

## 2020 PRIME TIME WALK DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Tuesday 24 March shorter local walk; Thursday 23 April; Wed 13 May; Thurs 18 June; Fri 17 July; Fri 7 Aug short walk; Tues 25 Aug; Thurs 10 Sept; Wed 14 Oct; Fri 6 Nov. These walks will be between 3-4 miles in length. The leader will advertise where they are going two weeks ahead. All are welcome and there is a pub lunch after. Leave Christ Church at 10 am and return is usually about 2 30pm. Any queries ask Maggie Snowball 527673.

**ABINGDON STREET PASTORS** urgently need recruits! We can no longer cover every Saturday of the month due to a shortage of Street Pastors. Training is provided and the commitment is to go out one Saturday night a month. To see what we do, come as an Observer for a taster session on a Saturday night. For further details, contact Sue Robbins (susankrobbins@gmail.com) or Sarah Turner (sarahmarianneturner@gmail.com).

**MEETING GOD IN THE SILENCE.** Monday 3 from 9am and 7pm in the Barn. 'By night we search for the source of living water. It was only our thirst that guides our way.' Taize

**THE REPAIR CAFE IS BACK:** Don't throw it away before seeing if we can fix it! The next repair cafe (part of a national effort called the Big Fix) will be at Christ Church, on Sat 15th Feb, 2.30-5pm. Would you like to help, or have a go at repairing? Contact Richard at richard.riggs@physics.org, 521931.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO GOURMET GAMES** on Friday 7 at 7:30pm till late in the lounge. There will be puddings followed by board games. All are welcome. Feel free to bring games, a pudding, or just yourself. *Phil Adams*

**PERSONAL - I believe I have mislaid a grey North Face coat** (Size large) a few weeks ago at church, so if anyone finds it, please could you let me know? Many thanks, James Lever. 01235-528115.

### CHILDREN IN THE PLAYGROUND

Parents/Carers, please could you ensure that your children are supervised in the playground after the service. Unfortunately, all the play equipment behind the fence in the main school playground is now too dangerous to be used and has been condemned. So please can all children not play on it and could those adults supervising the children ensure nobody goes into the fenced area. They are your responsibility!

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Judy Wood, Caroline Craig, Louis Furlong, David Robertson, Rachel Robertson, Logan Mazie (Jane J's great nephew), Cynthia Holland, Hugh Parkman.

If you have any items for the newsletter or for prayers, please contact Anne Taylor [annejbtaylor61@gmail.com](mailto:annejbtaylor61@gmail.com) or 528505.

Notices now on the web at [www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk](http://www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk) and on ChurchSuite.

Follow us on Facebook at "Christ Church Long Furlong"



## 2 February 2020

### LF HOSPITALITY MONTH & MORE - DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sunday Feb 2nd - LF Link-up Lunch

Tuesday Feb 4th Coffee Break at 10.15 111 Alexander Close

Saturday Feb 8th - Ceilidh 7.30pm at LF Community Centre. Tickets £5 - contact: [kath@cca.uk.net](mailto:kath@cca.uk.net)

Tuesday Feb 11th - Women's social evening 7.30pm at 7 Holland Rd - contact: [janicewenninger@gmail.com](mailto:janicewenninger@gmail.com)

Thursday Feb 27th - Beer & Banter - evening for men - 8pm at Spread Eagle - contact: [phil@cca.uk.net](mailto:phil@cca.uk.net)

### STAFF NEWS UPDATES

**Sarah Fry** is stepping down from the staff team as the Community Worker from half term. It's a role that's developed over 8 years, including schools work, serving those on the edge, resourcing initiatives such as Fun in the Park, and of course a huge role in developing the Food Bank and its team. We'll really miss her in the team, her love for the Lord, and her heart of compassion.

**Ed Wiles** has concluded after his sabbatical that the Lord is calling him to step back as Worship Coordinator. It's a role Ed has carried since 2004, initially with Sandra Hodgetts, and since 2014 on the staff team. It's been a huge task which Ed has proven so faithful in - we'll miss Ed hugely in this role! But praise the Lord that Ed will still be part of the church and continuing with worship leading and part of the bands.

### OLDER PEOPLES MINISTRY – PCC OUTCOME

We're delighted that recently the PCC voted unanimously to invest in the Older People's ministry, with time and money. The PCC is going to make two key appointments: a voluntary part time Older Persons Ministry Enabler, and a paid half time Caretaker. For more information, see last week's newsletter.

### CEILIDH (AN EVENING OF SCOTTISH DANCING) - Saturday 8 February 7.30 – 9.15pm at Long Furlong Community Centre

Great opportunity to enjoy dancing, chatting & getting to know others - do invite friends, family & neighbours too. We recommend that you wear flat shoes. Tickets (including soft drinks) £5.00 - 1 adult £10.00 -2 adults; £12.00 - family. Available on Sundays at LF & from Jane Robinson, Phil & Kath Cooke. **No unaccompanied children, please.**

### WEDNESDAY 8AM PRAYER MEETINGS

All welcome to join us in the Prayer Room in the Barns.

**LF PRAYER EVENING - Tuesday 4 February from 7.45pm** in the school hall with prayer stations to start & finish, as well as a gathered time of prayer. An opportunity to pause, pray & listen to God. Prayer stations will focus on 3 areas of our vision – meeting local needs in loving service, growing in maturity & new housing/congregations.

