



**All Saints
Methodist Church**

Appleford Drive
Abingdon

www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk

Registered Charity: 1184115



**Trinity Church
Methodist & United Reformed**

Conduit Road
Abingdon

www.trinityabingdon.org.uk

Registered Charity: 1148634

Presbyter: Rev. Georgina Bondzi-Simpson

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Administrator: Eluned Hallas: 01235 520282.

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Notices

Sunday 9 August 2026

All Saints	Trinity
Sunday 9 August 10:30am Morning Worship led by Peter Hemmings	Sunday 9 August 10:30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Georgina Bondzi-Simpson & Rachel Buckingham, paediatric surgeon & volunteer with Mercy Ships Mercy Ships is our charity for the year
Sunday 9 August 2:30pm Communion Service at the Beaumont Care Home, Boars Hill led by Rev. Georgina Bondzi-Simpson All welcome	
Sunday 16 August 10:30am Morning Worship led by Graham Luscombe	Sunday 16 August 10:30am Morning Worship led by Carolyn Luscombe

Many thanks to all who contributed to last week's United Service
There are some pictures on p5

Coffee Morning

Friday 14th August
10.30 – 12.00

Coffee/tea, cake and friendship

at
All Saints Methodist Church,
Appleford Drive

All Welcome



ALL SAINTS NEWS

All Saints Prayer Group meets on **Friday 14th**, 10am in the Perry Room

Advance notice for your diaries: **Global Harvest Supper at All Saints, Saturday September 19th 6pm.** Details to follow.



MESSY CHURCH IS COMING TO TRINITY

The recent Messy Church planning meeting was productive, despite the small number present. It was particularly valuable to hear Clare share her experiences of running Messy Church in her previous church.

Be sure to read Clare's article further on in these notices.

Our next Messy Church planning meeting will take place on

Wednesday 16 September at 7.30 pm.

We would love to hear more voices and welcome anyone interested in helping to shape this exciting new ministry.

Please come along and support this fresh approach to growth and outreach.

CHURCH NEWS

The deadline for the September edition of the Trinity Triangle is Friday 21 August.

Foodbank Your ongoing support is much appreciated, and the foodbank currently needs corned beef, tinned fruit, tinned ham, sunflower oil, instant coffee and biscuits as well as laundry pods, soap, toilet rolls, shampoo, suncream and carrier bags. Thank you very much *JPB*

TRINITY NEWS

John Hutton: John's sister Catherine would like to thank all who helped at the funeral and reception on Tuesday. *'Everything went exactly as we had hoped'*

A huge thank you to everyone who has responded to our **Gift Day Appeal** by making a donation towards the essential repairs needed to the Church and Conduit Centre roofs. Donations we have received so far total just under £21,000, ie 90% of the £23,000 needed. There is still time to make donations. If you wish to donate by bank transfer, please include 'roofs' in the reference.

The Trustees

The Next Church Meeting will be ***Sunday 27th September*** after church, and the Annual Church Meeting on ***Sunday 22nd November*** after church

First Aid Course at All Saints Church, 10th October.

Several Trinity First Aiders have certificates that expire in October, so this is a good opportunity to renew your qualification. We would also welcome anyone who is interested in becoming a First Aider for the first time.

If you are interested, please contact Alastair Fear at church or via alastair.fear@gmail.com or 07999 134 175.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 29 August, Cream Teas and live piano music at St Michael's Church
2.30 - 4.30 pm.

Sunday 6 September, Piano Recital by Huw Rhys James. St Michael's Church, 3pm featuring works by Bach, Schumann and Debussy. Tickets £15. Refreshments available.

Tuesday 8 September, In Conversation with Monawar Hussain MBE, Imam Eton College, Founder Oxford Foundation. Wallingford Methodist Church, 12 noon till 1.00pm. Soup lunch to follow. Admission free, donations welcome

Advanced Notice: Wantage & Abingdon Circuit Black History Month,
Saturday 17 October 2.30 – 5.30, Trinity Church Abingdon. Lord Paul Boateng, Rev Sonia Hicks, Chair Northampton Methodist District and others

ECO TIP FOR AUGUST

Eco Tip - Having a Clearout?

If you are wishing to dispose of any usable surplus items for free then there are various ways to pass these on to others who could use them:

Charity Shops (of course) - Books, clothing and small items are taken by all the charity shops in Abingdon and DVDs/CDs by some (e.g, Oxfam). Working electrical items are taken by Sue Ryder, Acacia and Barnardos (Peachcroft), Sue Ryder also takes furniture - and they can collect.

Freecycle - If you sign up to Freecycle online you can advertise your surplus items to other people locally who can collect direct from your home. Obviously take care who you select to call at your home!

