

# Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership

*Six thriving and growing churches, making Christ known in our area of Milton Keynes.*



## March 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to the March edition of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership Newsletter, (also see website at [www.stantonbury.net](http://www.stantonbury.net)).

## Partnership News

### Pastoral News

#### March 2026

#### In Lent we are 'In Christ'

*'He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed'*  
*Isaiah 53 v 5*



We have entered Lent, the very traditional season of preparation for Easter, and my focus studies this year have taken me back to the Servant Songs of Isaiah - particularly in chapters 52 & 53. It always amazes me to grasp that these prophecies - although written hundreds of years before Jesus lived and died - 'so accurately' point to what happened to him at that time.

The revelation points us to something else, something planned and orchestrated by God; that he comes to us and stands with us. Through his death on the cross, we now have the same status as Jesus. Christ is perfectly righteous and therefore so are we. Christ is vindicated by God and therefore so are we. Christ is right with God and therefore so are we.\* Is it any wonder that Isaiah expresses absolute surprise as he reflects on reactions to our Saviour.

It is good to make the lenten journey again; to remind us of all that Jesus did for us again. I pray as we embark upon the journey this year that the full extent of the love of God in Christ dawns upon us, and fully affects our lives. Our human notions of power, wisdom and glory - for which we strive - are completely undermined when we journey toward the Cross of Jesus.

**With every blessing**

**Rev Phil Dunning**  
**SEP Baptist Minister and Vision Enabler**  
**...Acting Ministry team leader**

\*Credit - Tim Chester

## Partnership wide services

Our next joint service is 31<sup>st</sup> May as the March date falls on Palm Sunday. Any Church Officers wanting to offer their church as a venue should let Helen Eaton know on [sburyepadm@gmail.com](mailto:sburyepadm@gmail.com)

## ‘SEP MED Group’ - Mission, Evangelism, Discipleship

The latest notes for the last MED group meeting are available in all our churches and from Phil (please contact directly), and reflect the themes we discussed and prayed for on 19th January.

These included...

- ‘Partnership Pilgrimage’ - Summer 2026
- Christmas Youth Gospel Choir
- Lent Course - ‘World Church Lent Reflections’
- Enhancing Social media input and use
- Bishop’s visit in January
- ‘Being with’ - new discipleship course
- Holy Week meditations

Next meeting - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - **POSTPONED** - to be rearranged.

## Rev Phil Dunning

### Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership Council

The next SEP Council meeting will be 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Please let Helen know if you have a warm place for us to meet. Can all the CLT Chairs ensure their congregation is represented there.

Helen’s SEP admin. phone number is 01908382458 and her email is [sburyepadm@gmail.com](mailto:sburyepadm@gmail.com). Our hope is that Helen will remove some of the burden of administrative tasks from the shoulders of our ministers and officers. We can all help with that **by contacting Helen with any admin or bookings, in the first instance, instead of our ministers and officers**. Helen will then feedback any bookings to our Team Leader, Revd. Phil Dunning, who will be able to decide who the best Minister is to take any service or office forward.

### EVENTS on website

Helen is devising a way forward, with Paul Brookman of Bradwell Church, to make it easier to check for events at each church. This will help our congregation members, who maybe can’t make the Bible Study group closest, but would like to go to one on a day or time better suited to them.

## Our Church Services and Events

### **Bradwell Church, St Lawrence**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Rev Phil Dunning*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Ian Suttie*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Margaret Goodall*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Mike Morris*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Maggie Prisk*



Most services are live streamed to You Tube. The You Tube link is @BradwellChurch MiltonKeynes. Simply go to You Tube, search for this and click the red live button just before the service begins.

Gardening Club is on its winter break.

Bell Ringing practice every Wednesday at 19:45. Beginners welcome.

### **Christ Church, Stantonbury**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Rev David Nash*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Rev Phil Dunning*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Colin Taylor*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30**      **Holy Communion with Virtual Communion**

*Led by Maggie Prisk*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Rev Jenny and John Boxwell*



All Sunday services are live-streamed to Christ Church's Facebook page, using the link below. You don't need to belong to Facebook in order to follow the service.

Streaming starts from 10.25 <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchmk/>

There is also a Christ Church website at [www.christchurchmk.org.uk](http://www.christchurchmk.org.uk) which has the service details on it, and which is updated each week

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at 09:30**      **Coffee and cake morning**

All donations received go to Christ Church coffee money charity.

