

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership

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



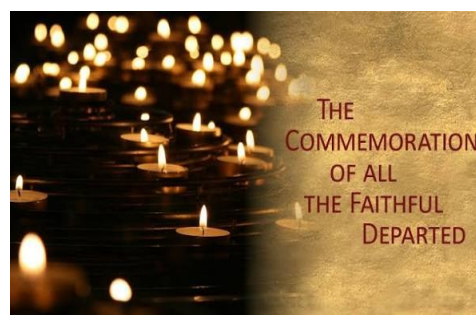
November 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to the latest edition of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership Newsletter, (also see website at www.stantonbury.net).

Pastoral reflection: 'Remembrance days'

*'The Lord is close to the broken hearted;
He rescues those who spirits are crushed'
Psalm 34 v 18*

We are definitely in the Autumn season now, and the beginning of November very much sees the season of Remembrance; first with All Souls Sunday on November 1st and then the National Remembrance Sunday - with the two-minutes silence - the following week.



I have tended to keep the two occasions separate; giving credence to all departed loved ones the first week before commending the war dead later, however I was intrigued the other day by a system now operating at Cross & Stable where any in grief can write the names of any who they remember, and these will be equally listed on Remembrance Sunday; whether or not they have died in war.

It is a reminder to us that our God never intended for us to die but to be with him forever, and it prompts the thought that all life is to be seen as God's good gift and any who have faced bereavement know his comfort. For me remembrance season is as much about knowing God's presence in grief, as it is to remember our loved ones.

Another verse I'm reminded of is in Psalm 23; 'Even though I walk through the darkest valley'. In some translations this is 'the valley of the shadow of death'. God's presence is seen as being the quiet calming and guiding presence of someone facing the eternal journey. It brings that ultimate sense of hope where usually there is very little.

I pray we approach this season once again reflecting on the goodness of our God to us all and the freedom from fear we can have - even in the face of death itself. May our remembrance this year include his profound presence.

With every blessing

Rev Phil Dunning
SEP Baptist Minister and Vision Enabler
Acting Ministry Team Leader

Partnership wide events

Partnership-wide services

The next Partnership-wide service will be held at 11am on 29th November at St Andrew's Church, Great Linford. This will be a Holy Communion service on Advent Sunday. The guest preacher will be Revd Kate Stacey, the new Head of Discipleship for the Diocese of Oxford.

The first Partnership-wide service of 2027 will be held at 11am on 31st January at Cross and Stable, Down's Barn. Bishop Dave Bull will be preaching at this service.

SEP MED Group – 'Mission, Evangelism, Discipleship'

Meeting notes are now available. The MED Group met last month at St James, New Bradwell. We talked about advertising, role descriptions for the churches and our prayer and bible study meetings. If you would like copy of the full minutes, please contact Phil.

Our next meeting - Monday 8th February 2027 - Venue TBC

Setting up a new Homeless Soup Run

Please help if you can.

Volunteers will help out from 5-8pm once every three weeks, unless you volunteer to do it more often. At the moment I have 18 volunteers so this will be just on a Tuesday, on a three-week rota. If we reach 24 volunteers we could provide care on Mondays too. You'll work with three others.

All need to be at Christ Church, Stantonbury Campus by 5pm to heat up tomato soup and water. These are put in thermos flasks. Tables and drinks and paper cups etc. will need transporting, so volunteers need two cars to drive them to centre of MK, probably near Argos. Food is picked up on the way, from Pret, Sainsburys and Greggs. I have also joined Olio for unsold food near us. Food and drinks handed out until 7.30'ish when the team heads back to Christ Church to wash flasks out.

We safely keep in touch via a WhatsApp group, so it would be helpful if you could share your mobile telephone number.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sharron Marland,
Lay Co-Chair of SEP Leadership Team
Email: septlaychair@gmail.com

SEP ‘Saturday Prayer Breakfast’

This will be held at Wolverton House from 9 to 10.30am on the 2nd Saturday of each month (**next meeting 14th November**). £12 for ‘all you can eat and hot drink’.

