and shelter.

We pray for medical workers ensuring that shattered bodies are put back together again.

We pray for ordinary Russians demonstrating and voicing their disapproval of the military actions in Ukraine.

May the Holy Spirit give us the willpower to turn our tears into action also.

May we, through our words, prayers and example pursue the things that make for a just peace in the world today and especially in Ukraine.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen

Wantage & Grove Church Partnership

Wantage & Grove Church Partnership Joint Service and AGM 2022

Followed by refreshments

Sunday 8th May at 4pm

St John Vianney Church

A time to celebrate and give thanks for everything that God is doing in Wantage, Grove and the surrounding area as local churches work together. And catch up with people you haven't seen for a while over tea and cake!

Contact John Steventon for more details: email: jsteventon@aol.com
mobile:07919032203

Wantage Parish

The Revd Katherine Magdalene Price

Katherine is currently Chaplain of The Queen's College, Oxford, a post she has held for five years, before which she was a curate at Grimsby Minster, having studied at Oxford and Mirfield.

Please pray for Katherine, her husband and son as they prepare to join Wantage Parish this Summer.

Vicar of Wantage



**THE BEST
OF ALL IS
GOD
IS WITH US.**

From All We Can

World Health Day



Tadiwa receives a bath from his mother, Ratidzo. The family are linked with the WASH scheme run by MeDRA. All We Can/Tendai Marima.

World Health Day, on 7 April, seeks to bring awareness to global health issues under the sponsorship of the World Health Organisation (WHO). To commemorate this day, our Head of Partner Support and Development, Richard Hatfield, and our partner, MeDRA's, Programs Manager, Tariro Washaya, reflect on our holistic approach to health in Zimbabwe.

All We Can supports traditional water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs through the work of our partners in their communities. As well as this, our partners promote and support plans to deliver long-term health to communities above-and-beyond immediate disease control. Our partner, Methodist Development and Relief Agency (MeDRA), have been steadily working in Gokwe South District, Zimbabwe, for the past 5 years to decrease diarrheal diseases and high morbidity, especially among children, women, the elderly, and people with disabilities 15 villages. To date, they have seen an impressive 80% reduction in diarrheal diseases as evidenced by the local clinic records.

A 'demand-led sanitation approach' focuses on awareness-raising, followed by concrete action, then reinforced by community management. Awareness-raising highlights to communities the importance of having sanitation facilities at their homestead, as well as the effects of open defecation on disease. As a result,



communities construct toilets using their own resources and MeDRA supports the most economically vulnerable with full or partial subsidies to construct toilets. 1,000 'Ventilated Improved Pit' toilets have been constructed, increasing sanitation coverage in the area from 14.4% to 52%^[1]. Residents also acknowledge and appreciate the privacy and dignity of using toilets.

The toilet built by MeDRA in Bandawa Village, Gokwe in central Zimbabwe. All We Can/Tendai Marima.

MeDRA has also supported the supply of clean and safe water to 2,800 people in 3 villages through the drilling and installation of 2 solar-powered boreholes and upgrading and protecting 1 well. In reality, these serve a far greater population as each village shares its water with up to 5 neighbouring villages for sanitation and domestic use. In total, 2,500 households (12,500 people) have adopted good health and hygiene practices including the construction of handwashing stations, pot racks, and rubbish pits.

Continued awareness and good practices are promoted by 62 trained Village Health Workers and Community Health Club Masters. 3 Water Point Committees (comprising of 11 women and 10 men) improve governance and maintenance of the water points as a sustainability strategy. The training has created local ownership and stewardship of the water points as well as strengthening local capacities in line with Core Humanitarian Standards.

Covid-19 has served to further raise awareness and highlight the importance of sanitation; a situation MeDRA was able to reinforce by redirecting its budget to supply and distribute PPE (personal protective equipment) to 3,403 households (the equivalent of 38 villages covering 17,000 people) as well as helping villages to construct tippy-tap stations (suspended water containers operated by foot).

The health benefits go beyond these activities: the water supply irrigates village nutrition gardens where households not only grow vegetables, herbs, and medicinal plants but also sell surpluses for cash. Lastly, with a firm eye on the future, villages are now adopting 'climate-smart' farming practices focused on regenerating soil fertility and groundwater. These measures have the double benefit of protecting and enhancing the health gains made and, crucially, 'climate-proofing' communities against the impacts of higher temperatures and more severe and unpredictable rains.