**Morning Drop-In** every Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30.

Meets at Church, refreshments and a quiz are available.

**Under 5's** meet every Thursday in **Term time only** from 10:00 to 11:30 in the Hall. Re-starts on 15<sup>th</sup> January.

## **Cross and Stable, Downs Barn**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00**      **Signed Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Peter Green*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Phil Dunning*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00**      **Family Breakfast**

*Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe*

Bell Ringing practice every Friday at 19:30.



Services are live-streamed on Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85922248518?pwd=Tm4vd00wancwVk52cCtqNm5tMWRZdz09>

**Meeting ID: 859 2224 8518**    **Passcode: 830413**

**Friday at 2:00 pm -**      **Prayer time & Bible reflection on Zoom**

This lasts around 45 mins - do join us from wherever you are on Zoom!

Please contact Sue Baines for the Link on [suejbaines@gmail.com](mailto:suejbaines@gmail.com)

**Chatterbox MK** every Wednesday from 10:30 to 12:30. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - meet and chat. Come and meet others.

Please pray for the **Care Homes in Neath Hill & Downs Barn** as we conduct a Church Service and Holy Communion on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3.00pm and 4.00pm** respectively. Remember the frail, elderly, the caring staff & the concerned families as we minister God's love and grace.

## **St. Andrews', Great Linford**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00**      **Open Door**

*Led by The Worship Group*

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00**      **Wednesday Communion**

*Led by Rev Prof John Beazley*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Peterson Feital*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Stephanie Hibberd*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00**      **Morning Worship**

*Led by Rev Phil Dunning*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00**      **Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Charles Dixon*



Morning Services are live-streamed on Facebook using this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsGL>

Morning Worship every Wednesday at 08:30 in Church. All are welcome to attend in church or on our Facebook page.

Bell Ringing practice every Tuesday at 19:30.

### **St Andrews 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Seminar Group**

You would be most welcome to join us on the first Wednesday of each month and participate in the discussion, which usually starts at about 11am. Please email [greatlinford@gmail.com](mailto:greatlinford@gmail.com) if you would like information on the current study topic.    **John Beazley.**

## **5 WAYS CAFÉ at St. Andrews' Church**

**11.00am to 1.00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month**

Join us to enjoy good company, refreshments, a selection of board games, Pete on the piano and, for those wanting a bit of exercise, an accompanied walk in Great Linford Manor Park. And every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month there is accessible art for free at the "Coffee & Craft" session with local artist Jane Charles. Just come along and join in. All are welcome to 5Ways - we aim to be dementia friendly.

## **St. James', New Bradwell**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion with Baptism**

*Led by Rev Peterson Feital*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Morning Worship**

*Led by Helen Rouse LLM*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Canon Peter Ballantine*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Hannah Akibo-Betts*

Followed by ACM

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Dr Kofi Tekyi-Ansah*



Services are live-streamed most weeks to St James' Facebook page at [St James Church NB | Facebook](#)

Every Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Wednesday from 09:30 to 11:30, St James' hosts a Coffee Morning.

Visit St James' website at [www.stjamesnewbradwell.org.uk](http://www.stjamesnewbradwell.org.uk) for more information.

## **St. Mary Magdalene, Willen**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> at 09:30      All Age Morning Worship**

*Led by Margaret Moakes LLM*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe*

Followed by AGM

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Peterson Feital*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 09:30      Holy Communion**

*Led by Rev Phil Dunning*

The monthly communion service at **Oaktree Court, Portland Drive** will be at **2.45 pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>**. Anyone who would like to join us, would be welcome. Please speak to Margaret Moakes.



**T.T.T.T** (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) is back again for 2026 Pop along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by **Rolling Home** on **Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 12.30 - 1.15**. Pop in during your lunch break walking the dog or just passing by, stay for a while or the whole 45 minutes. Complimentary cake and coffee. Donations to Church Restoration & Hooke Heritage Project.