We shared a great first session at the Wolverton House in October, with around 12 friends gathering for a hearty breakfast and prayers for each of our Partnership churches.

Join us for our next gathering - **Saturday 14th November**

Youth Event & the Big Question

Cross and Stable will be organising and hosting an event for young people in our Partnership on Saturday 7th November. This will run from 3.30pm until 8.30pm and will feature a viewing of a film ‘The Greatest Showman’ with an interval for Pop, Pizza and Popcorn. From 7.15pm there will be a discussion of ‘The Big Question’ focussing on the question ‘Why does God allow suffering?’, which will be a presentation followed by a panel Q&A.

Forest Church Workshop

Being held from 2 to 5pm on Sunday 15th November at St Andrew’s Church.

‘Church without Walls’ in Broughton and Brooklands has held a monthly forest church gathering for over 10 years and we are taking an afternoon out to reflect on our journey, to share skills and explore new ideas of how to worship in nature. This is a free event. If you would like more information and to sign up to join the event please email:

forest.church@outlook.com or join the WhatsApp Group using the QR code below.



Partnership News

Partnership Leadership Team (PLT)

The next meeting of the Partnership Leadership Team will be held on Thursday 5th November.

Administrative Support to the SEP

Helen's SEP admin. phone number is 01908 382458 and her email is 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 best to Minister any service or office.

Drawing the Partnership Together & Partnership Events

Please support our drive to bring the six congregations closer together through social events over the year. Keep a check on your congregation news and visit the SEP website or Facebook page to keep up to date. Maybe start a WhatsApp group for your congregation members.

Sharron Marland,
Lay Co-Chair of SEP Leadership Team
Email: septtlaychair@gmail.com

Website EVENTS Diary

An Events Diary is now live on the Website. However, it's looking fairly sparse at the moment, so **please let Helen know of any events you wish to publicise**. For example, it would help our congregation members who maybe can't make the Bible Study group closest to them but would like to go to one on a day or time better suited to them, if they could check on the website to see when and where other groups are being held.

Our Church Services and Events in November

Bradwell Church, St Lawrence



Sunday 1st at 10.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revd Phil Dunning

Sunday 8th at 10.30am **Holy Communion**

Led by Revd Stephanie Hibbard **(Remembrance Sunday)**

Sunday 15th at 10.30am **Holy Communion**

Led by a local arrangement with speaker from the Bridgebuilder Trust

Sunday 22nd at 10.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revd Barry Lotz

Sunday 29th at 9.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revd Phil Dunning

The majority of 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.

On Saturday the **7th November** there will be a Remembrance service led by Revd Phil Dunning at the Bradwell Memorial Hall, supported by the New Bradwell Branch of the British Legion.

The **Gardening Club** is now stood down for the winter and will resume in the Spring.

Bell Ringing practice every Wednesday at 19:45.

There is a **coffee morning** the first Saturday each month from 10am to 12pm.

Christ Church, Stantonbury



Sunday 1st at 10.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revd Peter Ballantine

Sunday 8th at 10.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revd Phil Dunning **(Remembrance Sunday)**

Sunday 15th at 10.30am **Morning Worship**

Led by Revds. ' John and Jenny Boxwell

Sunday 22nd at 10.30am **Holy Communion**

Led by Revd Peterson Feital

Sunday 29th **Joint SEP Service at St Andrew's.**

Church members are invited to join the SEP-wide service being held at St Andrew's, Great Linford at 11am.

All our 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/>

We also have a Christ Church website at www.christchurchmk.org.uk which has the service details on it, and which is updated each week

Wednesday Morning Drop-In every week 10.00 – 11.30am. Meets at Church, refreshments and a quiz are available. All welcome.

