

Wantage Community Church

About Us



Home for All

Everyone is welcome at WCC no matter what their background. People felt at home around Jesus, and our prayer is that, as we come together, we will become a church home where anyone and everyone feels welcomed and included.



Family for Discipleship

A family brings stability, growth and warmth to a community. We are all on a journey and as Christians we are called to become more and more like Jesus. We believe that discipleship is key to our growth as Christians.



Space to Encounter God

Our heartfelt belief is that God deeply desires to be in personal relationship with each and every one of us. Our aim is to provide opportunities to experience the presence of God and allow him to work in us to become the people he made us to be.



Base for Sending

We believe everyone is sent into their communities to share the love, power and salvation that God offers to people. We also love to commission people to go to other places, short term or long term, near or far, to see God and his goodness more known.

All of these things happen most when we are living close to God. Therefore we want to see life changing transformational encounters with God through our worship together - to be a church that hosts the presence of God - inside and outside of our gathering. We seek to create places where heaven can touch earth.



Visit our website at www.wantagecc.org.uk. Contact us at hello@wantagecc.org.uk

Wantage Community Church is part of Oxfordshire Community Churches.
A company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, number 03223210.
Registered Office The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES Registered Charity 1056921.

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Sundays at Wantage Community Church

We are a church with a family atmosphere and a modern feel that seeks to be a community and to serve the wider communities we find ourselves in. We have discovered the powerful love of God and that motivates us to express his love to all, no matter their background. Everything we do seeks to express all of that!



We are an evangelical charismatic church. This means that the bible is the key reference for us in understanding how to do life and we believe that people can have life changing encounters and be equipped with gifts of the Holy Spirit today.

At 10:00 we gather for prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us at this point. Our meeting starts at 10:15 with refreshments and fellowship followed by worship and a talk from 10:30.



The centre of our meetings is worshipping and spending time with God. We usually start our services with everyone together doing exactly this. This is also the time when we seek to hear what God has been saying to and doing with members of the church. The meeting leader will invite prophetic words and testimonies from members of the congregation and will share those that are felt to be appropriate with the whole congregation.

Typically the children and youth will then go to their various Sunday School groups and the adults will listen to a talk given by a member of the church or a visiting preacher from the wider church family of which we are a part.

Once a month there is a kids praise session where the primary school aged children go out for their own time of worship at the start of the service.

At the end of the service there is always time to seek prayer from the prayer team, as well as to socialise with other members of the church family. The meeting formally ends around 12:00.



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Kids Work on Sundays

We have a vibrant set of Sunday School groups that usually meet whilst the message is being preached to adults in the Hall.

All our volunteers are safeguarding trained and DBS checked and have a passion to see our children and young people have a great time during kids work.



Our children's groups are located upstairs - please follow the signs or ask a steward. Children must be dropped off and collected after the service by their parent/guardian.

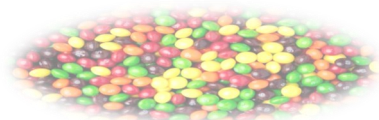
Please ensure your younger children have been to the toilet before the session starts and let the leader know of any allergies or SEN.



Jelly Tots (Creche)

pre-school children
aged 0 to 4

There is usually a craft activity, free play and songs and stories in this safe and stimulating space.



Skittles

primary school children
in years reception to 2

In this group, we start to learn more about the bible through stories, games & crafts and having fun together.



Marshmallows

primary school children
in years 3 to 6

With our older children, we encourage them to read from the bible as part of the lesson and explore more questions. There's usually games and crafts to have fun with too.



Youth

secondary school children
in years 7 to 13

Our Young people have a mix of teaching, prayer and fun. We aim to provide them with the tools to explore what their faith means to them and how to live life as a follower of Jesus.



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Our Culture

In pursuing our vision we try to act in the following ways, both as individuals and corporately as the body of the church, to follow the example of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Welcoming



Matthew 19:14
Romans 12:13

Journeying Together



Luke 24:15-30
Acts 8:26-31

Full of Faith



1 Corinthians 12:9

Have a Go and Grow



Acts 6:3-7
1 Timothy

Jesus

Serving



John 13:16
1 Peter 4:10

Encouraging



1 Thessalonians 5:11
2 Corinthians 13:11

Generous



2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Prayerful



Acts 2:42
1 Thessalonians 5:17



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Led by the Connect Team

Wantage Community Church is a group of people who seek to live out church with one another and their communities. To help that work well, some people carry more specific leadership roles within the church. The idea is that they connect the different areas of church life, be that worship, small groups, stewarding, outreach, community, kids work, finance and many others. Do talk to them if you've got questions. The Connect team meets twice a month to bring connection and leadership to the church. It consists of the following church members:



Paul and Francesca Gander (Pastor and Eldership Couple): Paul is Pastor of Wantage Community Church. Together with Francesca he leads the church. Paul has specific responsibility for Community Development Work. Francesca has a heart and passion for people and leads the Pastoral team.



