

16th January 2022

Welcome

Welcome to our morning meeting - whether you've been coming here for years of this is your first time here - we want you to feel at home. Feel free to join in with as much or as little as you want and if you have children please don't feel that you have to keep them quiet and still throughout. Although do be aware of other's need for space or social distancing.

This week we are praying in Paul & Francesca Gander. During lockdown last year Paul and Francesca became our new Pastors & Community Development Leaders - but we didn't get the chance to pray them in properly! We want to honour their obedience to God and thank them for their amazing service to us as a Church and the wider community.

After that Children (5-11) will have Kids Praise, creche and youth will be running upstairs, and downstairs Paul Gander will be speaking from Acts.

Neil & D are leading the meeting do talk to them about anything God is saying to you.

We are continuing to monitor Covid data and following current advice. Please continue to wear a mask during the meeting - especially during singing. If you feel unwell for any reason please don't attend.



We're **in** 2022: Salt & Light Advance is partnering with Wildfires and Big Church Day Out. Info at <https://advancechurches.uk/bcdo-wildfires-2022/> Talk to Paul & Francesca or Andy & Liz Bruce for more info - it really is good to get together like this :)

The Alpha Course is for anyone wanting to ask questions about the Christian Faith, for those who have no faith or have faith and just want to ask some questions about Christianity.

The format includes watching a short film and then discussing it together in small groups. It will be both online and a physical meeting. It is a no pressure course, everyone is free to come and go as they please.

We start on **Thu 20th Jan at 8pm** to sign up for the course please go to <https://wantagecc.org.uk/alpha>

For further questions you can also ask Paul on paul@wantagecc.org.uk or phone 07812136031.

Welcome

It is great to have you with us this morning. We hope that you feel at home with us.

If you would like someone to pray with you after the meeting, please talk to the meeting leader.

Please note that, unless they are in children's groups, children remain the responsibility of parents or guardians at all times. Children are not allowed in any of the classrooms and should remain in the sight of their parents.

GIVING: In the current situation, it is difficult to have a collection at Church. If you would like to give financially to the church then you can make a donation using the My Giving menu in My ChurchSuite or by going to: wantagecc.org.uk/giving.

To know more about tithing / regular giving please contact Neil (details overleaf) or visit our website



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Looking forward to the new term....

Week of prayer for Christian Unity Tuesday 18th – 25th
January

A daily 20-minute on-line prayer meeting starting at
8pm. Organised by Wantage and Grove Churches
together.

Link is in the Wednesday email or below!!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82907329371?pwd=QngrTEJqMlppcUtQMHMxYmNvM205QT09>

Change of Date..... Change of Date.....

Friday 28th January: Half night of prayer
8pm -12midnight

Wantage Methodist Church, Newbury Street

Come for an hour - or come for more, start the new
year with a time of prayer and worship - for our church,
our town, our area, our nation and beyond.

Advance Notice

OpenGate Celebration Sunday 27th March

Help wanted from January 2022

We run a toddler group on Fridays at the Methodist
church hall.

<https://facebook.com/wantagebabyandtoddlers> - *we
are looking for people to come and join a set up /
coffee rota (8.45 -11.15) once a month - If you can
help please get in touch with D:
denise@wantagecc.org.uk or Francesca:
fran@wantagecc.org.uk*

Please send notice and event information to hello@wantagecc.org.uk - **Also if you test positive for COVID after one of our services please contact us on 01235 470041 or use the hello@wantagecc.org.uk email.**

Contact Us

To sign up for our email
updates, our prayer text, or
simply to ask a question, please
use any of the following ...

facebook

wantagecc.org.uk

hello@wantagecc.org.uk

01235 470041



TOUCHING HEAVEN | CHANGING EARTH

News from Neil & D (shared at the all church zoom on
Wednesday)

About 5 or so years ago, I began to sense that it would be
good for D and I to take a sabbatical at an appropriate point.
However, it was not obvious how that would work, and it
remained a thought. Over summer last year and the autumn,
it became clear both in our own prayer and in people
speaking to us that it would be good to actually take one.

We then presented the idea both to our OpenGate regional
and apostolic teams and to the Connect team, both of whom
gave us wholehearted endorsement to pursue this, as did
Steve Thomas, the Salt and Light international lead and Steve
Jones, the lead of our Salt and Light sphere.

Taking a sabbatical is a common practice for church leader in
many contexts, but perhaps less so in ours. It is a well proven
path, and is about investing in the future of the individuals
concerned and in the church or contexts they lead. It builds
on the biblical principles of rest, and hearing God, and then
returning able to then bring more godly, more Holy Spirit
inspired wisdom and leadership to those around you.

A sabbatical can have many "main" goals. For us, there are
two. The first is to step back, clear our heads, and deeply
refresh our souls for whatever God has for us next. The next
is to create the time and space to hear God about what his
future plans are. Alongside this, we will both also do some
theological study.

We are aiming to do this from Easter to Summer this year,
details tbc. Please pray for us!

For clarity: during our sabbatical, the connect team will be
led by Paul and Fran, and Nick and Naomi will take the helm
of the OpenGate region. And we are encouraging them to
lead, not simply hold it until we return!

Church lead

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Pastor & Community Development Lead

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