

# Woosehill Church Magazine

Sharing God's love with the community

March - April 2020



*We are on Chestnut Ave, just around the corner  
from The Hawthorns School.  
'All are welcome here'*

Find us on our website  
[woosehillchurch.org](http://woosehillchurch.org)  
and on our Facebook page



### *Dear Church Family and all other readers,*

I write this at a time of uncertainty as the Covid 19 virus dominates the news and our conversations. As the picture changes day by day I have chosen to continue with my original plan to showcase some of the great initiatives which happen at our church and in the wider parish on many days of the week; I couldn't include them all!

Thanks to Lynne Paine for the lovely pages about the flower and banner groups. The floral skills of our flower team were beautifully of display at our dear friend Jan Cook's funeral earlier in March.

Some of the events highlighted in these pages may not take place due to the current situation; for more up to date news follow our parish and church Facebook pages if you are a social media kind of person.

Otherwise look out for news in the weekly newsletter, listen to the announcements in church or phone a friend. Finally in these challenging times, remember we are a family and here to help,

Stay safe and God bless, *Val*

**Next deadline: May 23**

**(due to holiday)**

**Articles as usual preferably by e-mail to:**

**valerie.weedon@btinternet.com**

**Or to me in church**

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## Clergy Letter

***Listening has to be slow, silent and deep.  
It takes time and determination and patience.***

### ***We must listen to God***

Where have we been found by God before? Which mountains should we linger on in order to find God or to be found by him? Do we pray better in the morning or the evening? How are we going to be intentional about this, about spending more time with God in general, and about spending more time with God listening? Church is open every day. Find a quiet corner at home. And be silent. Listening has to be slow, silent and deep. It takes time and determination and patience.

### ***We must listen to ourselves***

Where are we? How is our life? How is our soul? How is our heart? What do we keep pushing down because we can't believe it might be wonderfully true, or because we can't face it? What is the voice of our heart trying to say, only to be always drowned out by busyness and other voices and the noise which surrounds us constantly? When was the last time we thought about how we are really, in the light of eternity? When was the last time we paid the same attention to ourselves that God longs to pay to his precious child, which is you? When was the last time you embraced silence? Listening has to be slow, silent and deep. It takes time and determination and patience.

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Listening has to be slow, silent and deep. It takes time and determination and patience.

***And we must also*** work out who we need to listen better to. End to complacency and false ideas. It is the call back to being human. Finding the story, finding the face and life, turns what was a concept into a reality. Whose voice are you not hearing? Voices with different stories to ours- around race, safeguarding, environmentalism, rejection, both in the life of the Church and in the life of the community.

Listening has to be slow, silent and deep- listening to understand and not to answer or justify ourselves. It takes time and determination and patience. Listening has to be slow, silent and deep. It takes time and determination and patience. It is what the wilderness of Lent is built for.

***Richard***

Rev'd Richard Lamey  
Rector of the Parish of St Paul's

## *Church is not just about Sundays*

A lot goes on at Woosehill Church these days and all are welcome to join us for any of our worship or social activities. Check out our website at [woosehillchurch.org](http://woosehillchurch.org) or follow us on our Facebook page.

Here are just a few examples showing what our church community is up to!

### **Tadpoles**



Our very popular Tadpoles group offering coffee and play to the under fives and their carers on Wednesday mornings in term time is much more than a toddler group. It is kept deliberately small to offer time and space for friendships to develop and the high and low points of this stage of life to be shared. We laugh and cry together and meet as a family - of all faiths and none. The group has a strong pastoral element which continues long after the children have moved on to school. We meet them again in the neighbourhood, at Open the Book and in Morrisons. These children and their families are very precious to us.



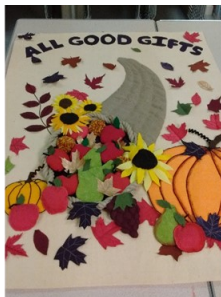
### **Messy Church**

Takes place on the fourth Sunday of the month and is an informal event to which all ages are welcome. Craft, stories and songs themed according to the season between 4 and 6pm in the church., with a sit down tea including pizza!



## Church Banner Group

We meet once every 6 to 8 weeks. We create banners, collages, prayer mats basically “crafty things”. They are all very different and play to different skills – so we all get to shine! Sometimes we work when we meet, sometimes we plan when we meet and bring our efforts to the next meeting. If you want to join us do let me know. Examples below of work in progress & finished items. [lynnepain@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lynnepain@yahoo.co.uk)



## Church Flower Group

A member of the flower group makes an arrangement for each Sunday. We also get together to decorate the Church for special occasions such as Harvest, Easter, Christmas, Weddings and Funerals. Everyone at Church is always most appreciative, and the Sunday arrangement is often given to someone who is unwell or celebrating an occasion.







