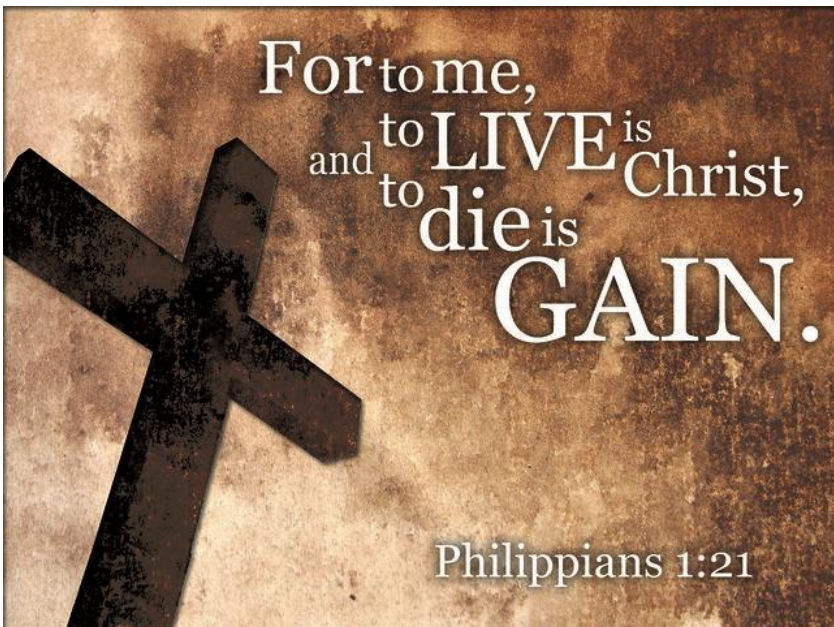


Newsletter



Amphill Clophill Flitwick

June 2026



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A Message from our Minister

What do you know about Bible book of Philippians? Do you know who wrote it? Do you wonder ‘Where is Philippi?’ Or ‘What does this letter have to do with my life / faith / church today?’

Well, this month you can find the answers to these and any other question you may have as we worship and learn our way through Bible Month.

But just to get you started - here are some interesting facts.

The church in Philippi was founded by Paul, who was the one who wrote this letter to them. If you want to read Acts 16 you can find out about his visit, his meeting with some local women including Lydia and starting the new church there in her house. You can also read about how things didn’t go to well for him, as he ended up in prison!

As for the geography - Philippi was a walled city, founded in 356 BC by the Macedonian King Philip II, in north-eastern Greece. You can still visit the remains of the city today.

Philippians is a short book but the reading guide for Bible Month tells us that it ‘overflows with joy, encouragement and love’. It is a book that will hopefully inspire us as we learn more about the early church community in Philippi.

God bless.

Silas



Church Family News



Happy Birthday

to all those who have birthdays
this month.

May God be with you all on your special day and always.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Happy Anniversary

to those celebrating a wedding
anniversary this month.

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn
Romans 12:15 (NIV)



A prayer from the Methodist Prayer Handbook

God of all, as we journey together in search of unity,
help us to learn from one another's stories –
the painful, the joyful, the fearful and the hopeful.
Give us the grace to listen deeply to other's experiences,
and the courage to share our own stories honestly.
May we find together the joy of new and renewed connections,
guided by the light of your merciful love,
as we seek to follow ever more faithfully the example of Christ.
Amen



Worship in June

7th June

United Worship at Clophill led by Rev. Silas Wood **10.30 am**

14th June

Ampthill Worship led by Rev. Silas Wood (HC) **9.30 am**

Clophill Worship led by Chris Robinson **10.30 am**

Flitwick Worship led by Rev. Silas Wood (HC) **11.00 am**

21st June

Ampthill Worship led by Rev. Silas Wood **11.00 am**

Clophill Worship led by Rev. Silas Wood (HC) **9.30 am**

Flitwick Worship led by Angela Turner **10.30 am**

28th June

Ampthill Worship led by Janet Watts **10.30 am**

Clophill Worship led by Rev. Nigel Bibbings **11.00 am**

Flitwick Breakfast Church led by Rev. Nigel Bibbings **9.30 am**

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## 5th July

**United Worship at Flitwick** led by Rev. Silas Wood **10.30 am**

## 12th July

**Ampthill** Breakfast Church led by Rev. Silas Wood **9.30 am**

**Clophill** Worship led by Keith Lilley **10.30 am**

**Flitwick** Worship led by Angela Turner (Parade and Agape Service) **11.00 am**



## *Worship in June*

| June     | 7                                                     | 14                                                    | 21                                                   | 28                                                         |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ampthill | 10.30 am<br>United<br>Worship<br>at Clophill          | 9.30 am<br>Holy<br>Communion<br>led by<br>Silas Wood  | 11.00 am<br>Worship<br>led by<br>Silas Wood          | 10.30 am<br>Worship<br>led by<br>Janet Watts               |
| Clophill | 10.30 am<br>United<br>Worship<br>led by<br>Silas Wood | 10.30 am<br>Worship led by<br>Chris Robinson          | 9.30 am<br>Holy<br>Communion led<br>by<br>Silas Wood | 11.00 am<br>Worship<br>led by<br>Nigel Bibbings            |
| Flitwick | 10.30 am<br>United<br>Worship at<br>Clophill          | 11.00 am<br>Holy<br>Communion<br>led by<br>Silas Wood | 10.30 am<br>Worship<br>led by<br>Angela Turner       | 9.30 am<br>Breakfast<br>Church<br>led by<br>Nigel Bibbings |



### *Easter Offering Service*

*Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May*

*Kempston East at 3pm*

*Theme -Unbound: a gospel that breaks barriers*

Your Easter Offerings for the World Mission Fund will be dedicated and we will learn about some of the work being done by Methodist Partner Churches around the world.



## What's On in June

### Monday

**Craft Café** at Flitwick 1st June 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm

### Tuesday

**Prayer Meeting** at 6 Brinsmade Road, Ampthill 2.30 pm

### Wednesday

**Tea and Chat** at Clophill 10.00 am - 12 noon

**Tea and Chat** at Flitwick 2.30 pm - 3.45 pm

### Thursday

**Baby Comes Too** at Flitwick (Term time) 9.15 am - 11.15 am

**Community Café** at Ampthill 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

**Bible Month Bible Study** on Zoom (from 11th June) 3.00 pm  
(Please contact me for the Zoom link if you would like to join us)

**Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association** at Flitwick (Term time)

Anchors and Juniors 6.15 pm - 7.30 pm

Company and Seniors 7.30 pm - 9.00 pm

### Saturday

**Coffee and Croissants** at Clophill 13th June 10.00 am - 12 noon

**Ladies Breakfast** at Flitwick 20th June 8.30 am

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# *Prayer and Coffee Morning*

*Saturday 30th May*

*10 am - 12 noon*

There will be prayer stations in the church, based on Paul's letter to the Philippians, which is the book we will be studying for Bible Month in June.

Paul's letter to the Philippians is one of the letters he wrote while he was in prison. Despite his imprisonment he wrote about his joy and the joy the readers could have through their relationship with Jesus. It is a short letter with only four chapters but in those chapters there is much we can learn from.

Our prayer mornings are an opportunity to spend some quiet time with God while immersing ourselves in particular parts of the Bible.

A verse about prayer from Philippians:

Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in everything by prayer and supplication  
with thanksgiving  
let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6 (ESV)

A coffee morning will be held in the back room where you will be able to enjoy fellowship and refreshments. Donations will be given to the Methodist World Mission Fund adding to what has been collected through your Easter Offering gifts.

All are welcome. We hope you will be able to join us.



## *To Love and Not Be Loved*

To love and not be loved  
Is something God knows only too well.  
He created man perfect in his own image  
And gave him a heart and mind  
To choose to follow him or rebel.

God blessed man abundantly  
With a beautiful garden to work and enjoy,  
He gave him life for eternity  
And warned him not to eat from a specific tree  
Otherwise he will surely die.

Man did not believe his Creator  
But the devil, the deceiver  
Bringing condemnation not just on himself  
But on the human race.

Nothing has changed since that tragic day  
For we all have gone astray.

Since the fall of Adam and Eve  
Carnal man's natural instinct is still to rebel  
Despite God loving him unconditionally.

But despite our rebellion  
God came down from heaven as one of us  
To save us from our sins.

*Lance*



## *Prayer Suggestions for June*

### *6 days beginning 1st June - The Bible*

- Thank God that we have the Bible available to us in so many different translations.
- Pray for Christians, new and older, that the Bible will have the impact on their / our lives that it should.
- Pray that we will not take the Bible for granted.
- Pray for Bible teachers and interpreters of the Bible who help us to study and understand the Bible.
- Thank God for those who still work to translate the Bible into the many languages of the world.

### *Week beginning 7th June - Great Big Green Week*

Theme: Together for Good

- Thank God that when people come together to take action to improve their environment it makes a big difference.
- Pray for the impact of local events such as those at the Forest of Marston Vale.
- Pray that we will all do what we can to help with recycling and taking care of the places where we live.
- Pray that we will be good stewards of the creation God has given us.

### *Week beginning 14th June - Refugee Week*

Theme: Courage

- Pray for refugees who have had to leave their home for their safety
- ‘Refugee Week is ‘the world’s largest arts and culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.’ (Refugee Week website)
- Pray for people involved in this festival that they will receive respect and gain self-confidence.
  - Pray for refugees that they will feel valued and welcome in their adopted country

- Pray for peace and justice for everyone.
- Pray for leaders of the nations and all who can have an impact on the future of refugees.

*Week beginning 21st June - Fathers' Day*

- Pray for fathers, especially fathers who have to work away from home.
- Pray for new fathers as they learn how they can support their family.
- Pray for single fathers.
- Pray for fathers who find it difficult to cope with family life.
- Pray for fathers who have difficulty providing for their families.
- Thank God for our heavenly Father.

*3 days beginning 28th June - Methodist Conference*

- Pray for the new President and Vice-President of Conference, Rev. Mark Slaney and Caroline Stead.
- Pray for those being ordained including Rev. Paulette Tedd from our own Circuit.
- Pray for those attending the Conference and for the debates and discussions.



*Local Preacher Appointments*

Please pray for preachers from our Greensand Community Church who are planned to lead worship in June:

- |                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Perlynn Thomas  | 28th at Beeston                    |
| Angela Turner   | 21st at Flitwick                   |
| Janet Watts     | 14th at London Rd; 28th at Amphill |
| Angie Woodcraft | 14th at Beeston                    |



## *Bible Puzzle*

Hidden in the paragraph below are the names of sixteen (16) books of the Bible. Can you find them? All 16 will be revealed next month!

Happy hunting - HAVE FUN!

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain fluke, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a job. We want it to be a most fascinating little moment for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes the preacher to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how you will compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *William Tyndale*

This year marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of William Tyndale's translation of the New Testament. He was the first person to translate the New Testament from Greek into the English Language. Much of his translation was used in later translations, including the King James Version. He faced much opposition and was executed in 1536 but his work lived on.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Favourite Bible Verses*

I asked for your favourite Bible verses, especially as during Bible Month we are thinking about how important the Bible is to us.

Here are two of Lance's favourites:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

Here is one of my favourites:

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV)



I would still like to receive your favourite Bible verses. What verses have helped you? Those same verses may help other people.

If you don't have a favourite verse perhaps you have a favourite Bible story or Bible character. It would be interesting to hear about those too.