^[1] Gokwe South Rural WASH Management Information System 2021

Childrey

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

8th May 11:00 am Led by Derek Morton

22nd May 11:00 am Service of of Holy Communion led by Rev Alan Grist

Our 9 am Good Friday service was attended by both members of the Chapel and also our friends from St Mary's with our Minister Keith officiating.

On Easter Sunday the roles were reversed and we attended the 10 am service at St Mary's which had the church virtually full. This service was conducted by the Bishop of Dorchester.

The same day we held our Road to Emmaus service at 6 pm along with Wantage and Grove Methodist churches. This was preceded by a Chapel tea followed by the service led by Keith. It was particularly nice to see the Legge family in attendance. We would also like to express our thanks to Gill for playing for us; after Michael's death we no longer have an organist at Childrey and it was lovely to have live music again.

Finally it was with a mixture of joy and sadness that we gathered for the funeral of Pat Legge on 20th April. Her death came just under a year after Doug's passing and leaves a big gap in our small Methodist community at Childrey. After the service we had a Chapel tea and remembered both Pat and Doug and their contribution to Childrey Methodist Chapel but also to the village community. Our thanks go to Sue and the ladies of St Mary's for providing so much help with the catering.

Prayers:

We remember in our prayers:

Vicky, Robin and Becky Legge and the Legge family grandchildren.
Keith, Andrea, David, Joy Gee, Jean
and all those unknown to us who are in need of our help.

Revd Andrea Colbrook

We wish Andrea every blessing and God Speed as she prepares to leave St Mary's, Childrey and the Ridgeway benefice.

Andrea has been appointed as the Rector of Ducklington and Hardwick and will take up her new post in July. Her Inauguration and Installation will be at St. Bartholomew's Church Ducklington on 4th July at 7:30 pm.

We will all miss Andrea and thank her for all that she has done for us.

Andrea's last service at St. Mary's Childrey will be on Sunday 15th May and all those who would like to attend are very welcome.

Grove

Sunday worship in church is open for all at 10:45 am and you are invited to come and worship with us. The seating is well spaced, the windows are open, and face masks are optional.

It was lovely to see so many friends and family of Russell and Stephanie at church on 20th March for the baptisms of Lewie and Layla. Lewie is already very keen on books and certainly made good use of his new bible during the service!

You are invited to a **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** on **Saturday, 7th May** in the church from 10 am. **Christian Aid Week** is **15th to 21st May** and the emphasis this year is on the plight of countries facing drought. Hosts for the morning are Kirsty Bailey and Jenny Marriott.

We are aware that Covid is still very active. If you wish to continue wearing a face mask then please do so.

We celebrate our **Church Anniversary** on **Sunday, 8th May**. We invite you to join us for Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 10:45 am led by Rev Irena Byron. The service will be followed by an Anniversary Lunch. If you would like to also join us for lunch please give your name to Lynda Culley or Judy Thomas as soon as possible, if you haven't already done so. There will be various quiches, ham, salads, jacket potatoes and homemade desserts. No fixed price but donations on the day to help cover costs would be appreciated. Any surplus will go to a nominated charity.

Grove Tuesday Fellowship next meets on **Tuesday, May 3rd** in the meeting room, at 2:15 pm. Our speaker will be our friend Libby Bolton.

We will be pleased to welcome new members.

Film Club is reopening on **Friday, 20th May, at 7.30pm** in the Meeting Room.

We will continue with the programme which was already arranged when Covid halted normal life. Our first film will be **Tolkein**.

As a young student JRR Tolkein finds love, friendship and inspiration among a group of fellow outcasts. Their brotherhood soon strengthens as Tolkein weathers the storm of a tumultuous courtship with Edith Bratt and the outbreak of World War 1. The early life experiences inspire the budding author to write the classic fantasy novels "The Hobbit" and "The Lord of the Rings".

All are welcome. The roof ventilation will be open. Masks are optional. Admission is free; a small donation helps to cover the cost of licences and DVDs.

Wednesday Coffee and Chat session on Zoom: these were instigated in the beginning of the first lockdown in 2020 and they have enabled us to keep in contact with one another when there was so little else available. They have been good and served their purpose. Now that life is opening up again, it has been agreed that they should be brought to a close at the end of April. The last session is on **27th April**. We thank Keith and Roger, Ian and Peter, who have shared in keeping us in touch.

