

COFFEE, CAKE AND CHAT this Friday 28 from 10 am in the hall at Northcourt Road. All welcome.

CLOSURE OF NORTHCOURT ROAD FROM 2 MARCH

Notice from Oxfordshire County Council: Northcourt Road between the junctions of Shelley Close and the Oxford Road will be closed from Monday 2 March for gas main replacement works which are anticipated to be completed on 20 March. To reach the NCR car park you will need to drive along Northcourt Road from the junction by the college with Wootton Road.

MWM Thursday 27 February. Ros Steel will lead a discussion on Growing Older Gracefully. We shall meet at Michael Chown's home, 2 Clevelands at 2.15 for 2.30.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 6 MARCH

A women-led, global ecumenical movement: This year's service will be at Trinity Church, at 10.30am (with crèche) or 7.30pm. This year's service is written by the women of Zimbabwe, and all (men and women) are warmly invited. Parking restrictions have been lifted on Park Crescent for both services.
Hilary Beale 01235 525086

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.

Free to collect 3 seater (steel) garden swing with cushions. Telephone 01235 525975.

Family looking urgently to rent three-bedroom house in North Abingdon. If you can help at all, please contact Helen Harwood on 07754 392890.

1 box of hearing aid batteries (approx 60), size 312, or PR41. In date until Dec 2021. No longer required - free to anyone who can use them. Please contact Susan Schneider 01235 555427 or sue@formpak.co.uk

Jackie Sheppard's film 'Escape from Pretoria.' One Senior's ticket available, March 5th, 8.00pm. *Rosemary Green 01865 682350*

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"



23 February 2020

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Wed 26th Feb: Link, 10 am, Hall, CCNR

Wed 26th Feb: Ash Wednesday service, 8 pm, CCNR

Thu 27th Feb: Singing Circle, 10.30 am, LFCC

Thu 27th Feb: MWM: Growing older gracefully, 2.15 pm, 2 Clevelands

Thu 27th Feb: Bible Journalling, 7 pm, 3 The Spinney

Thu 27th Feb: Beer and Banter, 8 pm, Spread Eagle

BEER & BANTER Thursday 27 March 8pm at Spread Eagle - an informal evening for men. More details from phil@cca.uk.net

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

PRIME TIME SUMMER EVENT RETURNS!

The Prime Time Summer Event will happen this year from Thursday 13th to Sunday 16th August. As before, its main aim will be to reach out to folk who don't normally come to church but who might appreciate a "holiday at home" where they can find fun, friends and food for body, mind and soul. Church friends are encouraged to invite and accompany their neighbours as well as enjoying the event themselves. A team led by John Earwicker is preparing the programme which will be suitable primarily for friends who are retired but wanting to live life to the full! Thank you to John for taking this key ministry on, and huge thanks to Maggie & Ian Snowball and all the committee for facilitating the PT Activity week in recent years - we're so glad it's continuing into a new season.

STEP INTO SOME FUN MISSION TO FAMILIES

Face painting. Crafts. Laughter. Chatting. Churches united in mission. Inviting families to church-run children/ family groups. What a great opportunity on our doorstep! Fun in the Park is a free event organized by Abingdon Town Council aimed at families, on Saturday 6 June in the Abbey Grounds, 10:30-3:30pm. The Church in Abingdon have hosted a stall there in recent years to make the most of the opportunity. We've always relied on a small team, but with Ed Evans no longer with us, and Sarah Fry having finished her term as Community Worker at Christ Church, we need to build a new team if we are to be present this year. There's plenty of scope for using your gifts, even for just an hour: we need set up/ set down teams; face painters; crafty people; chatty people. We need to make a decision by 12 March. So please speak to Keith or Kath if you can be involved.

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

WEDNESDAY 8AM PRAYER MEETINGS

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

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.

FROM THE CHRIST CHURCH SAFEGUARDING TEAM

There have been some BBC documentaries recently about child abuse in the church in the UK that, although difficult to watch due to the content, are helpful in understanding the issues around the need for safeguarding training in the church. Access through the BBC iPlayer, BBC Panorama "Scandal in the Church of England" April 2019 - available for another 2 months, about issues at Lincoln Cathedral. If after watching you have any questions please get in touch with a member of the Safeguarding Team or Clergy.

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.

FOODBANK

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

LENT: ARCHBISHOP'S 40-DAY CHALLENGE! We have copies of the #LiveLent booklet produced by the Church of England inspiring us to explore care for God's Creation during Lent. There is a short passage from scripture and thought each day looking at necessities for plant and animal life: light, water, seasons, environment, and aspects of life style including rest and restoration. Books available in the foyer, suggested donation: £1.50 but please don't be bound by that! (Sue Robbins, EcoGroup)

BARNs ALARM SYSTEM New alarm panels have been installed in the Barns. If you are an alarm fob holder, your current fob will no longer work. Please contact Clint as soon as possible if you require a fob. clint@cca.uk.net

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. Four adults and five youth are already exploring this step. Speak to a member of the clergy if you would like to also explore this.

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

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

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!).

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP CONVERSATIONS

You're welcome to join the NCR and LF Life Group Leaders at their next meeting on **Tuesday 10 March**, when we're exploring looking at how to have intentional discipleship conversations. David Heywood from the diocese will be talking about Personal Discipleship Plans, and Andrew Turner is going to introduce a simple model from Jorden Seng (from New Wine). In **the Barn**, 7:45pm. *Keith Dunnett*

CIA LENT LECTURES 2020

The Spiritual Adventure of Henri Matisse, Vence's Chapel of the Rosary

2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 March, 8pm with Charles Miller at St Helen's Church, South Aisle. The theme will be: Henri Matisse (1869-1954) described the Chapel of the Rosary in Vence on France's Cote d'Azur, consecrated for worship in June 1951, as 'the crowning achievement of my life's work'. Why did Matisse say that? We will consider how the Chapel of the Rosary synthesises the vision of one of the 20th century's artistic pioneers. All welcome.

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

We wish to follow best-hygiene practices and we advise those with coughs and sneezes to refrain from handshaking during The Peace and to receive Communion in one kind only. At present, there is no Government advice that suggests the use of the Common Cup should be suspended. Everyone can help to reduce the spread of viruses in the following ways:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- If you feel unwell, stay at home, do not attend work or school.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home and work environment.

2020 CHURCH 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.