## WOW programme 2020

### March meeting - Bring a book or favourite object

Host Val Weedon: to be rescheduled.

### April - Easter Garden and afternoon tea

Venue: Church; hosts Lyn Brown and Lynn Smith



### May - Pub Quiz

Host: Alison Lewis



### June - Midsummer walk and meal

Host: Amy Truluck



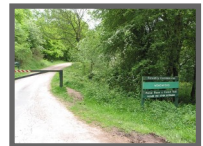
### July - Alfresco Evening

Venue: Camellia Way; host Lyn Brown



### August - Dinton Pastures walk and picnic

Host: Gillian Payne



### September - Meal out

Host: Lynne Paine



### October - Skittles evening

Host: Lynn Smith



### November - Craft evening

Host: Ruth Smith



### December - Beer and Carols

Venue: Leathern Bottel

Hosts: Mike Cole and Gillian Payne





**WOOSEHILL Table Tennis @ Woosehill Church,**  
**32 Chestnut Ave, Wokingham RG41 3RS. Behind The Hawthorns Primary School.**



**Welcome One and All. Young and Old.**

 **Fridays 7.30-9.00 pm.** 

**Just turn up, whether beginner or whatever your current form or standard. Bats and Balls provided.**



**And we have a new table!!**

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**The Parish of St Paul, Wokingham**  
**Evensong Sermon Series 2020**  
**Some Parables of Jesus**

Each preacher has been invited to choose one of the Parables Jesus told, explore its meaning and then connect it to the world we live in today. All Services happen at 6.15pm at St Paul's Church, Reading Road, Wokingham unless it says otherwise.

**May 17:** Stephen Pullin  
(Archdeacon of Berkshire) on the sower

**June 21:** Miles Welborn (ordinand)



## **Parish Carers' meeting**

Several of us managed to lose ourselves in the maze that is Luckley House School, and one or two others found themselves locked in strange buildings, but on Saturday 1 February, we all managed (with the help of mobile phones and a kindly caretaker), to gather in the right place. Refreshing drinks and laughter about it all soon restored us as we got to know each other.

The day began with Fr Patrick leading us in a simple and well thought out act of worship, after which Revd Judi introduced us to the programme she had devised for the morning.

Our first task was to take as many coloured pipe cleaners as we wanted and construct a suitable symbol of what we thought our parish caring entailed. Some of the results were very artistic, others caused much amusement, but it was a novel way of making us think about what we try to do in the community.

We then were given a piece of paper with the outline of a flower on it which had various aspects of being a pastoral visitor for us to think about and fill in. We were given plenty of time to do this as it proved to be more thought-provoking than we first anticipated.

Then it was time for a short break and another chance to talk to each other and hear other peoples' points of view of the tasks we had done so far

After that we were given a short meditation to dwell on about listening, looking, and just being there for people.

After this we split into groups and were given three imaginary case studies to study one by one. The more we looked into these the more complex they seemed to be. We discussed each one in turn, and as a whole group we soon realised we still had a lot to learn about dealing with the people have to face.

I think the most important thing we learnt was to always seek confidential, and perhaps professional, help if we felt a situation was beyond our experience or pastoral remit. All through the morning we were invited to put our ideas onto post-it notes for the clergy to use in helping us to improve the friendship and support we are trying to give to our community.



Lastly, we had a short closing service led by Revd Jane.

The morning concluded with a splendid buffet lunch and lots of talking about how the morning had been for us. I think we all felt inspired and invigorated to try to do more for our fellow friends both in and outside the parish, and not to be afraid of asking for help when we need it.



Our clergy had obviously spent a lot of time putting together an inspiring and thought-provoking session for us, and I am sure we were all very grateful to them, as we went away with plenty to think and pray about.

*Georgina Spencer*

*Images by Judi Hattaway*





### **Sing Forever**

This beautiful song by Libera was a part of the funeral service for our dear friend Jan on 11th March. The song itself is on our Church Facebook page:

I will sing for you at the start of each day  
I'll sing forever, sing for you  
In all things I do in the dawn of my life  
I'll sing forever, sing for you

Shutting out night, my life renewed  
Happy for love that is to come  
Opening eyes I'll follow you  
Glad to see, glad to be yours

Echoing what you say  
Echoing what you say  
Shining out what you are  
Shining out what you are  
Out of dark, into your light

I will sing for you in the light of each day  
I'll sing forever, sing for you  
In all things I do at the noon of my life  
I'll sing forever, sing for you

Shutting out night, my life renewed  
Happy for love that is to come  
Opening eyes I'll follow you  
Glad to see, glad to be yours

Echoing what you say  
Echoing what you say  
Shining out what you are  
Shining out what you are  
Out of dark, into your light

I will sing for you at the end of each day  
I'll sing forever, sing for you  
In all things I do in the eve of my life  
I'll sing forever, sing for you

I will sing for you each and every day  
I'll sing forever, sing for you

## Together in Prayer

**When?** On the third Thursday of each month between 8 and 9pm

**Where?** We meet together in the Church sanctuary around the small cross.

**How?** Prayer can be silent or out loud - the Lord can hear both!

**Why?** Our purpose is to pray for our Church, our Parish and our community, thus underpinning the life and work of the Church on Woosehill and asking God to be with us in specific needs as and when they arise. No qualifications needed - just a heart for joining together in prayer, so please join us if you can!

*Talk to Lyn to find out more.*





# **Easter Services 2020**

## **Woosehill Church**

**Tuesday Evening Communion at 7pm, 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**Maundy Thursday Communion at 7pm, 9<sup>th</sup> April**  
**An Agape Meal**

**Good Friday Service at 2pm, 10<sup>th</sup> April**

**Easter Sunday Communion at 10am, 12<sup>th</sup> April**

## **The Acting Associate Archdeacon of Berkshire**

This seems a good moment to update you on how my secondment - two days a week to be Acting Associate Archdeacon of Berkshire - is going. I started on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September and am really grateful to the parish for giving me this opportunity.

I spend Monday morning in the Bishop of Reading's Staff Meeting and then am involved in a range of things across the rest of the week. I go to Buildings and Vicarage meetings; am involved in some Safeguarding conversations; help parishes to draw up their Parish Profile when they are in vacancy, and then Chair the Shortlisting Panel and the Interview as they try to discern who God is calling to be their next priest. I also deal with a lot of questions during the week and try to support clergy and parishes which are struggling or trying something new and exciting.

It feels a real privilege to be part of it all, for as long as it lasts, and I am picking up a lot of good ideas as well which will be of benefit to the parish and Deanery (and already have been). The Archdeaconry Team is now coming together, with Bishop Olivia in post and Stephen Pullin being licensed as Archdeacon on the 29th of February at Oxford Cathedral. This is the day after the full-time Associate Archdeacon has been appointed, which will complete the team, and also clarify when my secondment will come to an end.

I also need to say that I have not applied for the job full-time of Associate Archdeacon. I still feel a strong call to be the Rector of the parish here and am thoroughly enjoying it. There is a lot for us still to do, to build on, to develop, to deepen, and not least, the call for us to be better at welcoming people and making them feel fully at home. And, the call for us to have a bigger and more transformative impact on the community we are called and sent to serve. There is so much good stuff going on, so much to relish, and so much more we could be doing. That shared adventure goes on!

***Rev'd Richard Lamey***





**The Parish of St Paul's, Wokingham with St Nicholas,  
Emmbrook and Woosehill Church**

**Invite you to**



**Coffee Morning  
St Paul's Parish Rooms, Reading Road**

**10.00am – 12.00am**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

*Tombola*



*Plant Stall*



*Books*



We would welcome donations of the following

Any Bottles, can be smellies, soft drinks or alcohol.

Books in good condition

Cakes for serving with the tea & coffee.

# MEDITATION GROUP

1.15pm – 1.45pm



**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

**Where:** Walter Chapel, St Paul's Church

**What:** Meditation in a Christian context, open to those of other faiths or none.

If you would like to learn more, please come and join us or  
email Susannah Riley at

**[meditationgroup@spauls.org.uk](mailto:meditationgroup@spauls.org.uk)**



## JAC in a Box

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What is JAC in a Box?

JAC in a Box is a real shop selling donated goods - clothing, books, toys, homewares, gifts etc., run by young people under the supervision of volunteers.



We act as a training hub helping young people acquire and practice work skills. These young people may suffer from a lack of confidence or from acute social anxiety, from autism or any other barrier preventing them from securing work. When they are work ready, they will be offered internships or work-shadowing with our local business partners. A number of local businesses have also agreed to offer interviews for suitable vacancies.

We welcome people to come in and look around as this gives our trainees the opportunity to interact with the public. You do not need to feel obliged to buy anything. However, should you wish to buy something, you choose how much you pay for it! We believe people know what is a fair price, but also know what they can afford.

Do pop in and say 'hello'; we'd love to meet you.