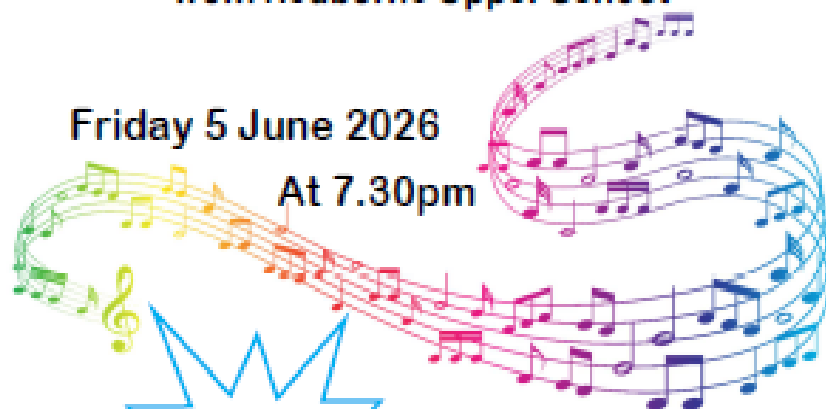
Greensand Community Methodist Church  
Dunstable Street, Amptill MK45 2JS

*An Evening of Popular Music*  
from

**The Alma Singers**  
and SPECIAL GUESTS  
from Redborne Upper School

Friday 5 June 2026

At 7.30pm



*Refreshments  
&  
Raffle*

***TICKETS £10  
ON THE DOOR***

For further information contact :  
Angie Woodcraft 07906 509950 or Pat Martin Moran 07790 014419

[e-voice.org.uk/almasingers](http://e-voice.org.uk/almasingers)

## *Amphill Ladies Group*

OUR AIM: WITH CHRIST AT THE CENTRE OF OUR LIVES, WE MAY HELP EACH OTHER TO BE BETTER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY THROUGH SHARING OUR FRIENDSHIP, THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**ALG final week with a speaker before Corrine and Perilyn Thomas retire from successfully organising ALG for many years to be followed by our closing AGM on 13 May!**

On **Wednesday 29 April** we were visited by Jean Yates, one of our favourite returning speakers talking about the origins of English pub signs. This proved to be a fascinating subject where we learnt that pub signs were used as early trade adverts, ie a lot of the taverns and inns (before becoming known as pubs) were aimed at the traditional farming community.

Our last AGM was held on **Wednesday 13 May** starting with a shared delicious salad lunch, with lots of ‘tea and chat’. It was feeling quite strange that we would not see each other again as a group together. Lots of encouraging conversations took place, with promises of keeping in touch. We were all fascinated as Corrine read out the history of ALG when it started as a ‘Young Wives’ group 77 years ago in 1949! A church member, Mrs Newcommen realised that after 6 years of war, the church should help in guiding young mothers into making the best of the opportunities open to them but not losing their Christian values.

Looking at their celebration 60<sup>th</sup> year booklet, I wonder how many names you can recognise from the list of Presidents from 1958 up to 2009! I haven’t got room to list them all but here are a few (all before my time at ALG)! Included in the list of committee members over

many years, may be a few more familiar names, ie Grace Bartholomew, Corrine Thomas (secretary), Judith Latham, Val Bickford, Sylvia Cann, Anne Bishopp, Jill Gregoriades, Christine Moore, Jan Murdoch, Joan Rogers, Margaret Olney, Daisy Winch, Dorothy Gilroy, Joan Adlam, Barbara Griffiths, Chris Whittles, Carole Mason, Hilary Wilson, Carole Walker and Yvonne Clarke as pianist. Apparently the title President came into use in 1979 replacing the title 'Leader'. There appear to be no records before 1962.

|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1958 – 62 | Margaret Aldridge |
| 1962 – 63 | Pauline Morris    |
| 1963 – 65 | Joan James        |
| 1965 – 68 | Margaret Aldridge |
| 1968 – 70 | Leonora Cottrell  |
| 1970 – 72 | Joan James        |

The last name listed as President in 2008 was Silvia Thomas who many of you will know.

At our final AGM, Corrine gave special thanks to the kitchen staff (what would we do without our 'cuppa'!) and presented Anne Bishopp with some beautiful flowers.

Sheila Smith gave a wonderful tribute to Corrine and Perlllyn with many thanks for all their efforts in booking fantastic speakers and arranging the chairs, tables and piano each week ready for our meetings to start – all very much appreciated. We presented them both with a gift voucher, flowers and chocolates and several special cards.

*Carole*  
*ALG Committee Member*



## *Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association*



At the start of May we enrolled 2 new Anchors and during May another started. After half term we have another Anchor coming along. Such growth is amazing, but youngsters grow and get older and after half term we will be restarting the Junior Section, with one youngster moving up from Anchors. This means our 4 regular staff on a Thursday are stretched a little thinner than we would like.

So, our focus for recruitment now is for more leaders. If you are able to help out either on a weekly basis or on rota then please speak to Angela or email [1FlitwickBBGA@gmail.com](mailto:1FlitwickBBGA@gmail.com) We will also be sharing this appeal for new leaders to the current parents and also to the wider community of Flitwick through social media. If nothing else please pray that new leaders will come forward in time for September.

During May the Anchors have been learning about Jonah & The whale, David and Goliath, and Daniel in the Lions Den. As well as bubble games, learning about being safe at home, and the benefits of being in nature.

Company & Seniors had a visit from Silas who talked with them about Baptism and Confirmation in the Methodist Church. They made homemade hobnobs, learned about fire and cyber safety. Survival skill about the impact of extreme temperatures, and finished before half term with a very silly game of charades.

We have been supporting two of the lower schools in Flitwick by sponsoring stalls at May/Summer Fairs. This has provided good publicity for Brigade through social media and the sharing of leaflets.

As our Brigade year draws to a close then we have our final church parade of the session on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July which will be followed by lunch to which the wider church family are all invited. If you are able

to attend then please email [1FlitwickBBGA@gmail.com](mailto:1FlitwickBBGA@gmail.com) or speak to Angela by the Sunday before – 5<sup>th</sup> July United Service at Flitwick.

Having young people in our Church is a blessing that many churches do not have, I hope you will continue to do everything you can to support the work of Flitwick BBGA – part of Greensand Community Methodist Church.

*Angela*  
*Company Captain/Leader in Charge*



### *Flitwick Village Hall Coffee Mornings*

During June the Coffee mornings on Fridays at Flitwick Village Hall will be in aid of the following:

- 5th June        Music 24
- 12th June      Churches Together for Christian Aid
- 19th June      The Jigsaw Club
- 26th June      Flitwick Lower School Association



### *News from Paraguay*

May in Paraguay and it is all rather more like autumn. The heat of summer now long gone.

There has been quite a lot of rain this month and some of the dirt roads are starting to look a little rough. They will stay that way until the council repairs each in turn with their tractor.

The roads are mostly dirt, but usually in a good state of repair as they are all regularly maintained.

It has also been noticeably cooler after the rain. May saw the first cold spell of the year with the temperature rapidly dropping from the mid 20s to single figures.

With everything being built for the heat, those sort of temperatures feel very cold in Paraguay. Fortunately it only ever stays like that for a few days.

For my exploring this month I visited a little village called Escobar. A nice peaceful and well kept place.

As is normally the case the largest building in the village was the old church. A sizeable well kept building on the edge of the village sitting in a tree filled park.

From there heading into town there was a modern park and then a large playing field the other side of which sat the old train station which is now a museum.

For national events there is a two day holiday in the middle of the month.

May 14<sup>th</sup> is Independence Day and then the 15<sup>th</sup> Mothers Day. Both very important days here marked with events and celebrations. In Asuncion there are parades and parties on Independence Day.

For myself after a quiet time during April I have been contacted by several people who have either been looking for information about Paraguay or who wanted to be shown around.

Hopefully that will continue over the coming months.

*Simon*



## *The Newsletter*

Thank you to those who have contributed to the issue of the newsletter.

Your contributions are welcome. Please let me have items for the July newsletter by **Sunday 21st June**. Thank you very much.

Janet

