

The Church in Warden Hill

SUNDAY LIVE STREAMS

The South Cheltenham Team will continue to live stream a service each Sunday from one of the churches; this can be accessed via www.stpetersleck.org.

COME AND JOIN US at Sardar's café next Saturday morning 27th at 10 am to plan our Prayer Walk in the local area. Just for about 40 minutes at a gentle pace. If you don't want to walk, go and sit in the Prayer Corner in St. C's and pray for those of us walking. It is transformative, for those taking part and for those we meet on the way.

TEAM ADVENT CAROL SERVICE will take place on Sunday 28th November, 6pm at St. Peter's.

LIFTING RESTRICTIONS

St. Christopher's is now open again during the week to visit for prayer. We do ask that all visiting use the hand gel before entering and consider wearing a face mask. With cases rising locally, it is recommended that face masks are worn during services (especially if singing), please also continue to socially distance in respect of others' space. If you or a member of your family or household feels unwell, then please do not attend.

WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR: Saturday 4th December 10am to 12 noon at St. Christopher's. In November, we are requesting donations for the hamper raffle. These can be left in a bag in the entrance area or given in person to either Debbie Cypher or Ann Johns. Cakes will be needed on the day. Thank You

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE is an international campaign. It takes place each year from 25th November until 10th December. It aims to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence in all forms and in all societies. (For further info. please see p.17 of November's Lantern.)

THE NEXT WEDNESDAY SOCIAL GROUP MEETING is on this coming Wednesday 24th November when we will be entertained by John Howe on His Early Memories and Their Impacts On Him. At that meeting we will require final orders for the Christmas Lunch and also final payments please. A reminder that the lunch is on 8th December.

Arrangements for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptism, Confirmation, Banns of Marriage, etc., should be made with Revd Gary Grady or Revd Iain McLaren

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit please contact Clergy, Elders or Readers.

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Cypher

If you have anything for the Grapevine please send it to

Brian Miles (grapevine@tciwh.org.uk Tel 862142) by midday on Wednesday.

Church website: www.tciwh.org.uk



The Church in Warden Hill
(Anglican & URC)

Welcome



THE GRAPEVINE 21st NOVEMBER 2021 CHRIST THE KING

Worship this morning will be held at St. Christopher's at 10.30am and will be led by Revd Sebastian Hamilton.

WE WELCOME SEBASTIAN TO WARDEN HILL THIS MORNING

Readings:

Revelation 1: 4b-8

John 18: 33-37

Hymns

649 The King of Love

296 How Shall I Sing

375 King of Glory, King of Peace

104 Christ Triumphant

The Collect for Christ the King

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.

Morning Prayer

TEAM MORNING PRAYER 9am DAILY

www.facebook.com/pipandjims or www.stpetersleck.org

You can attend in person as follows:

Mondays at Pip & Jim's, Tuesdays at St. Christopher's, Wednesdays at Emmanuel and Thursdays at St. Peter's. The Friday service is on-line only.

Sunday Services for next week and December - all commencing at 10.30am

November 28th	Holy Communion	Revd Gary Grady
December 5th	Morning Worship	Pam Dainton
December 12th	Holy Communion	Revd Iain McLaren
December 19th	Morning Worship	Rachel Tarling
December 26th	Holy Communion	Revd Gary Grady

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JOINT STATEMENT ON THE WARDEN HILL LEP REVIEW

The report of the Warden Hill LEP Review that took place over the summer has now been published. The reviewers were in general complimentary about the good relationships between Anglicans and URC members that have developed since the two congregations came together. They noted with approval the desire expressed by many in the church to be more missionally focussed and more engaged with the local community. Nevertheless, it was reported awareness of the ecumenical nature of the church in the wider community was low. Perhaps the persistence of two separately signposted church buildings contributes to this lack of awareness. Furthermore, it was noted the bureaucratic structures of the LEP are currently more of a hindrance than a help to the mission of the church.

The wider context for the review is that the LEP model is being superseded by new ways of working together ecumenically. As the reviewers write, 'The ecumenical scene in England has changed significantly in recent years. ... There has ... been a shift away from a vision of organic unity towards an emphasis on relationship, and collaboration in local social and mission projects.' A further factor to be taken into account is the declining availability of paid ministry in both the Church of England and United Reformed Church.

The Review therefore recommends the LEP as currently constituted be dissolved, to be replaced by a more flexible arrangement for working together ecumenically. The recommendations in full are as follows:

1. The continuing of the ecumenical close working and cooperation of the Church of England and the United Reformed Church in Warden Hill.
2. A formal end to the Local Ecumenical Partnership.
3. A new commitment to close working together of the Church of England and the United Reformed Church in worship, ministry and mission in the Warden Hill area of Cheltenham
4. The establishing of an 'Ecumenical Welcome' at St. Christopher's
5. Further development of the working with the Cheltenham Network Church.

The timetable for formally dissolving the LEP will take place over the next 6-9 months. Once the LEP has ceased to exist St Christopher's will revert to being an Anglican church. Members of the congregation who identify with the URC will however remain welcome to continue to attend worship and take part in the life of the church. The URC building will be returned to the West Midlands Synod of the URC. It is not possible at this time to say what will then happen to the building, but it is our strong desire that it should remain as a facility for community use. The coming months will be a challenging time for the Church in Warden Hill. Some people will be disappointed, perhaps hurt, by the ending of the LEP. The decision should not be seen as a rejection of the good work undertaken by so many people to bring the two congregations together. However, having overcome the divisions of the past, the challenge for the church now is to develop new models of church that better engage with the people of the present generation. Our prayer is that church members from both traditions continue to work together to advance the kingdom of God in Warden Hill.

Yours in Christ, Revd Iain McLaren and Revd Gary Grady

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PLEASE PRAY FOR those who are sick in body, mind or spirit that they might find relief; those who have died, and comfort for those mourning the loss of loved ones.

PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR all who are escaping from war torn or disaster areas, and those people and agencies trying to help them.

WE REMEMBER all affected by gender-based violence both in this country and throughout the world. (See information on '16 Days of Activism')

R.I.P. Jimmy Brett died 25th October. His funeral will be on 25th November at 1pm in St. Christopher's and will be taken by Revd Gary Grady. The family invite you to stay for refreshments afterwards.

R.I.P. Dorothy Austin died on 3rd November. Her Memorial Service will be in St. Christopher's at 12.30 on 3rd December. It will be taken by Revd. Gary Grady. The service will be followed afterwards by refreshments at the URC Centre.

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

21st	Musicians & Singers	25th	Faithfull House/Care Homes
22nd	Parish Council	26th	Persecuted Christians
23rd	Flower Guild	27th	Ecumenical Council & PCC
24th	Prayer & House Groups	28th	Little Shepherds

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES and CELEBRATIONS let's celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of those who have them this week.

Jane Hill has a birthday on 21st and Dorothy Baker has one on 22nd . Happy birthday both.

If you know of any future birthdays or celebrations please let me know so that we can celebrate together. **Brian Miles**

LANTERN will be ready for collection on Wednesday, 24th November

LEP REVIEW INFORMATION MEETING. This will take place at around midday on Sunday 28th November and will be similar to the previous such meeting held in July. Those who wish to read the Review can do so either on-line by contacting Richard Neale on rwneale43@btinternet.com or by inspecting a copy in the Entrance Room at St Christopher's.