

Church News

Review:

The **Community Breakfast** was another huge success. We had to set up an additional table as we ran out of seats. We also ran out of lots of supplies! Apologies to those who had to wait a bit longer while we dashed to the shop! Thanks to all who helped out with the mountains of washing up, especially Liz, Helle and others!



Lent course: The Stoke Hammond Lent course was enjoyed by all who attended and particularly welcome were the home-made leek-and-potato, minestrone and carrot-and-lentil soups! Bishop Steven of Oxford, has asked us to think about how we could make our church more contemplative, compassionate and courageous. If you have any suggestions towards this aim, please do let us know. We would be grateful for your prayers on this too.



Forthcoming Events:

Community Breakfast: The second Saturday in April falls quite late this year, on **Saturday 14th April**. We will be serving our Community Breakfast again between **8.30am and 10.30am**. If you want to be sure of a seat, arrive early! We serve a range of hot and cold breakfasts. Our aim is for as many villagers as possible to come along and meet their neighbours. There is no charge for the breakfast, but we have a donations basket for what you can afford.

Sponsored walk: Our sponsored walk is taking place on **Saturday April 7th** but we've had a few hiccoughs with our plans: This year we hoped to try new routes through Soulbury, but the longer route required crossing the bypass on foot. Several people I spoke to felt uncomfortable about this as the traffic is so fast. Then on a trial walk, owing to the recent wet weather and clay soil, the shorter route was found to be very boggy for quite lengthy parts, to the extent that it was almost impassable. Due to these issues, it was agreed to revert back to the traditional route this year, via **The Globe PH for lunch**, as the canal towpath will at least be walkable! Some of our older walkers from previous years are standing down this year, so if you feel young enough and fit enough to complete a **7½ (short route) or 8 (longer route) mile circular walk** (or just walk one way and get a lift back) **in aid of St Luke's church**, please contact one of the wardens below.



Plant Sale: We will be holding our annual plant sale on **Saturday 28th April from 10am to 3pm, on The Green**. There will be a wide variety of bedding plants, vegetable seedlings and perennials grown by professional growers available at competitive prices. If you'd like to place a large order, please call John Bowler.

Bible Course: Owing to a mix up and copy date deadlines (for which apologies are offered), the introductory session to the Bible course may already have taken place, however in case you've received your newsletter early, the dates are **Wed 28th March** starting at **8pm** with desserts and coffee in Great Brickhill Parish Hall, on **Thurs 29th March** at **2.30pm** at The Rectory, 10 Pound Hill, Great Brickhill. The course will continue with two identical sessions each week following, one on Tuesdays starting **Tues 17th April** from **1.30 to 3pm** at The Rectory in Great Brickhill and one on Thursdays starting **Thurs 19th April** in Great Brickhill Parish Hall, at **7.30pm** starting with desserts and coffee. Each Bible course session – designed by Rev Andrew Ollerton – starts with a video followed by a discussion. Don't worry if you've missed the introductory sessions, you can still join in with the course. If you think you might be interested, contact Phillipa Cook on 07788 740969 or pjcook6@gmail.com or the Church wardens below. Find out more about the course on: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/>



What is Easter?

In last November's article, I talked briefly about what Easter is. It is in fact the most important Christian festival of the year. Whilst it has been somewhat "hi-jacked" by the Easter bunny(!), hopefully, most people will know that Easter involves celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. On Good Friday, Jesus was arrested, sent for trial and sentenced to death by crucifixion. In those times, crucifixion was widely regarded as the most horrifying death possible – by slow torture. Even the hardest men would be reduced to sheer terror. Jesus knew what he had to face, and did it willingly because he knew that it was God's will, and that by doing so he would save mankind. After he was crucified, his body was placed in a tomb offered by a wealthy benefactor. A huge circular stone was rolled across the tomb entrance: it would've taken several men to move. On Sunday morning when the women went to pray at the tomb, they saw that the stone had been rolled away and Jesus had gone. Imagine the shock then the joy they felt when they saw Jesus alive! His death and resurrection overcame the sins of the world and means that we can now receive God's forgiveness and inherit eternal life. Jesus Christ is (still) risen today: Hallelujah indeed!



Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillchurches.org.uk. If you want to come to a service, all church service times are listed on the website, along with contact details for the Rector.

If you would like to come to church but have mobility problems please ring John (see below) regarding transport. If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Harry: Churchwarden, on 07773065271, Diane: Assistant Churchwarden (unofficial), on 270409 or John: Treasurer, on 270202.**