Under 5's meet every Thursday in **Term time only** from 10:00 to 11:30 in the Hall. For more details, please contact Susan Gander on 01908 312162

Coffee and cake morning – 21st November

On the 3rd Saturday of each month we hold a coffee and cake morning, this runs from 9.30 to 11.30. All donations received go to our coffee money charity. All are welcome to join us for a coffee and a chat.

Christ Church House-Groups

We hold two house-groups, one in person and the other on Zoom, both in the evenings.

Details below:

Wednesday Group at 7.30pm – 9pm contact Roger Gander (01908 312162)

(In person meeting)

Thursday Group at 6.00 pm - 7.30pm Contact Richard Solly (01908 317392)

(On zoom meeting)

Cross and Stable, Downs Barn

Sunday 1st at 11am

Signed Holy Communion

Led by Revd Peter Green

Sunday 8th at 11am

**Holy Communion and
Remembrance Sunday**

Led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 15th at 11am

Holy Communion

Led by Revd Phil Dunning

Sunday 22nd at 10am

Family Breakfast Club

(followed by a short Service of the Word for adults at 11am)

Led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 29th

Service of the Word

Led by Church Wardens



Bell Ringing practice every Friday at 8:30pm.

Fridays 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 Stephen Fletcher for the Link on Zoom sjf158@gmail.com.

SEP Newsletter

Issue #53 November 2026

Chatterbox MK every Wednesday from 10:30 to 12:30. All Welcome (free entry) - 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 the fourth Sunday of each month. This month being held **Sunday 22nd at 3pm and 4pm** respectively. Remember the frail, elderly, the caring staff & the concerned families as we minister God's love and grace.

St. Andrews', Great Linford

Sunday 1st at 10am

Led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Wednesday 4th 10am

Led by Rev Prof John Beazley

Sunday 8th at 10am

Led by Revd Peterson Feital

Sunday 15th at 10am

Led by Rev Prof John Beazley

Sunday 22nd at 10am

Led by Revd Phil Dunning

Sunday 29th

Led by Revd Peterson Feital with guest preacher Revd Kate Stacey (Diocesan Discipleship Lead)

Open Door

Holy Communion

**Holy Communion
(Remembrance Sunday)**

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

SEP-wide Holy Communion



Bell Ringing practice every Tuesday at 19:30.

St Andrews 1st 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 if you would like information on the current study topic.

John Beazley.

5WAYS CAFÉ at St. Andrew's Church 11.00am to 1.00pm on the 2nd and 4th 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 the Great Linford Manor Park is available on request. We also have free participation in the 'Coffee & Craft' sessions, with local artist Jane Charles, held on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to 5Ways - we aim to be dementia friendly.

St. James', New Bradwell

Sunday 1st at 9.30am

Led by Revd Peterson Feital

Also on Sunday 1st at 3pm

Led by Helen Rouse, LLM

Sunday 8th at 9.30am

Led by Helen Rouse

Sunday 15th at 9.30am

Led by Revd Peterson Feital

Sunday 22nd at 9.30am

Led by Maggie Prisk, Baptist Lay Minister

Sunday 29th

Led by Helen Rouse, LLM

Holy Communion

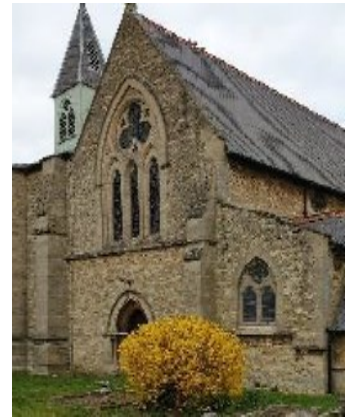
All Souls Service

**Morning Worship
(Remembrance Sunday)**

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Iona Short Service



Church members are also invited to join the SEP-wide service being held at St Andrew's, Great Linford at 11am.

Services are not currently being live streamed. The Church Leadership Team are hoping to start this up again once volunteers have completed training.

