

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.

A ROCHA'S GIFTS WITH A DIFFERENCE

This Christmas, what can you give that special person who has everything? Why not something that brings hope for them and the planet? Help save the White-naped Mangabey in Ghana's Atewa Forest or give clean water to a family in Uganda with a bio-sand filter. To find out more, pick up A Rocha's Gifts with a Difference catalogue – available in the church foyer – or browse online at shop.arocha.org. A Rocha is one of our Mission Partners.

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.

CHILDREN IN THE PLAYGROUND

Parents, please could you ensure that your children are supervised in the playground after the service and do not go into the fenced areas to the left and right of the main play area. They are your responsibility!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Caroline Craig, Louis Furlong, David Robertson, Rachel Robertson, Logan Mazie (Jane J's great nephew), Nessa Watts

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

Follow us on Facebook at "Christ Church Long Furlong"



9 December 2018

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Mon 10th Dec: Prime Time Christmas Lunch, 12.30 pm, Coseners House
Mon 10th Dec: LF Leaders' Meeting, 8 pm, Julie's house
Tue 11th Dec: Coffee Break, 10.15 am, 47 Alexander Close
Tue 11th Dec: Footprints for the bereaved, 10.30 am, The Barns, NR
Wed 12th Dec: Link, 10 am, Hall, NR
Wed 12th Dec: Friendly Cuppa, 2.30 pm, LFCC
Thu 13th Dec: Singing Circle, 10.30 am, LFCC
Thu 13th Dec: Bible Journalling, from 7 pm, 3 The Spinney
Sat 15th Dec: Community Carols in the Park, 4 pm, LFCC

TODAY - LAZERS FUNDRAISING CAKE AND CRAFT STALL

After the service TODAY please support our Lazars who will be raising money for the Viva project they support in Uganda working with children at risk.

A BIG THANK-YOU to all who have delivered the Christmas fliers, please continue to pray for all who have received these invitations.

COMMUNITY CAROLS IN THE PARK – Sat 15th December 4pm UPDATE

This is a great opportunity to share Christmas songs, readings & mince pies with our local community, so please do be praying for this event. We really need some more people to help with the refreshments in the community centre - either helping with setting-up, serving mulled wine/mince pies, clearing-up, or all of this! If you are willing to be involved please contact Jane Robinson, Kath Cooke or Julie Kemp-Harper kempharpers@pobox.com 521049 THANK YOU!

WELCOME PACK & WELCOME CARD - We now have a welcome pack available for newcomers to Long Furlong with helpful information including the term card, life group info, details of children & young peoples' work etc. It also includes a welcome card which people can fill in with their details to ask for a visit or further information. Completed cards will be given to one of the welcome team. Thank-you to Janice W & Simon F for getting these packs together, they can be found on the welcome table in the foyer.

WELLSPRING TODAY - This is an alternative service, more reflective and quiet. If you want to go into Wellspring then please go directly there, don't go into the hall first. Wellspring this month will be led by Sandra Pike.

CIA UNITED SERVICE DURING WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This year our church will be responsible for the service, which will take place at Northcourt Road on 27 January 2019, led by Kath Cooke. The theme this year is Justice. Please put a note in your diary about this service.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING....Here's some of what's happening at Christ Church and how you can get involved:

Sat 15th Dec 4pm - Community Carols in the Park - help needed with refreshments & welcome. Contact Julie K-H, Jane Robinson, or Andrew Turner.

Sun 16th Dec 4pm & 7pm - Carol Services at Northcourt Road

Sun 23rd Dec 10am - Festive carols & readings for all-ages at LF School

Mon 24th Dec 4pm - Christingle service at LF Community Centre - if you'd like to help with planning the service, or preparing, or serving refreshments contact Kath Cooke

Tues 25th Dec 10am - Christmas morning all-age celebration at LF Community Centre

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.

ADVANCE NOTICE - BOXING DAY WALK

If you have not yet planned your Boxing Day and you like a bit of fresh air and a chat, you are very welcome to join the traditional Long Furlong Boxing Day walk. Meet at the Community Centre on Long Furlong at 10:30 on Boxing Day morning. We will be back between 11:30 and 12:00. It will not be far and it will not be fast. Suitable for long legs, short legs, two legs and four. Depending on the weather, you may encounter mud, puddles or maybe even snow and ice, so please dress suitably. Just turn up or ring beforehand. James and Cherry Tweed. Abingdon 532426 or 0771 4322867.

LONG FURLONG PASTORAL VISITING TEAM - as part of our pastoral care at LF we have been developing a visiting team, they are available to visit people who are unwell, are bereaved, have just moved house etc. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit from the visiting team, please contact Janice - janiceweninger@gmail.com

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.

CCA FOOTBALL EVERY MONDAY NIGHT at Tilsley Park 8pm. Ages 16 and up. Email terryoneill2@hotmail.com

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.

PRIME TIME HOLIDAY 3 – 10 JUNE 2019

Yes, it's time to start thinking of sunny summer holidays again! Next year we are off to Weston-super-Mare once more and the brochures are now available. Those who have been before (in the last 3 or 4 years) will find a brochure in an envelope addressed to them in their pigeon-hole. There are spares on the table in the lobby for others who would like to find out what all the excitement is about! - Neil & Maureen Weston (204147)

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION FOR ALL AGES - Sunday 23 December 10am

Long Furlong's unique annual celebration of Christmas. Poems, songs, readings, sketches and more - contributions welcome from all ages. Contact Phil & Kath. phil@cca.uk.net kath@cca.uk.net Thank-you.

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/>).

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.

TEA TIME TREATS - Wednesday 12 December in lounge at Northcourt Road, 2.30-3.30pm. Come and join us – all welcome.

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 Gill Turner.

'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. Mon 17th December 4pm and 7pm and Tue 18th Dec 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.