### **LF LEADERS TEAM FEEDBACK**

As well as several 'nuts and bolts' matters, our last meeting included reviewing Christmas; looking at Deanery Synod nominations; outlining the next prayer evening format; aiming to shorten the annual report in line with our vision strapline to make it readable; and progressing the Awayday plans - please book the date: 5th July. We are thrilled that Nic Cook is joining the team - we don't think that too many Cook(e)s spoil anything. If you have any concerns or inspiring thoughts, please find a vicar, lay minister or other team member and let us hear you. Derek Walker.

**LF QUIET DAY** - Saturday March 28 at Aston Tirrold Centre for Reflection, led by Geoff Maughan. More details to follow.

**FROM ECOCHURCH GROUP:** Lent is coming, and the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book is 'Saying yes to Life: how people made in the image of God make a difference for good. We have a copy to look at in the foyer and the #LiveLent 'Care for God's Creation' booklets at the coffee tables. Take a look and let us know if you'd like to order copies.

### **SCHOOLS WEEK**

Please pray for the team from Youth for Christ at John Mason School this week.

### **WELLSPRING QUIET SERVICE (9 FEB)**

Our quiet service will follow the theme of the main service and include meditations on Gratitude, Confidence in God, and Cultivating good habits. We'll have less singing, but more bible, prayer and silence. Wellspring starts at 10 am (staff lounge). Coffee/tea available from 9.50 am. Any questions, see Derek Walker (Ab 528134).

**ASH WEDNESDAY** - there will be a service of Holy Communion at 8pm on Wednesday 26 February led by Phil & Kath Cooke.

### **THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP**

We will be welcoming Andrew Turner as our speaker this week to our service on 6 February. Continuing in our Theme "Towards Easter" he will be speaking on the event and significance of "Palm Sunday" Luke 19:28-44. All welcome 10.30am in the hall.

### **CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR / VICARS PA**

With Christine retiring in April, the PCC is recruiting a new Church Administrator/ Vicar's PA. It's an exciting opportunity to play a core role in enabling the mission and ministry God is doing through Christ Church. The job description is on the website, <https://cca.uk.net/vacancies/>. Please spread the news; maybe God is calling you to apply?

**BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION** Are you ready to declare that Jesus is your Lord? We have a baptism and confirmation service on **Sunday 15 March** at 6:30pm. We'll be running baptism/ confirmation preparation sessions beforehand. Speak to a member of the clergy if you would like to explore this.

**ESCAPE FROM PRETORIA SCREENING** <https://www.facebook.com/theabbeycinema/>  
The Abbey Cinema, 5 March, 8pm, an exclusive preview screening and a Q + A with the producer, Jackie Sheppard. Tickets selling fast.

### **FOODBANK**

We are currently short of: long life milk, cereal, squash, meat and sugar. Thank you.

**CALLING BUTTONS** - If anyone has buttons (the sew on sort not the Panto!), my elderly friend who knits would like some more. She has knitted lots of twiddlemuffs for dementia folk and needs more buttons to complete them. She is very grateful for both the wool and buttons that you kindly find for her. If you let me have any, I'll pass them on. Many thanks, Jane Robinson.

**PRAYER MINISTRY TRAINING** - Would you like to be better equipped to pray for others? In March we are offering a prayer ministry training course, to train and equip anyone in the church who would like to learn and grow in this area. All are welcome. The course will run on 3 Monday evenings: 2, 9 and 16 March. We'll enjoy some teaching, refreshments and practice together in a safe and supportive context. For more information please chat to Alex Horlock or John Owen or, to book, please sign up via ChurchSuite or email [office@cca.uk.net](mailto:office@cca.uk.net). Thank you.

**SAVE THE DATE - Sunday 5 July - LF Away Day:** More details to follow & if you'd like to get involved with planning this day have a word with Phil or Kath Cooke - [kath@cca.uk.net](mailto:kath@cca.uk.net)

### **SAFEGUARDING – NATIONAL PAST CASES REVIEW**

Our churches and church-related activities must be safe for all, with safeguarding policies and practices that promote a safer church. We need to be certain that all known cases of concern about the behaviour of our clergy or church officers towards children and adults have been considered and dealt with appropriately. Every church in the Diocese, including our own, is now undertaking a comprehensive review as part of the national Past Cases Review 2 (PCR2). You can find out more about PCR2 on the Diocese of Oxford website: [oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2](http://oxford.anglican.org/pcr-2) If you have information or need to make a disclosure regarding church related abuse, please make direct contact with the Safeguarding Team at the Diocese of Oxford on 01865 208290. If you have lived experience of abuse from within the Church of England, you may prefer to call the dedicated telephone NSPCC helpline, which is independent of the Church. Call 0800 80 20 20 The NSPCC helpline is also available to anyone wishing to provide information or to raise concerns regarding abuse within the Church of England. The helpline is there for you whether you are reporting issues relating to children or adults or seeking to whistle-blow about poor safeguarding practice. Your call is confidential, and your concerns will be taken seriously.

### **DOROTHY LAMBERT**

Please pray for the family and friends of Dorothy who died on 23 January. Dorothy's funeral service is at Christ Church at 2pm on Wednesday 12 February, led by Nessa. All welcome.

**THE ABINGDON BIG SPRING CLEAN** - Leap into action from Saturday 29 February. Last year 10 community groups held their own litter picks in aid of The Big Spring Clean – we hope more will join this year. To reserve your equipment please contact the waste team in good time at [waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk)