# CHRIST CHURCH, STANTONBURY STANTONBURY ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP

Anglican, Baptist, Methodist, United Reformed Church.



Meeting God - Following Jesus - Serving People

## <u>Christ Church Family Worship, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 3rd Sunday in Advent</u> @ 10.30am with Christingle.

You are invited to come to Christ Church on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December when our Christingle service will be led by Rev Phil Dunning and Rev Esther Squire.

**Theme:** Christmas Joy.

The readings are from Isaiah 35:1-10

If you would like to join in making a Christingle at home attached to the email are details of the items, you will need.

<u>This service will be streamed</u> to our Facebook page, using the link below. You don't need to belong to Facebook in order to follow the service.

We will start streaming from 10.25am

https://www.facebook.com/christchurchmk/

We look forward to sharing our services with you.

<u>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Christ Church Carol Service</u> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent. at 10.30 will be led by Maggie Prisk,

#### Advance dates for your diaries.

<u>Services at Christ Church</u> in December.

21st December Carol Service Led by Maggie Prisk at 10.30 am.

24<sup>th</sup> December Midnight in Bethlehem service at 9 pm

25th December Christmas day celebration service at 10.30 am 28<sup>th</sup> December All age worship led by David Nash at 10.30 am

<u>Chris Solly</u> Our dear friend Chris Solly passed away in her sleep this morning (Thursday). At this sad time for the family, please remember Richard, Rosie, Matt and all the family in your prayers.

## Housegroups week starting 14th December 2025

Wednesday Group at 7.30pm – contact Roger Gander (01908 312162)

(In person meeting)

The Wednesday evening housegroup will not take place on December 24<sup>th</sup> or December 31st. It will resume on January 7th

Thursday Group at 7.30pm - Contact Richard Solly (01908 317392) (On zoom meeting)

## The Wednesday morning Drop-In 17th December 2025

The Wednesday morning Drop-In meets at church between 10:00 and 11:30 am. Refreshments will be available.

The drop-in is also available online via our Facebook group, for those who wish to meet remotely.

The Drop-in will take place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 10am as normal. There will not be a Drop-in on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Instead, we will be holding a Drop-in with a Bring-and-Share lunch on Thursday January 1st, from 11am until 2pm.

## <u>Under 5s - 18<sup>th</sup> December.</u>

Under 5s will meet from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church hall. (Term time only) We will break up for the Christmas break after our meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **Prayer requests**

Please remember in your prayers: Nancy Dua, Ian Atkinson, Pam Ian's Friend, Cis Jones, Jean and Peter Wood, Peter Thorpe, Patricia and Len Collins, Roberta Corley, Audrey (Steve Millers mum), Roger and Jenny Main, Rachel Howarth, Pat Parsons, Cherill and Barry Lomas. Biljana's stepbrother who is undergoing tests. Richard and the family.

Please remember in your prayers the Ethos Team (Bianca, Darren, Liane and Melissa) based at Stantonbury Campus.

Pray for the people of Afghanistan, Lebanon, Ukraine, Israel and Gaza.

## Coffee and Cake - Saturday 13th December.

Our Coffee and Cake morning is on the third Saturday of the month. Come along for a pleasant morning and a chat over a cup of coffee and some cake. It is also open for people around the campus to join us. The time is 9.30am to 11.30 am. No charge, donations welcome which go to the charity we are supporting this month.

## For October to December, the charity we are supporting is -



UnityMK is a local charity offering practical and emotional support for those experiencing homelessness or who are at crisis point. Previously known as Winter Night Shelter Milton Keynes, they support individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness - whatever their background or circumstances. Mental health needs, the breakdown of a relationship, domestic abuse, drug and alcohol addiction, bereavement, losing your job, and financial problems can all contribute to making households at risk of homelessness. They support:

Rough sleepers
Sofa surfers
People in emergency accommodation or temporary housing
Those who need support with their tenancies
Others who are vulnerable

www.unitymk.org

## Collection for the Food Bank. 14th December.

In response to a specific request from Food Bank, during any given month we will endeavour to collect certain items rather than just lots of different things (Food Bank get given lots of baked beans – for instance). So, for November and December, can I suggest that you would consider donating **long life milk, squashes, fruit juice, Spreads, Jam, Peanut butter etc.** 

Also we will be collecting Christmas items also if these can be brought to church by Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, The Food Bank will be able to distribute them in time for Christmas, Thank you.