Craft Group meets at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop on Monday afternoons from 2 to 4 pm. All are welcome. Bring your own craft to do and enjoy a chat and exchange of ideas with other crafters while you work. We each give a donation of £1 to Cornerstone and buy a drink of our choice.

Alex King plans to **walk from John o'Groats to Lands End**, starting in May, in memory of Katie. At the same time he thought it might raise some money for the Doddie Weir Foundation. If you are interested to find out more please go to his web page: justgiving.com and add "/alexander-king5" where there are more details.

Ukraine Donations:

Thank you so much for all that has been given so far in the box in the foyer.

Lynda Cully takes all donated items to a collection point in Grove, from where they are forwarded to Poland to help with the refugee effort.

Suggestions of things that we have been asked for to forward on, are: baby blankets; knitted/crocheted or soft toys (especially small ones); children's clothes suitable for colder weather and marked with the size/age; nappies; dummies; baby food; baby milk (especially ready made up); small toys; colouring books and crayons, etc; sanitary items; bandages; Paracetamol and children's medicine.

All your help is very much appreciated.

Wantage & Grove Food Bank:

A reminder to everyone that we have a food bank collection point in the foyer also. Items in tins, jars and packets are best, with as long a shelf life as possible please.

God bless you, and many thanks for so much already. Carol & Ian xx

Thank you to all who supported the Coffee morning for Emmaus in April. £149.40 was raised. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to host a Coffee Morning in 2022. Only one date still unfilled: 2nd July. Please let Jenny Marriott know if you can help. (Telephone: 01235 767624).

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 times we have been living through. We trust that, with care, the way forward continues to open up safely for everyone.

Grove and Wantage Extravaganza

Ian Sturt has taken on the task of coordinating the Wantage & Grove Church Partnership effort for the Grove & Wantage Extravaganza on 4th June. Following an initial meeting, the current plan is to join two pitches together (already booked) with a marquee and serve 'Gospel cocktails' (mocktails). There will be some chairs and tables and some activities for children. Cornerstone cafe are otherwise engaged on the day but if they have any spare capacity there may also be coffee served.

The first job is to gather a team. Please publicise this in your churches and if anyone would like to be involved in any capacity, please contact Ian (07426 772761) in the first instance and give him your contact details.

The Crown Singers present

Flesh, Fowl & Good Red Herring



An evening of songs inspired
by the Animal Kingdom
from **The Beatles** to
Mendelssohn

Saturday 7th May 2022 7:30 PM

Wantage Methodist Church, Newbury Street, OX12 8DA

Tickets £10, Concessions £8, Children £1

01235 762146 or buy on the door

Wantage

Morning Worship

Morning Worship is in the chapel and on Zoom. Services commence at 10:30 am. We continue to try to ensure a Covid safe environment.

Tuesday Afternoon Prayer and Study Group

Eileen Rennie

We meet in church each Tuesday at 2 pm.

In April we completed our Lent study, The Prayers of Jesus, which focussed on seven of the recorded prayers of Jesus. We also had a lovely afternoon on Tuesday in Holy Week when we visited the Stations of the Cross at St Mary's Convent for prayer and reflection at each station. It was wonderful to be able to visit there again after missing two years' visits because of Covid restrictions. We were all most impressed with the renovations at the Convent and eagerly look forward to our next visit on 7th June for our Day for Quiet Reflection when we will be looking at Bible Month 2022, Isaiah.

Our studies in May will focus on the previous Sunday's sermon.

We are still mindful of everyone's safety and vulnerability so we continue to wear our masks whilst meeting and have the chairs spaced and the door open for fresh air. Please be assured, if you cannot meet with us that you are remembered in prayer.

Prayer is an important part of our meeting and we spend time each week praying for people and situations near and far. If you have someone or a situation you would like us to pray for, please let me know.

Dates for May are as follows:

- 3rd May Discussion on Andrew Dixon's sermon
- 10th May Discussion on John Anderson's sermon
- 17th May Discussion on Libby Bolton's sermon
- 24th May Discussion on Daphne Savage's sermon
- 31st May Discussion on Ruth Coward's service

If you have any queries you can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or email: eileenrennie@icloud.com.

