

9 February 2020

LF HOSPITALITY MONTH & MORE - DATES FOR THE DIARY

Mon 10th Feb: Apprentice, Life Group for years 5-6, 4.30 pm, Barn, CCNR
 Tue 11th Feb: Footprints, Bereavement support, 10.30 am, Barn, CCNR
 Tue 11th Feb: Women's Social, 7.30 pm, 7 Holland Road
 Tue 11th Feb: Hungry: Praise and Prayer, 8 pm, Barn, CCNR
 Wed 12th Feb: Link, for toddlers and carers, 10 am, Hall, CCNR
 Wed 12th Feb: Friendly Cuppa, 2.30 pm, LFCC
 Thu 13th Feb: Singing Circle, 10.30 am, LFCC
 Thu 13th Feb: Leaders' Meeting, 8 pm, 102 Gibson Close
 Sat 15th Feb: Repair Cafe, 2.30 pm, Hall, CCNR
 Thursday Feb 27th - Beer & Banter - evening for men - 8pm at Spread Eagle -
 contact: 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.

WEDNESDAY 8AM PRAYER MEETINGS

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

HUNGRY Prophetic worship and intercession, **Tuesday 10 February, 8pm**, The Barn.

LF COFFEE AND WELCOME TEAM NEED YOU

It's crunch time – no biscuits!! Regrettably, without new recruits to the team (despite members doing extra shifts), it may not always be possible to give that special Long Furlong welcome when you arrive, and provide refreshments after the service every Sunday. It is the desire of our friendly and supportive team to ensure that we continue to do this and, with your help, we can. To find out more have a chat with Marian, or any member of the team, or email Marian on mimi.dreier@gmail.com.

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

FOODBANK

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

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.

LADIES@CCA QUESTIONNAIRE

Didn't get to the Ladies Breakfast but would like to contribute your thoughts and ideas to the development of the women's ministry at CCA? Then we encourage you to respond to the recent email invitation to complete an online questionnaire. For those not on Church Suite paper copies of the questionnaire can be found in the foyer at Northcourt Road and on the Welcome desk at Long Furlong. (Gill Turner, Andrea Farres, Jan Haywood)

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

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.

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. 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

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 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

GABRIELLE DENT'S SECOND TRIP SERVING WITH MERCY SHIPS

In October 2017 Gabrielle was able to fulfil a life time desire to serve with mercy Ships in providing life changing surgery on board their hospital ship. She will be going again from 1 March -18 April to work on the Africa Mercy in Dakar, Senegal, where the ship is for its present 10 month field service. Please be praying for her as she makes her preparations to leave, that God will be present in her travels and time on the ship working in the hospital and in her relationships with some of the 450 people on board. Those people who give up their time to provide this work are from up to 30 different countries, all brought together by their desire to bring hope and healing to the world's forgotten poor in West Africa. If you would like to contribute to her fundraising there is a leaflet and current information booklet in the foyer to enable you to do so and current information about Mercy Ships.

CONSIDERING PUTTING YOURSELF FORWARD AS A CHURCHWARDEN?

There is an event for people in the Oxford and Dorchester Archdeaconries to explore what this might involve, on Sat 28 March (in the Barns at Christ Church) 10am-12pm. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/exploring-the-role-of-churchwarden-tickets-91114001431> or let Dal Warburton know (when registering, add your full name to the *first name* field and your parish to the *surname* field!).

QUIZ NIGHT

Dave Parker and Neil Weston are both hosting tables and quiz teams for a *Curry and Quiz* night in aid of the choir they belong to, the All Saints' Singers, Sutton Courtenay. They would be delighted to include members of Christ Church in their respective teams! If you are interested, please do contact one of them (contact details on ChurchSuite). Leap Year Day, Sat 29 Feb, 7.00pm at Manor Prep School, Faringdon Rd, Shippon. Tickets £15.

THE ZACHARIAS TRUST is a UK-registered Christian charity with a friendly, welcoming culture and a warm working atmosphere. They have two vacancies in Oxford: Office Administrator and Receptionist and Events Assistant. Further details from <https://www.zachariustrust.org/join-the-team>

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).

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, 01235 521931.

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 or 528505.

Notices now on the web at www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk and on ChurchSuite.

Follow us on Facebook at "Christ Church Long Furlong"

