



**Welcome to all the CBC Fellowship.**

**Here is the CBC Newsletter/diary for June 2023.** If you have any comments or contributions, feel free to contact me,

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May has zoomed by and we approach June and the longest day! At last, the weather reflects the season. I'm writing this in the garden with birds in full song – what a blessing.

This morning, I listened to the morning service on radio 4 which really spoke to me so I thought I would offer you some thoughts. It was led by Rev. Laura Durrall who in a former life, was an actor. The theme was the body of Christ – everyone in the church having a vital role to play. She equated this to life in the theatre where the success of the performance depends not just on the cast of actors but technicians, lighting engineers, costume people, stage manager etc. Pep Guardiola commented after Manchester City's success in winning the Football Premiership, that everyone in the club has an important part to play and without this working together, the end performance would suffer. Paul said much the same thing in 1 Corinthians 12 – “You are Christ's body – that's who you are. You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your 'part' mean anything.” At CBC everyone has a particular gift that is vital to the body of Christ, no one is more important than anyone else and all are loved equally by God. As we move forward may we continue to work together every day within and outside the church to demonstrate the amazing love of God. Laura finished the worship time this morning with the following prayer which I trust you can share:

“May we stand before your throne and offer ourselves to you. May we listen to your call upon our lives and be tender with one another's dreams. Help us to work for the good of all, to be obedient to the nudges of your Spirit and live open heartedly, surrendering our gifts, skills, weaknesses and strengths to tell the story of your love, that we may be part of 'that more excellent way'.” Amen

A wonderful highlight of May was the baptisms of Arman and Omid our Iranian friends who have been worshipping with us for some time. Their testimonies are an inspiration and it was a privilege to be part of their special day. We continue to pray for them, knowing some of the difficulties they experienced in Iran and now as refugees in this country.

The Community Lunch on 7<sup>th</sup> May was a great success with many from the surrounding community joining us as part of the Coronation celebrations. Food, fun and good weather helped to make it a very special day. Thanks to all those who organised or helped.

The Church Anniversary takes place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July with Gary Woodall taking the service. As this will most likely be the last Anniversary in the current building, we would like to incorporate some history of the church into the service and look forward to what God is leading us into in the future. If you have any relevant photographs, documents etc. let us know soon. There will be a bring and share lunch following the morning service.

If there is sufficient interest, we are suggesting a church weekend away in the autumn. Let a Deacon know if you would be interested or perhaps you have an alternative idea to share.

Although Gary Woodall is still keeping 'an eye' on us, Todd Nightingale from Station Hill Baptist Church in Chippenham has taken on the role of helping us through the Ministerial Vacancy. He is attending the Deacon's meetings and joined us for the Church Meeting in May. We are grateful for his quiet wisdom and guidance. Station Hill are running an Alpha course in the autumn and have offered spaces to CBC – this is a great opportunity to explore the Christian faith and anyone interested, please let a Deacon know.

### **Prayer Needs**

Ministerial Vacancy – no applications to date. Please pray for the right person, appointed by God, to be prompted to apply.

Re-building plans – David Beresford-Smith is compiling the final plans which will be part of the tender process. The whole process could take some time. Wisdom in decisions to be made regarding the right builder and for alternative accommodation after the building is closed for demolition. Also, continue to pray for some of our church neighbours who may be unhappy about the plans and how we can communicate effectively with them.

Station Hill Alpha Course – for people to come forward to join.

Luke and Therese – wedding on 10<sup>th</sup> June.

If you have a particular prayer need, please let me know. All prayer requests are treated confidentially.

**Urgent contact Numbers:** 01249-814499, 07979-652783

01249-814923, 07746-49419601249 812018, 07963 941354

### **Future dates for your diary**

Every Monday apart from Bank Holidays – 'The Living Room', 10.30 am – 2.00 pm

Every Wednesday - Coffee Morning, 10.30 – 12.00

Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Evening Prayer times, 6.00 pm

Home Groups every Monday and Thursday evening

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Film Night (more information from Imogen)

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 3.00 pm – Messy Church at Methodist Church

16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June – Baptist Union Assembly

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Heart for Calne

**Speakers during June:** Alex Drew, Gary Woodall, Graham Warmington, David Morrell