Pastoral

Ann Barber

Beginning with some happy news, we are delighted that Keith and Liz have become grandparents for the first time. William Fells Janos was born on Maundy Thursday, and we offer our congratulations and our love to Amy and Dan on the birth of their son, knowing that he will bring great joy to all of the family.

Rachel Niblett: Rachel and her son Morgan have been worshipping with us for several years, and feel very much at home in our church, and so Rachel's membership has been transferred from Grove. We are delighted by this, and we formally welcome both Rachel and Morgan into our church family.

Linda Chipperfield: the news that Linda died on 24th March was received with much sadness. Long term ill health had prematurely ended her ability to worship with us several years ago. It was with total dedication that Alan has cared for Linda at home until her final few weeks, which were spent in Sanctuary Care Nursing Home. Until her health declined, Linda was a very active member of our church family, and was involved in many different groups and activities.

Moving to Wantage in 1980, she very soon joined the team of Sunday School teachers, and set up the Friday Club, which was a popular social club for Primary School aged children and ran for seven years. A little later the Wantage Methodist Church's Holiday Club was created under Linda's leadership. It went on to become an annual ecumenical event providing Bible based activities on four mornings, with the highlight each year of a day's outing to the seaside by coach. Linda was involved with almost every Holiday Club for over twenty-five years.

Linda's chance conversation with an American passenger, during a flight as part of a family holiday in that country, led to the formation of a link between our church and the Volunteers in Mission Team of the United Methodist Church in Oklahoma. The V.I.M. team came to the UK and led the Holiday Club twice, and this was reciprocated by Linda organizing a team from our church to take part in two mission projects in Oklahoma.

Linda was also involved with running Wednesday Fellowship, notably arranging coach outings, and for many years she and Alan ran a very popular plant sale to raise funds for different charities. The final one was for our own Project 21. Linda's organizational skills were second to none, and included arranging fun and games for everyone at many social events in our Church Hall.

We have much for which to be thankful in the many years of Linda's service, and she will be remembered with gratitude by all those of us who knew her well during that time. We acknowledge the loss felt by Alan, Sarah and Emma, and the grandchildren Issy, Raphael, Ethan and Sophie, as we give thanks for Linda's life of service within our church and beyond. Assured that Linda now rests in peace in God's love, we pray for his comfort and strength to hold and support her family in their sadness.

Janet Evans' sister Pat died on April 15th in the JR. Pat has a connection with Wantage from childhood only and Janet is not sure how many folk will remember her but Janet had asked me to pass the news on so that anyone who does remember Pat will have this information.

Our prayers are very much needed for Janet and family. Pat has had MS for many years now and her death was due to an infection that her body couldn't fight...



PRAYER BOX

On the outside wall near the double doors to the Hall building, is a poster with the words:

***“Would you like us to pray for you?
It doesn’t matter how big or small your prayer is, God can help”***

We are following the lead taken by Grove who set up a Prayer Box on their building. There has been an encouraging take-up by people walking past their Church.

The invitation is for anyone to place their request into the Prayer Box, and our promise is to respond by praying for them. Preachers and Worship Leaders will be notified and asked to include the requests in their prayers of intercession. **In addition**, we would like to set up a prayer support group, so that its members can also respond. Volunteers who would like to be part of the support group will receive information about the requests via WhatsApp or email. [Confidentiality rules will, of course, be agreed in advance]

Please send me a WhatsApp or email message if you would like to be part of the group, or let any of the Stewards know. We hope that this can become a helpful form of community outreach, and one in which many of our church family will wish to take part.

Praying for each other:

In May the people listed below will be included in the prayer time at Eileen Rennie’s Bible Study-group. On **Sue Haithwaite’s** and **Julie Horton’s Pastoral List**, and **all of the residents at Fleur-de-Lis who worship with us:** Edwina Collett, Celia Roser, Gloria Smith, Ken Smith, Frances De’ath, Ann Barber, Pete Barber, Liz Underhill, Margaret Watts, Joan Kidd, Margaret Merryweather, Pam Paine, Irmgard Roberts, Brenda Edwards, Edith Hudson, Ann Twyford and Dorothy Andrews

