

SERVICES TODAY

At Northcourt Road

9.30am CAROL SERVICES

11.15am The Greatest Show - Luke 2:6-7

6.30pm EVENING WORSHIP

When the Lord Comes 1 Thess. 4:13-5:11

Ignite
Pathfinders

Kath Cooke

At Long Furlong

10am MORNING WORSHIP

Prepare the way Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6

Anne Taylor

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- those who are unwell: David Price, Paula Beal, Nicola Price, Bernard Tingley, Chris Rowe, Nessa Watts, Alan Newton, Debbie Purbrick, Mike Bowles, Naomi, Nat, Ellie McRitchie.

Please contact the office if you would like your name or a friend or relative's to be included on this list. The name will remain there for six weeks or so. If the need is for continued, long-term prayer support, the name will be added to the monthly prayer diary. Please let the office know when a name can be removed from the list. Thank you.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 16 DECEMBER

At Northcourt Road

8am Holy Communion Phil. 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Neil Weston

9.30am Morning Worship
Gabriel's Message Luke 1:26-38

David Hancock

4pm & 7pm Carol Services

Keith Dunnett

At Long Furlong

10am Morning Worship
The Lord is near Zeph. 3:14-20 & Phil. 4:4-7

Pamela Shirras

CHRISTMAS RESONATE LOUNGE - 14 December, 8pm-10pm

Resonate Lounge is a monthly late night cafe event, hosted by The Barns Cafe, aimed at the 18-30s(ish) community. For our Christmas event there will be a live band, Christmas crafts, and a quiz, all within the relaxed cafe atmosphere. A free event - just come along and have fun! Find us on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) as Resonate - Abingdon, or get in touch by email at resonate@cca.uk.net if you have any questions/feedback.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY for those with management experience, interested to serve local community in East Oxford: St Clement's Parish Property Trustees (PPT) seek PPT's first **General Manager**, with vision and energy to establish strategy to grow the charity's work, and to run daily operations of the Trust. For details, please visit www.stclements.org.uk, or contact St Clement's Parish Office: e-mail: parish.office@stclements.org.uk. Closing date for applications is Monday 7 January 2019; interviews in week commencing 28 January 2019.

FOODBANK This week we are short of tinned chick peas, long life milk, pasta, small jars of coffee, tuna. Thank you for your contributions.

New Foodbank Prayer Meeting - We'd love you to join us in prayer for the work of the Foodbank across the town. We're meeting on the first Friday of the month (except January), from 10.30-11.30am in the quiet room (opposite the kitchen).
Jane Lane and Sarah Fry

PERSONAL A professional Christian woman in her 30s looking for long term accommodation in Abingdon area. Would be preferable to be closer to the South Abingdon area but also happy to live in North Abingdon too.



"Being Disciples, Making Disciples"

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICES TODAY

ADVENT 2

SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER 2018

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:16

WELCOME

If you are new to the church, a very warm welcome to you. If you would like further information, please visit the Welcome Corner in the entrance foyer between the morning services, or fill in the welcome card in the chair and hand it to one of the service leaders or welcome team. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS FLIERS

These are now ready in bundles with road names and numbers. Christmas is the easiest time of year to invite someone to a service. Please could you take a bundle or two of fliers and deliver them to your road / any other road in the parish! We've reduced the size of the

largest bundles compared to last year. You're welcome to push them through the letterboxes, but some might want to consider ringing the door bell, and then you warmly inviting the occupier to a Christmas event, leaving them the flier as a reminder. How about doing this as a life group as a bit of outreach?

HELP AT CHRISTMAS SERVICES

As the season of Advent begins and we anticipate celebrating the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, there are opportunities to reach out into our community by inviting friends and family to join us at Carol Services, Christingles and Christmas worship. There are seven Christmas services based at Northcourt Road and we want to extend Jesus' loving welcome to every guest, from the local community and beyond. To do this, we need temporary volunteers to supplement the Welcome Teams and ensure that everyone can come and worship and feel part of our celebrations. We'd appreciate your help at the following services:

1. Carol Services on Sunday 16 December at 4.00pm and 7.00pm
2. Christingle Services on Monday 24 December at 3.00pm and 4.30pm
3. Midnight Communion on Monday 24 December at 11.00pm
4. Christmas Day Communion (BCP) on Tuesday 25 December at 8.00am
5. Christmas Day Family Worship on Tuesday 25 December at 10.00am.

We're also looking for volunteers to help with setting up for the Carol services, on the morning of 16 December after 9.30 am worship, and preparing and serving mulled wine and mince pies after each Carol Service on that day. If you can help out at one or more of these events, or would like to know more, I'd love to hear from you, as soon as possible. Please contact Janice Gordon 01235 553971 chriswgordon6@aol.com. Many thanks - we can't do this without you!

Church Office 01235 539172 office@cca.uk.net

MORNING SERVICES 16 DECEMBER The 9:30 and 11:15am services are uniting together at 9:30am on the 16th, and this will be a communion service. There's no 11:15am service on the 16th because we're setting up for the Carol Services.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE HOME ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY - they are invited to Peachcroft Christian Centre for Christmas Day Lunch on 25 December 2018 from 1-3pm (arrival from 12.30pm). Meal and transport from home is free of charge but booking is essential. Contact Ruth Adams to book or for more information on: events@peachcroftcc.org or text/phone on 07379 469311 (<http://peachcroftcc.org/>).

