**Churches Together in Windsor: Newsletter:** *Autumn 2024:* <u>CTW | Churches Together in Windsor</u> Please do also follow us on Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherInWindsor</u>

## Message from the Chair:



The end of September brings the autumn equinox, for a brief moment there is equal balance between light and dark, day and night, when sunsets are spectacular, when conkers burst out of their spikey shells and the big yellow faces of sunflowers cannot but make us smile. In the church calendar it is creation season, the season runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September to St Francis, 4<sup>th</sup> October, and can be simply known as 'thankfulness season'. The equinox is a reminder to reflect on the balance in our lives, things that weigh us down and things that bring joy and sit lighter. We all need balance in our lives, balance in the world certainly. Most of us will already be looking at diaries and even planning Christmas, as during the next 3 months things will move very fast and we can become too busy to stop and look at creation and the change of season around us. The balance will tip very quickly. Creation needs us to stop and look, to stop and notice, creation needs our time and care, our thankfulness.

Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us that there is a time and season for everything, for every matter under heaven. The core group continually reflect on how we can come together, worship together and make a difference as disciples in our town, together. We celebrate the seasons together and this year we are looking forward to holding a town Songs of Praise alongside our AGM. Worshipping together through our favourite songs and hymns, do you have a favourite, has your church nominated a song/hymn? It is not easy to get the balance right, too many events, not enough? What will people want to turn out for, is it always the same faithful few? In this season of reflection and thankfulness, the core group would like you to consider our events and how you individually and how you as a church community might join us in our ministry together. Your ideas would be very welcome, in fact here's one to think about... a creation season walk together?

Creation is a gift of God's abundant and unending love, even in the small things like conkers and sunflowers and sunsets. May the richness and beauty of the natural world never cease to uplift and sustain us and may we constantly be aware of how our actions affect the environment. And may we always be grateful for nature's gifts. Is it time to check the balance in your life, perhaps take time to collect some shiny conkers?

Loving Lord, we place our hands in yours as we step through each season of life. Please give us your strength to carry on serving throughout changing seasons, knowing that we will reap benefits both now and for eternity. Amen

Blessings,

Revd Rosie Webb, Chair CTW

#### For your diary:



From The Reverend Canon Sally Lodge: Team Rector, Benefice of New Windsor in the Diocese of Oxford:

### Harvest Quiz Night and Supper

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at All Saints' Church Hall, Frances Road, 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Tickets £10. Proceeds to Alma Beacon. Booking via our website <u>www.windsorchurches.org.uk</u>

### Annual "In Loving Memory" service

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October at St Stephen & St Agnes Church at 3pm. This is an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died in a simple service of hymns and readings. All most welcome.

## From the Methodist Church:

- Earlier this year we started a **Breakfast Church** (the first Sunday of each month), starting from 08.30 with breakfast, 9 am prayers, a hymn and short message, followed by a choice of three tables: a Bible Study; a 'What the papers are saying and where is God?' And a craft table, mainly for children. Everyone welcome.
- Also, the first Sunday of each month we continue to run our **'Tea Time for the Soul Service'**. This is a dementia friendly service starting at 3 pm. It is a 30 minute Service, followed by tea and cakes and finishes at 4 pm. Everyone welcome.
- Our Prayer Group continues to meet alternate Wednesdays from 1 1.30 pm in the Cornerstone Chapel (entrance by the traffic lights). All are welcome and prayers can be silent or spoken with time for listening! Dates published in our newsletter (available from <u>kathyandpaulsadler@yahoo.com</u>), website and Facebook page.
- The **Toddlers Group** continues to meet each Thursday (term time only) from 09.15 to 11.15 am. All children with parents/carers welcome.
- On Sunday 27 October, we are delighted to be hosting Churches Together in Windsor '**Songs** of Praise' (see below). We are really excited about this and to welcoming friends from all Windsor Churches.
- At 3 pm on Sunday 8 December we have a '**Cake and Carols Service'**. A time for tea and a chance to sing favourite carols. Everyone welcome.
- We also have our **Carols by Candlelight** a traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 22nd of December at 6:30pm. Everyone welcome.
- And finally our next **Messy Church** will be 3.45 pm on Saturday 1 February these popular services for children with parents/carers include craft tables, a short entertaining Service, and a meal. All children and young people with parents/carers are welcome.