JAC in a Box | Mon – Sat, 9am - 4.30pm

5 Central Walk, Wokingham RG40 1XZ

(next to Sedero Lounge) 07557 342604

[jacinaboxwokingham@gmail.com](mailto:jacinaboxwokingham@gmail.com) | [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/jacinaboxwokingham/)

[jacinaboxwokingham/](https://www.facebook.com/jacinaboxwokingham/)

*The JAC in the Box Team*



06/03/2020

**WE CURRENTLY HAVE LOW STOCKS OF THE  
FOLLOWING:**

- **LONG LIFE MILK**
- **SUGAR**
- **WASHING POWDER/LIQUID (SMALL PACKS)**
- **ADULT TOOTHBRUSHES**
- **MENS DEODERANT**
- **TINNED PEAS**
- **TINNED CARROTS**
- **HAND SOAP**
- **HOT DOGS**

**At the present time we have an abundance of the  
following:**

**Soup, Baked Beans, Pasta, Tea, Biscuits and  
Sweets.**

**A huge** thank you to everyone who continues to  
support us, we really do appreciate it, and so do  
the people you help.

## Woosehill Church Quiz Night



**Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>**

**6:45pm for a prompt 7:00pm start**

**at**

**St Paul's Parish Rooms.**

Teams of up to 8 people.

Come on your own or as a team.

Fish and Chip Supper £10/ person

Sausage or Veggie available.

Payment and food orders to a Steward by

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Bring your own drinks & nibbles.

Heads & Tails Challenge

**Proceeds to the Defibrillator Fun**

## IN THE WIDER PARISH

### Dates for the Diary from St Nicholas

Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> April - 8.00pm - Holy Week Service

Good Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April – 3.30pm - Meditation followed by Hot Cross Buns.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May - 2.30pm to 4.30pm - Pentecost Afternoon Tea

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September - 3.00pm - Praise Service

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Following morning Mass - Shared Lunch to celebrate our Patronal Festival



**COFFEE & CHAT**  
**ST PAUL'S PARISH ROOMS**  
**READING ROAD, WOKINGHAM**

**EVERY FRIDAY**  
**2 - 4pm**

At a loose end?  
Feeling lonely?  
Had a bad week?

Drop in for a drink and a friendly chat

The poster features a central illustration of a blue coffee cup with steam rising from it. Surrounding the cup are five colored circles, each containing a phrase: 'All welcome' (red), 'Hot drinks' (green), 'Friendly faces' (purple), 'Chance to chat' (blue), and 'Listening ear' (yellow).

## FIRST STEPS

for pre-school children and their parents, grandparents or carers to introduce the children to church in a relaxed, fun and friendly way.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Each Month during Term Time**

**Next sessions:**

**14th May, 11th June**

**Children's Chapel**

**St Paul's Church, Wokingham**

Please come along with your pre-school children for  
**songs, stories, craft activities and refreshments**

For more information call:  
Rev'd Richard Lamey 0118 327 9116 or  
Liz Gallagher 0118 989 1176





## REGULAR MEETINGS

### Sunday

**Church services** - see Services Diary and weekly newsletter

### **Mondays at 8pm: House Group**

For more information talk to Geoff Peck: 9786711

geoffpeck@hotmail.com

### Tuesday

Bible study group: Exploring Faith from 8-9.30pm in the church.

### Wednesday

Tadpoles group: Coffee and play for pre-school children and their carers  
9.00-11.00am in term time.

Contact: Val Weedon: 9791156/ 07919062770

or valerie.weedon@btinternet.com

### Thursday

Together in prayer: monthly on third Thursday from 8-9pm

Contact Lyn Brown: 9782816

### Saturday

Church work party: first Saturday in month 10.30am

Contact John Hoskins: 9792597

### Church contacts

Rev'd Patrick Mukholi - 23 Sheridan Way, Wokingham, RG41 3AP 0118  
9773397 patrick.mukholi@spauls.org.uk

Rev'd Richard Lamey, The Rectory, Holt Lane 0118 3279116  
richard.lamey@spauls.org.uk

St Paul's Parish Office, Reading Road, Wokingham RG41 1EH  
0118 979 2122 ( Parish administrator Louise Cole)  
office@stpauls-wokingham.org.uk

Rev'd Catherine Bowstead

5 Chetwode Close, Wokingham RG40 2LL 0118 9781756  
minister@wokinghammethodist.org.uk

For room hire bookings contact Tony Sayer on 0118 9786560  
or email tony.sayer@ntlworld.com

**Pattern of Services at Woosehill**

Keep an eye out in the newsletter for more up to date information too. You can receive this weekly by email:

contact Alison Lewis at [woosehill.church@goolemail.com](mailto:woosehill.church@goolemail.com)

**1st Sunday:**

**8.45am Holy Communion**

**10am Morning Worship**

**2nd Sunday:**

**10am Holy Communion with  
Sunday Club for our young people**

**3rd Sunday**

**8.45am Holy Communion**

**10am Morning Worship**

**4th Sunday**

**10am Holy Communion**

**4pm Messy Church - for all ages**

**6.15pm Evening Reflective Worship**

**(5th Sunday)**

**10am Café Church**

**5.30pm Service at Suffolk Lodge Care Home**