Neil and D Townsend (Emeritus Pastor and Eldership Couple): Neil is an elder of the church. He and D also bring support to a number of other churches in our network, and elsewhere. D is a member of the pastoral care team with a special interest in the church's prayer life.



Andy & Liz Bruce (Eldership Couple): Andy Bruce is an assistant pastor and an elder. Andy is part of the pastoral care team and oversees worship. He and his wife Liz also oversee small groups within the church.



Dan and Lucy Harbour: Dan has oversight of youth work and Lucy is a worship leader.



Andy and Eileen White: Andy has oversight of operations and communications. Eileen is a member of the preaching team and is the Chair of the Kingsgrove Community Hub (The HUB) Board of Trustees.



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What we do throughout the week

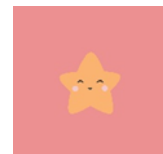
Small Groups These are the power house of the local church. It's where we can most effectively give and receive support and grow in our walk with Jesus. There are a variety of groups that run during the week, but all aim to include the following: Encouraging & supporting each other, Bible Study, Prayer, Worship and Sharing our faith with others.

Families We run a number of groups aimed at supporting families including a toddler group once a week on a Friday for all parents and carers of young children and a Dad's Out Group once month. We also run parenting courses on a regular basis.

20-30s Whether you are just in your 20's, or getting close to your 40's, we have an informal group that meets for friendship about once every 6 weeks.

Discipleship This is a key focus of our vision within WCC. It develops, encourages and challenges each of us in our walk of becoming more like Jesus and knowing him. Taking the time to build trust and relationship (doing life together) helps people to grow and is also supportive in the ups and downs of life. This mainly takes place in small groups, but there are also other groups that meet for discipleship across the church, such as prayer triplets.

Social Justice We believe this is important to do and so we run Wantage & Grove FoodBank, Street Pastors & Clothes bank.



Get Connected, Get Involved

To sign up to our weekly email newsletter, enquire about small groups, request prayer contact, or get involved by volunteering, please see our website or contact us (details at the bottom of the page).



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Our Church Connections



Locally we are part of the Wantage and Grove Church Partnership.

Apostolically we are part of the Advance Sphere, a collection of churches across Wales and the South of England, which is itself part of Salt and Light, an international family of churches.

Nationally we are members of the UK Evangelical Alliance.

Where we Meet

Currently we meet at the Wantage Primary Academy in Rutherford Road, Wantage OX12 7GQ.

We have a vision for a new type of community venue, one which embraces every aspect of real life. Our child charity, Kingsgrove Community Hub, will be running the new community centre being built on Kingsgrove. The vision for this "Hub" is different than a normal community Centre as we seek to be a vibrant praying community of faith - helping to shape a space that smiles. We love that this project is about partnership and community. If you'd like to know more, get involved, contribute ... please go to www.thehub.org.uk



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Giving

There are a number of reasons to give, in no particular order ...

- *Giving is recognition that everything we have originally comes from God, and giving is a key way of expressing thankfulness to God for his provision to us.*
- *Tithing, the giving of 10% of one's income, is a well attested practice of Christians through the ages. It's a way of declaring one's trust in God, a baseline for a generous life and lines us up with God's desire to bless and be blessed.*
- *Giving to the local church is a way of expressing our commitment to and membership of a local church, which is the expression of Jesus we are part of. As we give to the church we are giving to the body of Christ.*
- *The church is called to work with God in various ways, from practical caring to spiritual transformation; from community transformation to individual growth. Investing in this work is one of the privileges we have and is part of putting our heart into the kingdom.*

Donations given to WCC are the church's only source of funds as we do not receive income from anywhere else.

If you would like to give to WCC now by credit or debit card then please use one of the giving stations at the back of our service, scan the QR code below, or go to wantagecc.org.uk/givenow. If you wish to make a bank transfer or set up a standing order for regular donations, then you can find details of how to do this at wantagecc.org.uk/giving, or contact us at giving@wantagecc.org.uk.



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