On **Sunday 8th November** there will be a **Remembrance Day** service led by Revd Phil Dunning commencing at 2pm at the New Bradwell Memorial Clock Tower, followed by a parade led by the New Bradwell Silver Band. The Mayor of Milton Keynes will be in attendance.

Coffee morning: held every Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Wednesday from 09:30 to 11:30.

Visit St James' website at www.stjamesnewbradwell.org.uk for more information.

St. Mary Magdalene, Willen

Sunday 1st at 9:30am

Led by Margaret Moakes, LLM

Also on Sunday 1st at 2.30pm

Led by Revd Steve Barnes

Sunday 8th at 9:30am

Led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 15th at 9.30am

Led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 22nd at 9:30am

Led by Revd Hannah Akibo-Betts

Sunday 29th

Led by Revd Dr Kofi Tekyi-Ansah

All Age Morning Worship

All Souls Service

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Holy Communion



Church members are also invited to join the SEP-wide service being held at St Andrew's, Great Linford at 11am.

The **November 1st 2.30pm All Souls Service** led by the Revd Steve Barnes is a service at which the names of loved ones can be read out and remembered. The service will end with the burial of the ashes of Norma Bowden, followed by a cup of tea. If you would like the names of loved ones to be read out, please add the names to the form that is on the table in the church porch or let Margaret or Janet know.

There will be a **‘Quiet Day’** on **Saturday 14th November** from 10am to 3pm at the Quaker Centre in Downhead Park. This is intended to be a preparation for advent. There will be a chance to look at two of the women linked to the Christmas Story - Elizabeth and Mary - in reflection and quiet meditation, although we won't be in silence throughout. People are asked to take their own lunches, but drinks will be provided.

People are invited from across the Partnership, but it would be helpful to have names in advance, as there is a limited space capacity. If you are interested in attending please phone Margaret Moakes in advance on 01908 237915.

The monthly Holy Communion by Extension service at **Oaktree Court**, Portland Drive will be at **2.15 pm on 5th November**. Anyone who would like to join us, would be welcome. Please contact Margaret Moakes for further information.

A chaplaincy Service is held at Lovat Fields Retirement Village on every third Wednesday each month. This month being held on the **18th at 2pm** in the Redwig Room. Remember the frail, elderly, the caring staff & the concerned families as we minister God's love and grace.

Bible study meetings will be on **2nd and 16th of November** from **7.00 to 9.00pm** at. We will be following a new course 'God in Three Persons', an SEP course. All are welcome. The venue is 91A Aldrich Drive, Willen. **The Bible Study for Advent will begin on November 30th.**

T.T.T.T Concert (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) on November 17th.

Come along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by Motif. 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.

Volunteer Gardening

The volunteer gardening group has now stood down for the winter and will start again in the Spring.

Private prayer. St Mary Magdalene church is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Sundays and Mondays from 9.30am until evening.

Eco tip for November 2026



Take a moment to look at what you are wearing today. Do you ever wonder about who made your clothes? **With UK adults spending £162 billion on clothing each year and around 300 tonnes of clothing ending up in landfill or incinerated,** where we buy our clothes and how it impacts people and the planet is an issue of creation care and justice.

In the last week of October, the BMS World Mission produced an Ethical Fashion Guide and Brand Checker. Behind every label we wear are millions of people known to God: garment workers paid too little to live on, working long hours in unsafe conditions, with little power to

challenge either. The Ethical Fashion Guide brings that reality into the light and shows what can be done about it. Because how we shop is a justice issue and lasting change depends on all of us, every purchase we make and every question we ask of the brands we buy from matters. In the guide, you'll find information on 336 brands that sell clothing and footwear in the UK.

Go to <https://bmsworldmission.org/ethical-fashion> for more details and resources

This and future Newsletters

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 **December's** issue is **Friday 20th November**.

Helen

Helen Eaton
SEP Administrator
sburyepadm@gmail.com