

# Wantage Community Church

A HOME, A FAMILY, AND MORE

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Pre-Sunday service Prayer Meetings

Join the pre-service prayer, via a Zoom, from 10 to 10:15am, everyone is welcome.

You can join this using the **WCC Sunday pre-meeting Prayer** entry in the **My ChurchSuite** menu or click [here](#)

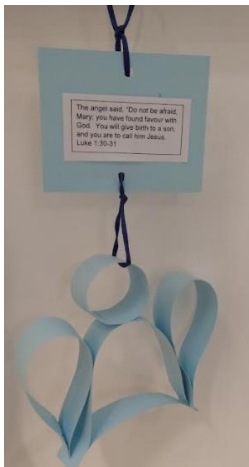
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Main meeting at 10.30

Lucy Harbour will be leading Worship

Paul is speaking on, Watching and Waiting in our Advent series.



Angels created by our amazing children!

We chat, we play, we learn, we craft, we build relationships, we teach, we encourage, we pray.

Come be a part of supporting our children from ages 0-11. No experience needed -- just a love for helping children enjoy church and learn about Jesus. Talk to Tyrone or Kristal if you want to know more.



## Managing the risk of COVID

If you have any symptoms of Covid, or are feeling unwell for any reason please do not attend meetings in person. We will continue to have, where appropriate, ventilation for meetings.

## Viewing our services on-line

We stream our Sunday meetings on Facebook and YouTube and you are very welcome to join us that way. You can do this with Facebook using the WCC on Facebook menu item in My ChurchSuite or click [here](#)

If you prefer to use YouTube then you can do this using the WCC on YouTube menu item in My ChurchSuite or click [here](#)

## Going Green

If you can bring your own reusable mug for coffee or tea on a Sunday morning it would be greatly appreciated.



## Kingsgrove Community Hub (KCH) Update and Prayer Point

### Update

Important negotiations continue. There are several meetings to agree legal documents and to progress the Hub's charitable status.

### Prayer Point

Earlier in the summer Paul wrote a Psalm of Wantage, it was written in a heartfelt response much like a Psalmist might write, remembering God's faithfulness, how he has brought us thus far and when we feel unsure how God will provide, he will do it again! Here is an excerpt,

For you Lord have made a way possible

Providing money when there was need

Providing experience when there were gaps

When we are in need again, Lord help us to trust

Praise the Lord

Who reveals things when times are right

Who provides miraculously like manna in the desert

Who has provided and will continue to provide for us

Please pray for the legal agreements with important negotiations happening this week.

Please pray for God to continue to guide and give wisdom to Neil and the people involved. Amen!



## Church Events

### Advent Talks by Brian Draper

As a church we have made available an advent series by Brian Draper that comes out by daily by email. They won't take long to read, but they will help you to step more deeply into the heart of Advent.

Brian draper writes: It's not easy when the days get shorter, but pause for just long enough and the soul can fill with wonder like the skies at the promise of this coming season. For a gift of infinite worth comes, after all, wrapped in the gathering darkness of a 'night divine' ...Advent 2022 is a unique series of short e-mail reflections, which I write day-to-day in Advent. It's not always easy to stay present during this most precious of seasons - which is why I love to craft and create a pathway through, to inspire and challenge us to stay true to the message of hope that Advent brings us. I'll invite your own brief responses as we go, so that the journey is shared, and so we create something greater than the sum of the parts!

We have donated to Brian Draper as a church – so you can simply sign up and subscribe (no need to pay any more) <https://www.briandraper.org/advent-2022>



## Alpha

A new course is beginning in January – for more information about the Alpha course go to [this link](#) or speak to Paul Gander.



## Small Group Information

Small groups are a vital part of Church life, it's where you can pray, study the Bible, support and encourage one another. If you are not yet involved in a group speak to Paul Gander or Andy Bruce. There are also two day-time groups Tuesday and Thursday morning both start at 10.30. These are for anyone free during the day or who can be flexible with their working hours. Parents who would like to join are more than welcome to bring their preschool children.

## WCC Toddler Group

Our toddler group is a lively and friendly group for all parents and carers of babies and pre-school children. Crafts for toddlers, toys, song-time, drinks and cake! We meet Fridays 9.15-11.15am during term time at the Methodist Church Hall off Newbury Street. See D for more information.