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 bring you our praise and thanks in this Easter period as we glory in the wonderful Easter Day message of the Risen Christ and then how he appeared to his close followers and gave them such messages of hope for the future. Help us, Lord, to always remember how relevant those messages are for us today as we sometimes struggle with what is happening in your world and in our own lives. May

we never lose sight of the plans you have for each one of us and may we trust in your never failing love. Enable us to be the faithful messengers of that great love in how we treat all those we meet in our daily lives. Fill us with the compassion, humility and grace of Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

Please pray for:

Bethan Grant, Jane, Alan Bunn and family, Anne, Carol Mackinder, Emma Wright and family, Caroline, Adrian, Alastair Wright and family, John Morton, Anne Hatto, Gordon and Marina, Jane and Brian Soffe, June, Catharine, Richard in York. 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 June Newsletter, please let me know by **Friday 20th May** in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline. Eileen Rennie : Telephone 01235 224284, or email : eileenrennie@icloud.com

Kids@church - IT'S BACK !

We will be meeting again from **Sunday 15th May at 9:30 am.**

Dates for the summer term are **15th May, 19th June & 17th July.**

Kids@church is an informal service for primary aged children and their parents. If you would like further details please contact Cath Worth, 01235 770151

YMOSES

Jane Kent

We will next meet on **May 8th**, 7 - 8 pm.

YMOSES is an informal, discussion based group for young people at secondary school. Anyone who would like to come along and see what it's like, is more than welcome. Any questions, please give me a call on 01235 765421 / 07443 420205.

Community Drop In Café

June Grunwald

Profits of £400 from the January to March café were sent to Hope UK. Hope UK is a charity equipping young people to make drug free choices.

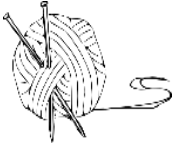
From April our new charity is Through the Roof, which aims to encourage disabled people to discover their skills and get involved.

With the warmer weather attendance has increased with over 30 on some mornings. We were very pleased to see some of our young people with their mothers during the school holidays. As has been the custom, the café was open on Easter Monday. It was quiet to start with. but during the morning we welcomed 20 people and were very pleased to see John M. after a prolonged illness.

Our thanks to all our volunteers on the rota who make the café such a welcoming place. For further information about the café, please contact either Eileen Rennie or June Grunwald.

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche, 01235 764310



This month Knit & Chat will meet on Bank holiday, **Monday 2nd May** and **Monday 16th May** at 2 pm in the Chapel. Come and share in an afternoon of companionship, chat and knitting – or whatever other craft you are currently doing.

The Lent Knitalong cushion cover was finished on Easter Sunday. On one side there is a large cross and on the other is a picture of the stone rolled away and three crosses on a distant hill. I have posted a photo on the Facebook page. Please let June G know if you wish to join the Facebook group.

If you need wool, have any other queries or just fancy a chat do please call me. Looking forward to seeing you in May.

Eco Church: join in to complete the survey

Wantage Methodist Church is committed to taking part in the Eco Church scheme.

The scheme is to encourage congregations and the individuals in them to examine their buildings, ways of working, priorities and lifestyles with a view to aligning them as closely as possible with God's care for the world and its human and other occupants, including responding realistically to the climate crisis.

We complete a survey (questionnaire) as many times as we like, that gives a score for each of several kinds of thing we do (or neglect to do), and an overall score. There are threshold scores which, as we attain each of them, qualify us for bronze, silver or gold Awards.

We can make trial adjustments and explore what we might change to reach the score for the next Award: both changes that we decide are important for their own sake, and other changes that gather a lot of points quickly or easily in our own situation.

Either way, Eco Church will then have helped us to make a difference.

A very crude first attempt at a survey, involving only a handful of people, suggested that we are already not far from a bronze Award! It also appeared, though, that between us we not only estimated a range of different answers, not all of which can have been right, but we didn't know how to find the real answers.

Volunteers needed then, please.

The task is to each take away a few of the 94 multiple choice questions, somehow get an answer to each, and say how you found it out. You might find who in the church knows the answers; or you might look them up or work them out yourself.

You can read more about Eco Church (and even look at the questionnaire) at their Web site: <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/>

If you can take away and deal with a few questions please let Rodney Tillotson know: phone or text 07786 558192 or email R.Tillotson@ntlworld.com.

Thank you!

WMC - Where are we going?

