



St Francis Church

April 26th, 2026

Newsletter & Notices

Services This Week

This Sunday's service will be led by **Rev Barrie Cheetham**, who also took our Communion Service last Tuesday! He is a retired Minister from The Haven

The **Duty Steward** on Sunday will be **Betty Cook** and **Betty** will also be reading the lesson.

Tuesday's communion service will be led by **Rev Canon Glyn Evans**, a familiar face at St Francis

Advance notice:

Next week the **Duty Steward** will be **Lee Davis** and **Hazel McDermid** will be reading the lesson

Sunday 3rd May

As part of the All-Age service on 3rd May you are invited to bring a book that has encouraged you in your faith journey. If you haven't got a book perhaps write down the details of an app, podcast, song etc that may encourage someone else. The idea is that we all go home with a new book / resource.

Many thanks, Nicky (who is taking the service on 3rd May)

NEWS ON THE VACANCY

Further to last week's disappointing news, the Vacancy will be re advertised on 15th May with a closing date of 11th June. Interviews will be held on Friday 10th July. Please pray that this time we will receive some applications

Praying for Church and Community

Monday Prayer Meeting

Our next meeting for prayer is on Monday, 27th April from 2 to 3pm in church.

Please join us if you can. We pray for people, our church and our mission to the community. Our emphasis is prayer for the Holy Spirit to help us all grow in our relationship with Jesus and for others to come to know Him too. We pray "that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father will give **us** the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that **we all** may know Him better" Ephesians ch1 v17
Hazel & Betty

AN INVITATION: WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 7.30pm in church

Come and meet a humble Pastor from South Africa, hear about the church he leads, and where God is transforming a community through the love of Jesus and His good news.

When Leonard Gcabashe and his wife Gladys first started the church in Embo, KwaZulu Natal with six people in 2002, they began providing end-of-life home-based care for an overwhelming number of people with AIDs. They inspired and trained a team of Caregivers to multiply their outreach of love and practical care. Now, with support from the UK charity MAI, the church runs a primary health clinic providing over 3,000 consultations a month that has greatly diminished the impact of AIDs and, through gardening projects, is enabling healthy diets that are essential for those on antiretrovirals.

Today, the church has seven congregations across the Embo area. Just last year, 76 people decided to follow Jesus through the work of the caregivers and clinic, and 14 of them have been baptised. A further 34 came to faith through the witness of the church community and 23 were baptised.

Come, ask questions, learn lessons and be encouraged by Leonard's story. For more information contact John Earwicker on 07766 255221 or abingdonjohn66@gmail.com.

Supporting the work of Open Doors

The Arise Africa campaign aims to raise global awareness of the extreme and targeted violence millions of Christians in sub-Saharan Africa. Please add your name to the Petition on the Notice Board near the Kitchen. Thank you.
Richard Cook

Eds note: *Open Doors* is one of the charities St Francis Church supports from its Mission Giving Fund

DISTRACTION PROJECT

Do join us for a Distraction Community & Youth Project Fundraiser on Sunday 17th May from 3pm -5pm.

It will be held at Hillview Primary School. Bring a picnic and a blanket or fold down chair. You can join a team if you wish!

Donations are being split between *Young Carers* work within Banbury and *Distraction* Youth Clubs

All welcome

Lee

See poster on board for further info

FOREST CHURCH

10th May

21 June

19 July.

Next Newsletter

Please send any information that you would like included in the next Newsletter (May 3rd, 2026**) by **Wednesday 29th April, 9pm**. Please send requests for entries to stfranschurchbanbury@gmail.com **FOR THIS**

WEEK ONLY

Diary Dates -

- **Praying for Church and Community**, Monday 27th April from 2 to 3pm in church.
- **Pastor Leonard and how MAI has changed lives**: Wednesday 29 April at 7.30 in church