## Dates in a Glance

Men's Meal	16 <sup>th</sup> December <b>THIS FRIDAY</b>
Monster Turkey	16 <sup>th</sup> December <b>THIS FRIDAY</b>
Kids Praise	18 <sup>th</sup> December <b>THIS SUNDAY</b> (after worship time)
Christmas Reflective Worship	19 <sup>th</sup> December <b>NEXT MONDAY</b>
Carols at Sarah's	23 <sup>rd</sup> December
Christmas Service WPA	25 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>No Sunday meeting</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> January</b>
Dad's Out	TBC
Alpha course starting	January Dates TBC
Ladies Thrive	14 <sup>th</sup> January
Ladies Book Club	15 <sup>th</sup> January
Israel Trip 2023	29 <sup>th</sup> April – 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
Wildfires Camp 2023	29 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023
Relentless	21 <sup>st</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> July

Please see below for details of all these events.

## Monster Turkey 16<sup>th</sup> December **THIS FRIDAY**



Monster Turkey is an evening all built to allow the young people to have fun! There will be inflatables, films, wide games, chilled board games, and a space just to sit and relax with friends! You won't be disappointed! Please contact Ali Rice or your local youth leader if you have any questions.

Date: Friday 16th Dec      Time: 7pm-11pm  
Years: Y7-13      Cost: £15      Where: TKC  
Young People sign up: [here](#)

## Men's Meal Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December THIS FRIDAY

This is an opportunity to get together informally to socialise, chat, eat, drink, and generally pass the time of day. It is open to all - Christian or otherwise. The only qualification to attend is that you must be a bloke - sorry girls!

It is from 8-10pm at a local pub. Details in ChurchSuite and in the calendar on the church website. If you know you'll be coming then please let Andy White know, either by signing up via ChurchSuite or the church website or send Andy an email [andy.white@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:andy.white@wantagecc.org.uk). Alternatively, just come along on the night 😊



## Kids Praise 18<sup>th</sup> December after worship time THIS SUNDAY

A special time of worship for the children with Dave and Jenny.

## Christmas reflective Worship THIS Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 7.45 -9pm

This will be an evening of Christ centred worship and readings based around the Christmas story. Come and spend time in a worshipful atmosphere connecting with Immanuel. Holy Trinity Charlton, Charlton Village Road OX12 7HW See Andy Bruce for more details.

## Carols at Sarah's 23<sup>rd</sup> December 7.30

Join Sarah for an evening in her garden singing Carols with Howard and enjoying mulled wine and hot chocolate.

See Sarah Kelly for more details.



## Ladies Thrive Group 14<sup>th</sup> January

We meet on a Saturday morning for breakfast to support one another through midlife with all its challenges and joys through sharing experiences and praying together.

Our next Meeting is on the 14<sup>th</sup> JANuary - date and location TBC

Contact [louise.matthews69@btinternet.com](mailto:louise.matthews69@btinternet.com) for more details.

## Book Club 15<sup>th</sup> January

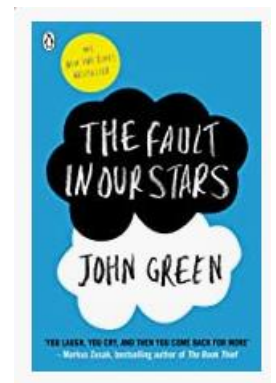
A relaxed lady's reading group, not just for Christians, so do invite your non-Christian book reading friends.

We will be reading and discussing *The Fault in our Stars* by John Green

Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten.

Insightful, bold, irreverent, and raw, *The Fault in Our Stars* brilliantly explores the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love.

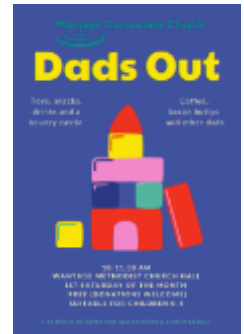
Email Diana, [dianaandjon@btinternet.com](mailto:dianaandjon@btinternet.com) for more details.



## Dad's Out DATE TBC

A group for Dads (and other male carers) that meet once a month. For the children there's lots of toys, squash and treats. There's even a bouncy castle! The dads get coffee, bacon butties, and the company of other dads. There's no charge, but a donation would be welcomed at the Methodist Church Hall 10-11.30am.

Contact Johnny Lympus (WhatsApp/07930 353 441) for more details.



## Wildfires 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023



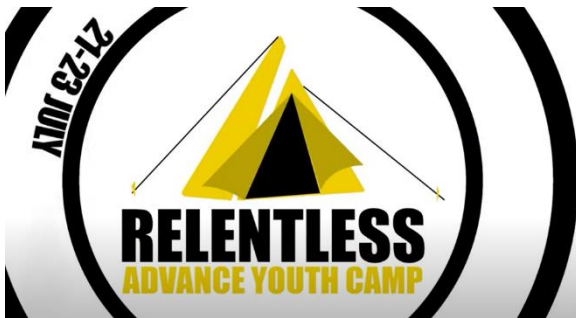
Salt & Light Advance are attending Wildfires and Big Church Festival (BCF) 2023 together as a family of churches. Both events take place on the beautiful Wiston House estate in West Sussex.