### Churches Together in Windsor Songs of Praise!

Sunday 27th October at 6pm at the Methodists' Church, Alma Road.



We will have a short Annual Assembly meeting at 6pm, then our Songs of Praise service at 6.30pm. Each church has been asked to nominate their favourite hymn which they will briefly introduce. This will be a

great opportunity to sing praise together and hear a little more about Churches Together. Refreshments will be available after the service.

Matters to be discussed at the Annual Assembly include:

Volunteers

The meeting will include election of Core Group members and officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) – due to imminent retirements, more volunteers are urgently needed to join the group – for members of the group it is only a commitment of 5 meetings a year plus a bit of help to plan and coordinate our events. Also we do need someone to step forward to take on the Treasurer role – training will be provided.

## Anna Chaplaincy

This is a ministry of spiritual support for older people; volunteers are trained by the Bible Reading Fellowship.

Subscriptions

Due to rising costs, it has been suggested that subscriptions will need to rise from £70 to £85 per worshipping congregation per year – this will be voted on during the Annual Assembly.

## <u>Key ecumenical events of the Churches Together year – all welcome!</u> Carols on the Hill

Friday 13th December at 6.15pm for 6.30 pm at the statue of Queen Victoria by Windsor Castle.

Come and hear the Band of the Household Cavalry leading the music as we sing carols and hear Christmas reading. The event is free with a collection – this year's chosen charities to support are Cruse Bereavement Care (Thames Valley branch) and Windsor Cycle Hub.





## Ecumenical Light of Peace Service

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6pm at St Edward's Alma Road.

# **Candlemas service**

2nd February 2025 at 5pm in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

# World Day of Prayer

Friday 7th March 2025 at 7pm at Dedworth Green Baptist Church.

# **Good Friday Witness**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – walk of witness between various churches in Windsor, starting at about 10.30am at St Andrew's Clewer and ending at the Parish Church just before noon.

# Thy Kingdom Come (including Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)/Experience Pentecost

Various services open to all between 29th May - 8th June 2025 in different churches – more information in the Spring newsletter.

Pentecost Service at the Methodists' Church at 5pm on Sunday 8th June 2025.

# News from Windsor Christian Action (WCA)/Alma Beacon

<u>Alma Beacon</u> encompasses three key projects: <u>Windsor Homeless Project</u> is one of these and, along with <u>Windsor Street Angels</u> and <u>Windsor FoodShare</u>, we provide vital support to vulnerable members of the local community. <u>Alma Beacon</u> is the operating name of <u>Windsor Christian Action</u>, a registered charity in England (Charity No.1154308).

As you may know, WCA trustees are in the final stages of getting planning permission to host a night shelter at Alma Beacon. They are currently seeing if they have sufficient support from volunteers to bring back More Than a Shelter, initially to run for about 6 weeks. They need volunteers for evening slots to cover a meal (7pm to 10pm), people to stay overnight at the shelter (10pm to 7am) and morning slots to serve breakfasts (7am to 8.30am). To find out more and volunteer, please see <u>Volunteer | Windsor Homeless Project</u>

Please let us know when you are holding your Christmas services so we can publicise to all our contacts in Windsor to encourage participation (email: <u>jacobyvpatterson@gmail.com</u>).

If you are organising a specific event, please let us know and add your event to our CTW Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherInWindsor</u>).

### **Ongoing activities:**

#### **Messy Church:**

Dedworth Green Baptist Church: 3rd Sunday of the month, 9:30-11:45am

Methodist Church: **Saturday afternoon** (3.45 to 5.30 pm) **in school holidays:** includes craft activities, a short, fun act of worship and a meal. All are welcome. Children to be accompanied by an appropriate adult.

#### **Methodist Church**

We continue to hold a **'Teatime for the Soul' service on the first Sunday each month at 3pm**. These increasingly popular services are aimed at those who find it difficult to come to church for 10-30am and are dementia friendly. They are about half an hour long with traditional, familiar hymns and a short message followed by tea and cakes downstairs in the hall. It has been a joy to see some of our older members who have not been back to church since the start of the pandemic. All are welcome, whether members of a church or none.