PRIME TIME CHRISTMAS SPECIAL Friday 21 December in the Barns from 10am - 11.30am. Andy Jones and Sally will play music and there will be coffee and mince pies ending with carols and a thought from Kath Cooke. Do come and bring a friend.

TEA TIME TREATS

Wednesday 12 December in lounge 2.30-3.30pm. Come and join us – all welcome.

THE BARN'S CAFE PRAYER INTERCESSORS

The Barns Cafe is a ministry right on the frontline of our community, and we experience both the wonders and the difficulties that come with that. We would not be able to do what we do without regular prayer support, and our faithful prayer intercessors have a huge part to play in this ministry. Do you have a heart for the work The Barns Cafe is doing and think you could join our prayer intercessors team? Please get in touch for more information from Hannah at hannah@thebarnscafe.co.uk.

NEW WINE 2019 – Book now as it is filling up fast!

We'd love you to join the Christ Church group going to New Wine next summer and don't want you to miss out as we have heard it may even fill up by Christmas. It is a great opportunity not only to breathe in from God, but also to spend time as a church community. We're going to Week 1, Sat 27 July to Fri 2 August at the Peterborough showground. To book see www.new-wine.org. More detail from Keith, or Paul & Karen Brombley.

PROGRAMME CARDS

The latest programme card is available today – please take one home, and pass others on to friends and neighbours as a way of inviting them to church!

'BEASTS OF BETHLEHEM' IN OUR BARN!

A marvellous NEW Christmas 'moosical' for all ages by **LAMPS**. Join Sheep, Ox and Donkey for a wild and woolly retelling of the nativity, as they chew over who and what on earth the little baby in their feeding trough might be. Inspired by the C.S. Lewis poem The Nativity. Monday 17th December 4pm and 7pm and Tuesday 18th December 1.30pm and 7pm **Christ Church Abingdon Barn**. Tickets £10 (£5 under 16's) www.buytickets.at/lampscollective or by calling 07452982705. If Prime Time members know folk who don't like going out in the dark, please make them aware of our 1.30pm show.

FOOTPRINTS The December meeting of Footprints is on Tuesday 11 December from 10.30 to 12noon in the New Barn. We welcome anyone who has been bereaved or is living with other losses. We hope this will be a relaxed morning where guests can laugh together with a Christmas sketch, and enjoy mince pies. We will have a Secret Santa (maximum for gifts of £1!) and Rosemary Green will remind us of the meaning of Christmas.

STAMPS As you receive all your Christmas Post please remember to keep any postage stamps and put them in the box in the foyer to help boost funds for The Leprosy Mission. Thank you.

YEMEN COLLECTION - A MASSIVE thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Ignite Collection for the famine in Yemen. We have raised a total of **£2,372!!** This includes the £1,000 fund raising match contributed by the Mission Support Group. Just to give you an idea of the impact this might make: This amount can feed 43 families for 1 month (around 172 people) or provide 16 families with a winter warm pack (including blankets, a heater, mattresses and warm clothes). Tearfund are very grateful for all of our contributions and a thank you letter from them will be displayed as soon as it arrives. Please share this encouraging news with your children.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Jesus calls us to *remain in him*, and for his words to remain in us, so that we will bear much fruit (John 15). We encourage every member of Christ Church to spend a few minutes each day reading the bible and praying. There's lots of bible reading aids around, including:

Online: The Bible in One Year, from Alpha, download the app from Googleplay/ or Apple store, or access it from www.bibleinoneyear.org/

Bible reading notes: to continue your regular subscription or to make a new one, please contact: Lesley Chapman 01235 531722 or chapmanabingdon@aol.com
Make a New Year resolution to engage with God each day in this way.

VISION PROCESS If you didn't receive an email last week updating you on the outcome of the PCC Day Away, printed copies are available in the entrance area.

WEDNESDAY EARLY MORNING PRAYER MEETINGS

The group praying for the vision process on Wednesday mornings have enjoyed it so much we're going to continue! Everyone is welcome to the **Wednesday Early Morning Prayer Meetings**, 8am-8.45am, in the Prayer Room by Christine's office.

ALPHA COURSE The next Alpha course will start in September (not January as in recent years).

THE JESUS LIFESTYLE

A closer look at Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. Wednesdays 7:30pm from 16 January to mid July. This group is aimed at:

- Those intrigued by Jesus and wanting to explore faith maybe for the first time
- Those wanting a next step after being on the Alpha course
- Newcomers to Christ Church looking for a small group to join

Hosted by Keith & Lynne Dunnett and Nessa Watts at the Dunnett's home (keith@cca.uk.net, 209145)

If you're already a longstanding member of Christ Church, we're encouraging you to join/ continue to be part of, one of the existing small groups.

ANNE MOON invites her friends from Christ Church to the Barns at 2.30-4pm for a tea party for her 90th Birthday (24 December) on Friday 11 January. No presents please but if anyone would like to contribute to making something for the tea instead please tell Maggie Snowball 527673.

TWO CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT VIVA

The global children's charity is currently seeking a **Supporter Relations Manager** to build and develop relationships with individuals and churches (application deadline: 14 January) and also has an urgent short-term, part-time position of **Fundraising Assistant**, to begin January (application deadline: 17 December). All the details are at www.viva.org/jobs

THE ARCHWAY FOUNDATION (Registered Charity, Founded on Christian Values, Serving Those Hurt By Loneliness) is keen to recruit two new trustees. One to take a lead role in developing its Digital Strategy; the other with experience of working in Mental Health and an understanding of Safeguarding. For role descriptions and further information without obligation please contact sheila@archwayfoundation.org.uk or telephone 07703186041.