As Advance we're trying to get as many people as possible there for Wildfires as this is the event that seemed to have most impact on our people and churches. However, some people may want to do both, or one or the other. You're free to choose. If you book for Wildfires, BCF is free – two festivals for the price of one!

We will camp together for each event, and for 2023 plan to have an improved 'Advance marquee' as a community hub/village hall.

### *Booking*

**DON'T book directly on the Wildfires or BCF websites, rather please use the following link, which will enable us to camp as a group:** [advancechurches.uk/wildfires](https://advancechurches.uk/wildfires)



## Relentless 2023

We're so excited to gather our young people across our family of churches for fun, games and quality time with God. We're going to go deeper into what he calls us to do through worship, teaching and quiet times whilst having even more fun than last year!

It'll be from Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon. All food and snacks are provided. We'll be camping at Stampwell Farm in our youth groups with our youth leaders.

For more information and to sign click [here](#)

## Wantage and Grove Children's Clothes Bank (0-16yrs)

As many families are facing financial difficulties at the moment, we are setting up a clothes bank for 2nd-hand (or new!) baby and children's clothes.

Currently it will be accessed through 'Little People' a local charity which has connections with over 60 families at present.

We can make minor repairs - buttons, hems, etc.

If you have any clothes you would be able to donate or know of anyone who might have some, they would be gratefully received. We can arrange to collect them if needed.

Please contact Helen Margetts, Wantage Community Church.

Email - [Helen.m.margetts@gmail.com](mailto:Helen.m.margetts@gmail.com).



## LITTLE PEOPLE

As well as supporting needy families throughout the year, special help is offered at Christmas to provide food and presents for children.

This year our support is requested in the form of vouchers from Sainsbury's or Argos. This enables Tessa Heron to distribute help appropriate to the size and composition of the families in need. Gifts of tokens from people in all of the Partnership's churches would be greatly appreciated by the families receiving them, but they would also be an effective way of affirming Tessa in the tireless work she continues to do as an ambassador of the churches in Wantage and Grove. You can deliver your tokens to Tessa at

1 Weaver Row, Wantage, OX12 7DZ, [on the corner with Garston Lane]. Or Contact Annie Hill who will be pleased to take your gifts to her on your behalf if that helps.

## Church Finances

Anyone in the church can get regular, monthly financial email updates. If you would like to receive monthly updates on WCC's finances in your email inbox, then you can do so as follows:

- sign up to the WCC Finance Update group in ChurchSuite as follows:
  - Log in to **My ChurchSuite**
  - Click on the **Groups** menu item
  - Click on the **Sign Up** tab (next to My Groups at the top of the page)
  - Click on the **WCC Finance Update** entry in the list
  - Click on the big **Sign Up** button
- if you have any problems with this then please just send an email asking to be added to the list to [churchsuite@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:churchsuite@wantagecc.org.uk)

## Giving

God invites us to live generous lives, and part of that is investing in his church with our gifts of time, energy, effort, and money. In giving, we also allow the church to function, flourish, and serve. There are many ways to give, bank transfer, in person on a Sunday or on-line. For information on how to do this go to [this link](#)

## Finally ...

*For more information about all our events and to see the Church calendar in My ChurchSuite click [here](#) .Contact Andy W if you are not yet registered on My Churchsuite and would like to be.*

*Please send items to be included in this weekly email to [Eileen@AnEWhite.co.uk](mailto:Eileen@AnEWhite.co.uk) by Wednesdays 9 o'clock.*

*If you would like to communicate some information to the whole Church send an e-mail to [all@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:all@wantagecc.org.uk) where it will be reviewed and sent on.*

Church lead Neil and D Townsend, 01235 717152 [neil@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:neil@wantagecc.org.uk) [denise@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:denise@wantagecc.org.uk)

Pastor & Community Development Lead Paul and Fran Gander [paul@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:paul@wantagecc.org.uk), [fran@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:fran@wantagecc.org.uk)

Assistant Pastor and Elders Andy and Liz Bruce, 01235 225018 [andy.bruce@wantagecc.org.uk](mailto:andy.bruce@wantagecc.org.uk)

Elders Ian and Rosie Horswell, 01235 764683 [ihorswell@lineone.net](mailto:ihorswell@lineone.net)

