



Welcome to all the CBC Fellowship.

Here is the CBC Newsletter/diary for April 2025. If you have any comments or contributions, feel free to contact me,

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“When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers— the moon and the stars you set in place— what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them?” Psalm 8:3-4 (NLT)

What fills you with a sense of wonder or awe? At the very end of February, I went to Thame to help with childcare. You might remember the planets were in alignment at that time, some being visible to the naked eye at dusk. As the family are all interested in the night sky and especially Cameron, we all trundled off on Friday evening to Aston Rowant, perched high on the Chiltern escarpment with amazing panoramic views. It was a beautifully clear evening and the sunset was particularly amazing. We did see some of the planets before darkness came but with that darkness, came such an array of stars that took your breath away, well worth the trek and cold. Below us however, human life was all too present with the M40 snaking through the valley with constant traffic like a stream – the amazing and the mundane. Yet, as Christians, we believe in the God who created all these things, responsible for the incredible night sky with ridiculous measurements of time and space beyond my comprehension and for us, mere specks in the vastness of it all; loving us to the extent of giving up his very own son to become as one of us, identifying with our humanity and taking the punishment due to us for our mistakes, giving us the opportunity to become friends of God – how wonderful and amazing is that!

During Lent, there are a series of very encouraging and honest talks based on the Nicene Creed, on BBC radio four at 7.45 every Sunday evening which I would encourage you to listen to on the Radio 4 website. The second was given by Revd. Prof. David Wilkinson, Astro Physicist and Methodist Minister and a strong advocate of bringing Science and the Christian faith together. He talked on ‘That God made all things’. A fellow Physicist and Christian, Tom McLeish, shared with David the wonder and joy of new discoveries in space, but also the journey through Tom’s diagnosis of pancreatic cancer which led to his death. This is well worth listening to, so could I suggest you take 15 minutes out of your day to tune in. Look to the sky, think upon nature coming to life, see the love of God on a cruel cross and be awestruck at such an amazing God.

The second Toddler Group is well established now on Friday mornings and providing another valuable opportunity for families to come together. Please pray for opportunities to share God’s love with those who come on Thursday and Friday mornings.

Schools break up for the Easter holiday next Friday – 4th April. There are no Toddler Groups for two weeks but we are holding an Easter Toddler Party on 11th April 2.00–4.00pm. Also, the Tesco Hub has been booked on Wednesday 16th April 9.00am–5.00pm for a variety of Easter crafts and an opportunity to share the building plans. Speak to Wayne if you can help at either of these and pray for the Easter message to become real to those attending.

CBC's Easter services begin on Maundy Thursday at 7.00 pm with a simple meal and the washing of hands – as last year.

On Good Friday, we meet at **10.00 am at CBC** for a joint service with the Methodist church. After refreshments, there is a walk of witness in the Town, meeting at Zion Chapel at 12.00. On Easter Sunday, there is a family service at 10.30 am. We will be decorating the wooden cross with flower posies to place outside for all to see – a picture Jesus' triumph over death. (If you can help with purchasing (will be reimbursed) or putting the posies together on the Saturday afternoon at 3.00 pm, please speak to me or Ros Mills)

Boys (and Girls) Brigade will be starting in May. Please pray for the all the arrangements, for those who have volunteered to help and for the children who will be attending.

At the March Church Meeting, it was agreed to continue fund raising for the Building Project, reviewing the situation at the July Church Meeting. Most of you will know that we are awaiting the outcome of a Grant application to the Joseph Rank Trust after a visit from their representative in March. Their Trustees meet in the morning of 24th April to decide on ours and other applications, so please pray in particular for this.

Regular activities

- Living Room** - **Mondays 10.30am – 2.00pm. (Not Easter Monday)**
- Coffee Morning** - **Every Wednesday 10.30am – 12noon.**
- Toddler Group** - **Thursdays 9.30am – 11.30am (Term Time only)**
- **Fridays 9.30am – 11.30am (Term Time only)**
- Evening Prayer** - **1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 6.00pm**
- Big Family Church** - **1st Sunday of the month 11am ('Traditional' service at 10.15 am)**

Future dates for your information and prayer

- April 2nd** - **Deacons Meeting**
- April 8th** - **Partnership Meeting, Methodist Church**
- April 11th** - **Easter Toddler Party 2.00 – 4.00 pm**
- April 16th** - **Use of Tesco Hub 9.00 am – 5.00 pm**
- April 24th** - **Joseph Rank Trust meet to decide on possible Grant**
- April 27th** - **Joint Partnership of Churches service, Methodist church, 6.00 pm**

Continue to pray, as we move forward under the banner of Christ.

'To you alone, O Lord, to you alone and not to us, must glory be given because of your constant love and faithfulness.' Psalm 115:1