**Sunday Evening Service, 6.30pm to 7.30pm**. These are friendly, peaceful, spiritual Services including prayers, Bible readings and a Sermon. One each month is a **'Café Style' Service** which often include interesting discussions. Our numbers of attendees vary, but normally about 12 of us. Any friends would be warmly welcomed!

The Methodist Church would also warmly welcome friends to **Prayer Group meetings** which are **1pm to 1.30pm on alternate Wednesdays in the Cornerstone Chapel**, which is the door nearest the traffic lights. Dates are published on the website and in the weekly newsletter which is circulated electronically. If you would like to receive the Methodist newsletter, please email our Church Council Secretary at <u>rosemarycracknell@btinternet.com</u> Prayers are said for Christian growth in our Windsor Churches, our community, and anything else folks may be prompted to pray for.

**Toddlers' Group each Thursday (term time)** welcomes all Toddlers with an appropriate adult from **09.15 to 11.15am at the Methodist Church.** 

### Joint ministries for Grace Church Windsor and Christ Church URC:

**Busbees toddler group**, Fridays (term-time) 10:30-11:30am. <u>gracechurchwindsor.org/church-life/busbees</u>

**Kids' Club**: After school club for first school children (years R-4). An hour of fun, games, bible stories and more! Wednesdays (term-time), 4:15-5:15pm. A free parents cafe runs at the same time - a chance to grab a cuppa, chat or perhaps even get some work done! gracechurchwindsor.org/church-life/kids-club

Contact details for the churches are as follows:

#### **CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHURCHES**

Windsor Parish Church: Parish Church of St John the Baptist
The High Street, Windsor SL4 1LT
Telephone: 01753 862419
Minister: The Revd Canon Sally Lodge
E-mail: team@windsorchurches.org.uk
Website: www.windsorparishchurch.org.uk
Services: Eucharist: <u>SUNDAY</u>: 10.00am for one hour (rotates between St Stephen & St Agnes; Holy Trinity; All Saints' and Windsor Parish Church)

#### All Saints' Church

Frances Road, Windsor, SL4 1HU **Telephone:** 01753 862419 **Minister:** The Revd Canon Sally Lodge **E-mail:** <u>team@windsorchurches.org.uk; windsor.rector@gmail.com</u> **Website:** <u>www.allsaintswindsor.org.uk</u> **Services** *Eucharist*: <u>SUNDAY</u>: 10.00am for one hour (rotates between St Stephen & St Agnes; Holy Trinity; All Saints' and Windsor Parish Church)

Holy Trinity (Parish and Garrison Church),
Claremont Road & Trinity Place, Windsor, SL4 3AX
Telephone: 01753 862419
Minister: The Revd Canon Sally Lodge
E-mail: holytrinitychurchwindsor@gmail.com
Website: holytrinitywindsor.org.uk
Services: Eucharist: SUNDAY: 10.00am for one hour (rotates between St Stephen & St Agnes; Holy Trinity; All Saints' and Windsor Parish Church)

St Stephen & St Agnes, Clewer Vansittart Road, Windsor, SL4 5EA Telephone: 01753 862419 Minister: The Revd Canon Sally Lodge E-mail: team@windsorchurches.org.uk Website: www.ststephenwindsor.org.uk Services: Eucharist: <u>SUNDAY</u>: 10.00am for one hour (rotates between St Stephen & St Agnes; Holy Trinity; All Saints' and Windsor Parish Church)

All Saints' Church Dedworth Road, Windsor, SL4 4JW Telephone: 01753 569037 Minister: Revd. Paul Walker E-mail: via website contact us page (<u>http://allsaintschurchdedworth.com/contact/</u>) Website <u>http://www.allsaintschurchdedworth.com/</u> Services: <u>SUNDAY</u>: 9.15 am – Traditional Service with Communion; 11.00am – Family Service