The new world is emerging from the fog of the last two years of COVID. For many it has been two lost years, for others an opportunity to take a hard look at life and what they do.

At church some things are back in the regular diary.

Sunday Morning Worship in chapel is now regular with about 40-45 attending in person. Worship is shared on "Zoom" each week with about 20 people logged in from Wantage, Grove, the circuit and further afield.

Monday Community Café has sustained its activity. Knit & Chat and the Tuesday Prayer and Bible study Group are meeting regularly.

Some things would be nice to do but either need new ideas, leadership or resources.

After service tea and coffee has happened occasionally and would be welcomed by many if it were regular. To deliver this we need willing volunteers who are happy to prepare, serve and wash up on a regular basis. If you would be prepared to be part of this team please contact Gordon or Sue (Haithwaite).

Wednesday Fellowship has not restarted and we are unsure what people would wish to have, if anything.

More help would be welcomed for other aspects of church life.

Flowers in church for Sunday worship and for distribution are always welcome. These can be cut flowers or a potted plant. Please contact Ann Barber if you wish to help with this.

To sustain Monday Café, we are grateful to the teams involved at present, but as summer approaches, anyone who can offer a Monday morning to help would be welcomed by Eileen & June.

People prepared to read lessons, or help with music, projection, sound or "Zoom" for morning worship would be good to know. We thank all who already contribute willingly, but shared loads are easier to carry. Do let Gordon, June or Sue know.

What is happening on the premises at present?

| | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Sunday | 10:30 Evening | Morning Worship YMOSES | in person and on Zoom | Weekly Monthly on the 2 nd Sunday |
| Monday | Morning Afternoon | Drop-in Café Knit & Chat | in the Hall in the Chapel | Weekly 1 st & 3 rd Week each month |
| Tuesday | Afternoon | Tuesday Prayer and Study Group | in the Chapel | Weekly |
| Friday | Afternoon | Caritas Choirs (in school term) | | |

Users All in the Hall

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday | Evening | Slimming World | | |
| Tuesday | Morning Evening | MIND Wantage Camera Club | | |
| Wednesday | Late afternoon Evening | Youth Challenge Oxfordshire Wantage Stage Musical | | |
| Thursday | Midday | KAWI | 3 rd week each month | |
| Friday | Morning | Mother & Toddlers | | |
| Saturday | Morning | Dads Out | 1 st week each month | |

Specials

Saturday 7th May Evening Concert by Crown Singers

DIARY for MAY

MAY

Monday 2nd 2:00 pm **Knit & Chat** in Wantage Chapel

Saturday 7th 10:00 am **Grove Coffee Morning** in aid of Christian Aid at Church
7:30 pm **“Flesh, Fowl and Good Red Herring”** at Wantage

Sunday 8th **GROVE CHAPEL ANNIVERSARY**
7:00 pm **YMOSES** at Wantage

MAY 15th to 21st Christian Aid Week

The emphasis this year is on the plight of countries facing drought

Sunday 15th 9:30 am **Kids@Church** at Wantage

Monday 16th 2:00 pm **Knit & Chat** in Wantage Chapel

Friday 20th 7:30 pm **Film Club** at Grove **“Tolkein”**

Sunday 22nd **DEADLINE for JUNE NEWSLETTER**

SERVICES during MAY

MAY

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday 1 st | 10:30 am | Wantage (shared on Zoom) | Andrew Dixon |
| | 10:45 am | Grove | Barbara Sexton |
| Sunday 8 th | 10:30 am | Wantage (shared on Zoom) | Rev John Anderson |
| | This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion | | |
| | 10:45 am | Grove - Church Anniversary - | Rev Irena Byron |
| | This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion | | |
| | 11:00 am | Childrey | Derek Morton |
| Sunday 15 th | 10:30 am | Wantage (shared on Zoom) | Libby Bolton |
| | 10:45 am | Grove | Peter Hemmings |
| Sunday 22 nd | 10:30 am | Wantage (shared on Zoom) | Daphne Savage |
| | 10:45 am | Grove | Stephen Atkinson |
| | 11:00 am | Childrey | Rev Alan Grist |
| | This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion | | |
| Sunday 29 th | 10:30 am | Wantage (shared on Zoom) | Ruth Coward |
| | 10:45 am | Grove | Ian Sturt |