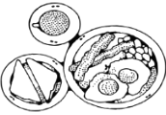


Church News - April 2019

Review:

Community Breakfast: We enjoyed an excellent community breakfast last month, with 2 new village couples – welcome to you! We were very busy, so apologies if we didn't make ourselves known very well. We ran out of eggs, juice and only just had enough sausages! Thanks to our regular helpers for their tireless efforts (especially the washing up!) 

Forthcoming events:




Prayer meetings: Our prayer meetings are open to all denominations so please join us if you want to! There'll be meetings at **8pm** on **Wed 10th and 24th April** at **The Birches, Church Rd** this month. If you'd like to join us or would like prayers for someone, please call John Bowler, (we sometimes change times and dates).


Community Breakfast: We will be holding our Community Breakfast again on **Saturday 13th April**, serving breakfast **from 8.30 till 10.30am**. There's no charge, but you can make a donation of what you think the breakfast is worth or what you can afford. Our aim is to encourage villagers to step out of their comfort zone and meet other villagers; to encourage people to look after each other and offer a helping hand! Is your elderly neighbour struggling to mow their lawn? Does the young Mum next door need someone to mind the children while she pops to the hairdresser? You can help if you know them! We also have a regular collection for the **food cupboard** at Community Breakfast, so please bring your donations with you. Prayer request cards are also available and are always treated confidentially.





Lent group: The course has been running on **Tuesday** afternoons at the **Methodist Chapel** (Newton Rd) and continues during Lent. We start at **1.30pm** with soup and at about 2pm after a short prayer, we read a passage and discuss it, ending at 3.30pm. This year we've been studying Paul's letters to the Colossians. There will be a sessions on **2nd April** and (overview) on **9th April**. Contact John, Diane or Harry for details.



Plant Sale: St Luke's annual plant sale will take place on **Sat 27th April** from **9am to 3ish**. We'll be selling "garden centre quality" bedding plants from a local professional grower at competitive prices. We'll also have young vegetable plants (for the garden and greenhouse) and hope to have a selection of perennials. If you would like to place a large order or request plants in advance, please call John Bowler. 

BBQ and garden party: ...will take place on **1st June** from **1- 4pm** at The Birches, Church Rd. There will be burgers & hot dogs, (with vegetarian options) and a glass of wine or beer will also be available. We're already praying for good weather, so come and join us – take the weight off your feet and chill as you relax in this beautiful garden with your friends and neighbours. 

Special services:

Palm Sunday: 14th April (6pm Said Holy Communion – all welcome followed by AGM at 6.30pm: for electoral roll members)  **Good Friday: 19th April** (Church open from 12 to 3 for quiet reflection) 

Easter Day: 21st April (9am Holy Communion led by Rev Waller)

Ascension Day: 30th May (Thursday)

Dates for your diary:

Pentecost (Whit Sunday or Whitsun) : 9th June

Fathers' Day: 16th June (Not actually a religious festival, but note anyway!)

Fundraising events:

Church Fete: 15th June (at the church)

Barn Dance: July (date tbc)

An evening with local author Jack Sheffield: 14th September (SHCC)

Christmas Fayre: 30th November



Bible verse of the month: Luke 10 v 27: ²⁷ (He answered,) ' "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, "Love your neighbour as yourself." '

What does it mean? This verse is self explanatory: Jesus had just been asked by a synagogue elder what the greatest commandment was – he was trying to catch Jesus out, but he had no answer to Jesus' reply: Love God and love your neighbour. Read on yourself to find out how Jesus replied when the same man asked him "Who is my neighbour?"

www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+10%3A25-37&version=NIVUK

St Luke's Church would like to wish everyone a joyful and peaceful Easter!

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillchurches.org.uk.

If you want to come to a service, all church service times are listed on the website, along with contact details for the Rector. His phone goes straight to an answerphone but he will reply as soon as he's able. The Rector's day off is Monday.

Church news articles are available to read on the benefice website (click on Stoke Hammond in the list and scroll down to Stoke Hammond Newsletters) **I will be continuing to put up a Stoke Hammond Church news report on the Benefice website and hope to continue issuing it monthly, although sadly the SH News printed copy will only be bi-monthly. Unfortunately, church events are not always scheduled 2 months in advance, so please do check the website for updates.**

If you would like to come to church but have mobility problems please ring John (see below) regarding transport. If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Churchwardens: Harry, on 07773065271; Diane, on 270409 or Treasurer: John, on 270202.**