All the years we have supported Food Cupboard and now Food Bank, members of Christ Church have been very generous. Please do not feel you have to do this but it is part of our community outreach as a church.

Please place items in the grey box in the coffee lounge thank you. Regards Maggie.

#### **Christmas cards**

If you would like to send a Christmas card to the whole church (and perhaps give the money saved to charity), there will be space available on the main noticeboard in the coffee lounge from early December.

### 'An evening for the SEP with Bishop Dave'

## Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 @ 19:00 'An evening for the SEP with Bishop Dave'

at St Andrews Church, Great Linford.

The Bishop of Buckingham is spending an evening with us in the SEP specifically to show his support and seek to answer questions in our current ministry situation. Please put this date in your diaries now, so that you don't miss out on hearing from Bishop Dave on how the Diocese can assist our SEP at this time.

Questions for the Bishop should be submitted in advance, so that we can organise the meeting around the themes that people want to discuss. Please email your questions to our Administrator Helen at <a href="mailto:sburyepadm@gmail.com">sburyepadm@gmail.com</a> is now compiling a list of questions for the Bishop.

...the event is free, and open to all members.

## **Eco Tip for December 2025**

#### FEEDING BIRDS IN WINTER



If you can feed the birds, it's best to be consistent through the winter and it's also very important to provide water and to clean water dishes and feeders regularly. See BBOWT's advice on **how to feed birds in your garden**. Feeders can be decorative too. See how to make a **Christmas wreath for birds!** 

And don't forget to take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch in January. Take an hour during the day (from 23-25January) to observe and count the birds in your garden or any local open space. Send your results to www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

## **Eco Church**

We have been awarded a Bronze Eco Church award. We were assessed for this in 5 categories: Worship & teaching, Buildings, Land, Lifestyle and Community engagement. If you have ideas for how we can demonstrate our care for creation either at church or individually, please let Anne, Nancy or Margaret know.

**Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership** has a Facebook Group, for sharing news on events at the 6 churches in the partnership, to help bring us closer together and invite people in. Please look for it at

https://www.facebook.com/groups/208567765189229 and join if you'd like to.

**An administrator**, Helen Eaton, has been appointed to be the single point of contact for our Partnership of churches for eg funeral and marriage enquiries. She can be contacted on 01908 382458; her working hours are usually between 10 and 12, Monday to Friday and her email address is <a href="mailto:sburyepadm@gmail.com">sburyepadm@gmail.com</a>

## WHO TO CONTACT AT CHRIST CHURCH, STANTONBURY

<u>Minister:</u> Rev Phil Dunning - 01908 151962, 07990523702 or <a href="mailto:philipjdunning21@gmail.com">philipjdunning21@gmail.com</a> (Tuesday is Phil's day off)

Administrator: Maggie Prisk 01908 605815 or maggie.a.prisk@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Adrian Prisk 01908 605815 or aprisk@doctors.org.uk

Worship Co-ordinator: Susan Gander 01908 312162 or <a href="mailto:susan.gander@gmail.com">susan.gander@gmail.com</a>

<u>Items for the Newsletter</u>: Pat Parsons 01908 318188 or <u>pat.a.parsons@gmail.com</u>

**Christ Church web site:** Please take a look on www.christchurchmk.org.uk

## **Gift Aid It**

#### **Donations and Gift Aid**

If you are a taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation(s). Please see our treasurer, Adrian Prisk about signing a Gift Aid declaration form. If making cash donations, please put notes and coins in an envelope and add your name before depositing it in the collection box which is currently placed by the door into the Worship area. Please consider making regular donations by standing order or bank transfer. We can supply bank details etc. Thank you for supporting the work of the church.