Tools - Several charities such as TWAM (Tools with a Mission) accept tools - including gardening tools, DIY tools and even sewing machines Search online for alternatives to TWAM if you wish to explore other options (but again be careful which organisation you choose)

Useful links

Charity Shops in Abingdon: try a search for Charity Shops and Abingdon on <https://www.cylex-uk.co.uk/>

Free cycle: <https://freecycle.net/>

TWAM: <https://www.twam.uk/>

David Perrow

Some pictures from the United Service Picnic – Sunday 2 August





MESSY CHURCH – Clare's experience 2009 to 2013

Messy Church in Brinkworth, a large village in North Wiltshire, started as a way to reach out to our communities where families were not coming to church any more. The aim was 'to do church differently', by going to them on a weekday, in a fun and creative way.

After school, the children came into Brinkworth Village Hall, with a parent.

They had a drink, made a name badge then did a short hour of craft; next there was a 15 minutes worship celebration which was followed by a sit-down-together cooked tea; it was all over by 5.30pm for the families.

In our first year, 2009, we held 3; in 2010 we held 4 Messy Churches, 6 in 2011.

It took a lot of planning and required lots of helpers for craft, worship and catering. Ideas for themes came from Lucy Moore's book 'Messy Church - fresh ideas for building a Christ centred community', published in 2006 by The Bible Reading Fellowship.

Numbers attending increased - we had mums, dads, grandparents, child-minders, older siblings later on,

We learnt as we went along, changing something each session, and felt that the overall mix was working well with many non-church families coming along.

Some became regular attendees and we continued to attract new families.

We felt that God was working in our community through Messy Church.

Church and school links strengthened – invitations were sent home to all children beforehand; craft was displayed afterwards at both sites of the federated village primary schools, Church of England Voluntary Controlled.

Messy Church was 'messy' because

- we included messy crafts
- we aimed to gather in those around the messy edges of our local church area who did not worship regularly but liked to feel the church was there for weddings, funerals, baptisms, times of stress, times of celebration

With Messy Church

- we were being a worshipping community of all ages, centred on Christ;
- we were giving people a chance to express their creativity and have fun within a church context;
- we were showing Christian hospitality and sat down to eat a meal together.

It was rewarding to feel we were also keeping promises we made at Baptisms to support the child (or adult), and their families, to grow in grace and the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ our Lord.

In 2009, the Diocese of Bristol was three years into its 'Going for Growth' strategy with the strategic aim of 'Building local communities of wholeness with Christ at the centre' and for every parish to have a rolling growth plan with 4 key components: growth in influence, growth in commitment, growth in numbers, growing together. Growth in numbers included 'Being sensitive to both context and culture (e.g. new expressions, church transplants)' and 'Focussing on Children and Young People'. The introduction and development of Messy Church was part of our response.

Clare Bishop
July 2026



Future Pillars Zambia

Hunger - Food - Brain Power ~ Hunger - Food - Brain Power

A Message from Rosemary, 3 Kingston Close OX14 1ES

Future Pillars Zambia – Food and Farming Project.

I am a Founding Trustee of this small charity in Zambia. We began when we saw a lady teaching children arithmetic and reading under a tree, writing in the sand. Based in Oxfordshire, Hampshire and Cornwall we have built a School, Skills Training Centre and MOST importantly a Feeding Programme. We are a Christian group, centred around 3 very poor shanty compounds. All our children are vulnerable and bought to us by Social Services.

I invite you to 4 meals at my house, over the summer, to raise funds for
Future Pillars Zambia - Food & Farming Project. (futurepillarszambia.org.uk)

Our feeding programme (*feed the stomach - feed the brain*) needs long term funding and to this end we are in negotiation with a local farmer to purchase land, in order to grow our own crops and sell some for ongoing expenses, ie fuel, plates, utensils, employing a manager. The Trustees in UK and the Leadership Team in Kabwe are, together, working on a business plan.

The updated dates are:

14 th August @ 6.30pm – A daily meal – the Future Pillars Way

11 th September @ 6.30pm - Vegan is delicious – eat the Mediterranean Way

9 th October @ 6.30pm – Meat ‘n’ 2 veg – Mother’s 1960s Way

13 th November @ 6.30pm – {mild or hotter} Curry night – the Rajasthani Way

These will be yummy, full meals. Don’t be afraid!

Gift Aid envelopes available.

Please book - my table only accommodates max 10 – rgstanbury@aol.com, 01235 537653 or by talking to me, and tell me any dietary/allergy requirements. Transport can be arranged.

Thank you. I’m looking forward to feeding you!

Rosemary/Mthunzi (Ps 64 v4).

Stonehill Community Garden

Drayton, Oday Hill, OX14 4AA

Open every Wednesday 10am—4pm

NEW! Open Fridays 10am-2pm in July,
August & September 2026

Learn new skills—Meet new people—Share food—Enjoy nature

Drop in or stay all day, we have something for everyone:

- Organic gardening and horticulture
- Cooking and sharing meals in our outdoor kitchen
- Building raised beds and other woodworking
- Forest gardening and other permaculture projects
- Garden planning and design
- Harvesting and eating fruits and vegetables
- Wildlife gardening
- Relaxing in nature

For more information email:

info@stonehillgardens.co.uk

See our website for directions:

www.stonehillgardens.co.uk