## **Future events**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026:**

**1.00pm – 3.00pm Dermot Turing – Misread Signals: How History Overlooked Women Codebreakers**

At the grade I listed St Mary Magdalene Church, Milton Keynes, MK15 9AA. Entrance is free, but a reserved place is needed so if you plan to attend, please register through the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/women-leaders-uk/dermot-turing-misread-signals-how-history-overlooked-women-codebreakers/e-ovjzlo>

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

**10.00 -12.30 MK Eco Church Network meeting**

at Christ Church, Stantonbury. In the first part of the meeting the Christ Church Eco Group will talk about their experiences of achieving a Bronze Eco Church award. Jane Grindley, Director of MK Community Energy will be coming to give a talk about: 'MK Community Energy and Home Energy Advice' and she will include a discussion about a programme for churches. With the UK Government recently announcing £1 billion of new funding for local energy projects, the time appears to have arrived for Community Energy! Please register for the meeting, using the Eventbrite link in the item below, so that the organisers have an idea of how many people to expect.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/milton-keynes-eco-church-network-meeting-tickets-1983158475385?aff=oddtcreator>

## **Role Huddles**

Across the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership there are groups of people with shared interests, abilities, knowledge or talents, building links between our six congregations.

These role huddles include those with an interest in:

- ❖ Eco-church
- ❖ IT, sound systems, live streaming
- ❖ Providing music for services
- ❖ Communication, social media
- ❖ Pastoral Care
- ❖ Care of our church buildings

These are very informal groups, only meeting if needed, but able to offer support.

If you are interested in finding out more, if you feel your congregation needs help with any of these, or if you could offer help, please contact me and I will put you in touch with the group.

Many thanks, Irene [irene@tfarr.plus.com](mailto:irene@tfarr.plus.com)

## **External Ecumenical News**

We want to plan for our future in faith and church and ministry. If anyone reading this is thinking their future may lie in any level of ministry, please speak to Rev Phil or drop me a line. *Sharron*

## **News from Diocese of Oxford**

- This can be found at: [Diocese of Oxford](#)

## **News from the Regional Central Baptist Union**

- For information go to: [The Central Baptist Church](#)

## **News from the Methodist Church**

- Go here for information: [The Methodist Church](#)

## **News from Churches Together in Milton Keynes**

Our strapline is:

*One in Christ Jesus, engaged in God's mission, empowered by the Spirit.*

There are far too many items on the website to list, so please take a look for yourself at the website: [www.ctmk.uk](http://www.ctmk.uk) (please note the new web address)

Susan Armstrong, of St Mary Magdalene, is the link to CTMK.

## **News from the Partnership Green Champions**

### **Eco Tip March 2026**

### **The Big Plastic Count**



For one week in March, thousands of people will be counting every piece of plastic packaging they throw away. Together, we'll uncover the true scale of the UK's big plastic problem and call on the government to do more about it.

We're not just counting plastic – we're building a movement for a fair future that's free from the impacts of the plastics crisis.

## How to take Part

**1. Sign up** - Sign up to take part and you'll receive everything you need to get started – including your Count Pack and simple instructions.

<https://thebigplasticcount.com/sign-up>

## 2. Get Ready

Use your Count Sheet to record the plastic packaging you throw away. Print it at home, at your library, or ask a friend – then pop it near your bin or fridge, so everyone can see it.

You can also count online. Visit the submission page to save your results as you go and submit them by **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – only one person per household can count online.

## 3. How to Count

From 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March, count every piece of plastic packaging you throw away – in the bin, the recycling, and out and about. You can count as you go, or collect your plastic and count it at the end of the day or week – whatever works for you.

## 4. Submit your results

Once the week's up, it's time to submit your count online by **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**. After you've submitted, you'll receive your own plastic profile which will reveal how much **you threw away and what happened to it**.

Your data will be combined with the data of everyone who takes part in The Big Plastic Count. The Big Plastic Count will crunch the numbers to figure out how much plastic the UK is throwing away and where it ends up. They'll take these findings directly to the government. That means the more people who count, the better the data, the greater the evidence to push for change!

When taking part, you might feel like the plastics crisis is your fault. It's not. Only governments, brands and supermarkets can create alternatives that work for everyone. Your count will push them to do that.

*I hope that you have found this and previous newsletters interesting and useful. If there is anything else you think would make it better or find any glaring omissions, please let your congregation's newsletter editor, Sharron or me know.*

*The deadline for information to go into the **April** issue is **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**. to allow me to get it to you in time to send out before the beginning of **April***

*John*

John Porter

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