

## Community Help Initiative:

If you need help during this difficult time contact:

for Wilden	Martin & Susie Cooper <a href="mailto:wildennews@hotmail.com">wildennews@hotmail.com</a>
for Colmworth	Jeremy & Gillian Freedman <a href="mailto:j.freedman@sky.com">j.freedman@sky.com</a>
for Ravensden	< <a href="mailto:ravensdenhelpline@gmail.com">ravensdenhelpline@gmail.com</a> > or phone 772230
for Keysoe	Laura Barry <a href="mailto:PcllrLaura@outlook.com">PcllrLaura@outlook.com</a>
for Bolnhurst	Jane Browning <a href="mailto:janebrowning50@gmail.com">janebrowning50@gmail.com</a>

At our Harvest Festival Services, when we welcome large numbers, we want to give priority to each local Parish Congregation and Parishioners. It would therefore be most helpful if you would contact us, through the website, to let us know if you will be attending any of the above services so that we can prepare and plan to observe social distancing.

Plans are being made to re-start midweek Holy Communion. The first one will be at Ravensden on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 11am**. Please let us know if you will be attending.

Don't forget to go on line and participate in our "Words of Hope" service each Sunday. [www.wcrchurches.org](http://www.wcrchurches.org)

We also have a Zoom gathering every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. Leave a message on the website or email Tim for the Zoom link or join by phone.

Evensong by Zoom is also being held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 6 pm with our five churches and Bromham, Oakley and Stagsden. You are very welcome to join us, just email Tim for the Zoom link or join by phone.

Circumstances change very quickly during this trying time so do check on the website which is kept up-to-date.

**Due to falling internal timbers, Colmworth Church is sadly temporarily closed until a proper survey and assessment for health and safety can be completed.**

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# Wilden with Colmworth & Ravensden St Mary Keysoe with St Dunstan Bolnhurst

[www.wcrchurches.org](http://www.wcrchurches.org)

## NEWSLETTER

September 2020  
Planning ahead?

This Covid pandemic is forcing us completely to re-think how we think which is quite a challenge!

We've been brought up to think and plan ahead and be organised, prepared and ready. And September at the beginning of the new Academic year is often when new things start after a summer holiday break. But what if we don't know what is ahead? Of course, this has always been true – we don't know what is ahead, but this pandemic has reminded us of this in all its stark reality.

I read some wise advice recently which helps me to think at this time: -

***Think long-term; Plan medium-term; Prepare short-term.***

None of us know our future or the future of this world. Our times are in God's hands. But we know we may have many years ahead of us – by God's grace most of us do. We think long term, and rightly make provision for our retirement and old age. We look after our bodies so we can stay fit and healthy for as long as possible. We make medium term plans. We may have plans for Christmas. For holidays next year. For weddings (two in our family in the next 18 months – one in Australia!). But things may not turn out medium term. Things change, so our lives cannot be only dependant on our plans. Most of us have not done things in the last 6 months and won't in the coming months including holidays that we had planned. St James writes in the Bible of the folly of making too many plans – we don't know what even tomorrow might hold!

This newsletter has some info about our proposed September 10am Sunday services and hopefully Harvest Festivals outside (depending on the weather) so we can welcome more people – but nothing is definite and plans might change! But we continue to include the Bible readings and Prayers for each Sunday as on God's word and communicating with Him we can depend.

We can prepare short term for what we are facing today and immediately. Thomas Ken's C17<sup>th</sup> Hymn 'Awake my soul and with the sun' urges us to 'redeem thy mis-spent time that's past and live this day as if thy last'. Jesus says 'do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.' Yes, we can think long term, we can plan medium term but we need to prepare short term and be prepared for whatever we are facing or about to face. And we can only do that by faith and trust and a sure and certain hope in God who alone holds the future and has His perfect plans that will be fulfilled. God knows us and loves us, guides us and protects us and our times are in His hands.

Timothy Wilson