#### St Andrew's Clewer

Mill Lane, Windsor, SL4 5JH **Telephone:** St Andrews Rectory 01753 852334 **Minister:** Revd. Rosie Webb **E-mail:** <u>rector@clewerparish.org</u>; <u>office@clewerparish.org</u> **Website:** <u>http://www.standrewsclewer.org</u> **Services:** *Eucharist*: SUNDAY: 10.30am, and other service times available on website

### St George's Chapel

Windsor Castle, Windsor, SL4 1NJ
Telephone: 01753 848888; recorded information line 01753 865538
Minister: Dean and Canons of Windsor
E-mail: chapteroffice@stgeorges-windsor.org
Website: http://www.stgeorges-windsor.org/
Services: WEEKDAYS: Holy Communion 8am; Evensong 5.15pm
SUNDAYS: Holy Communion 8.30am; Mattins and sermon 10.45am

### Grace Church Windsor (Anglican Mission in England)

c/o Christ Church URC, William St, Windsor, SL4 1BA Telephone: 01753 257868 Minister: Rev Tim Hiorns E-mail: <u>hello@gracechurchwindsor.org</u> Website: <u>www.gracechurchwindsor.org</u> Services: <u>SUNDAY</u>: 4pm

#### NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Kings Church International Office: King's House, 77a Frances Road, Windsor, SL4 3AQ Telephone: 01753 832444 Ministers: Pastors Wes & Adriana Richards E-mail: <u>hello@kcionline.org</u> Website: <u>kcionline.org</u> Services: <u>SUNDAY</u>: service 10am online <u>THURSDAY</u> evening weekly prayer meetings online

#### KERITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Unit 3B, Fairacres Industrial Estate, Dedworth Rd, Windsor SL4 4LE **Telephone:** 01344 862699 **Minister:** Leon Johnson **E-mail:** info@kerith.church, leon.johnson@kerith.church Website: https://kerith.church/ Service: <u>SUNDAY</u> 10am

### **BAPTIST CHURCHES**

Dedworth Green Baptist Church, Smiths Lane, Windsor, SL4 5PE Telephone: 01753 832002 Minister: Revd. Matthew Scott E-mail: <u>minister@dgbc.org.uk</u>, <u>secretary@dgbc.org.uk</u> Website: <u>http://www.dgbc.org.uk/</u> Services: SUNDAY: 10.30am

#### Windsor Baptist Church,

Victoria Street, Windsor, SL4 1EH **Telephone:** 07971 298158 **Minister:** Revd. Kat Bracewell **Community Manager:** Kate Saunders <u>wbckate@gmail.com</u> **E-mail** <u>windsorbaptists@yahoo.co.uk; kathryn.bracewell@yahoo.co.uk</u> **Website** <u>https://windsorbaptistchurch.org.uk</u> **Services:** <u>SUNDAY</u> 10.30am

#### **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES**

St. Edward's Church 44 Alma Road, Windsor, SL4 3HJ Telephone: 01753 865163 Minister: Canon David Hopgood E-mail: canondavid@catholicwindsor.org Website: http://catholicwindsor.org/ Services: SATURDAY: Mass 6.00pm SUNDAY: Mass: 11.00am. TUESDAY: Mass: 10.00am THURSDAY: Mass: 10.00am FRIDAY: Mass: 12.00am (weekday service times may change due to funerals etc)

#### St Mark's Church

Dedworth Road, Windsor, SL4 4JS **Telephone:** 01753 865163 **Minister:** Canon David Hopgood **E-mail:** <u>canondavid@catholicwindsor.org</u> **Website:** <u>http://catholicwindsor.org/</u> **Services:** <u>SUNDAY</u>: Mass 9.30am

#### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Christ Church William Street, Windsor, SL4 1BA Telephone: 01753 862007 Minister: vacancy E-mail: secretary@windsorurc.org.uk Website: http://www.windsorurc.org.uk/ Services: SUNDAY: 10.30am (also on zoom – see website for details)

#### **METHODIST CHURCH**

Alma Road, Windsor, SL4 3HH **Telephone:** 01753 536357 **Minister:** Revd. Vicci Davidson **E-mail:** rev.vicci@mail.com **Website:** <u>http://www.windsormethodist.church/</u> **Services:** <u>SUNDAY</u> *Morning service* 10.30am *Evening service* 6.30pm