



- We place an importance on being 'one Church' which seeks to engage with God's Word and to break bread together wherever we are by meeting alternately in each other's communities.
- To offer a continued weekly online presence with our Sunday services so that people can join in either live or at some point during the week.
- Continue to develop the Music and Worship Team as we broaden and deepen our worship life musically and spiritually.
- To offer midweek Communion services in both villages as part of our regular rhythm of worship.
- All of this is underpinned by a trust in the Holy Spirit, who by His grace enables us to meet with God; always in the here and the now.
- **Encouraging Personal Discipleship and Prayer:**  
**We want to support and encourage everyone in a personal life of discipleship, of study, and of prayer:**
  - We want to continue the 'Daily Blog' – and other online material – which provides a five minute 'thought for the day'.
  - 'Explore@4' – a monthly Sunday afternoon online service that is a great 'Way In' for those interested in finding out more about Christian faith or explore Confirmation.
  - 'Soul Gym' (meeting monthly in Congresbury) as a way of exploring the scope of what a Christian life of Prayer can offer.
  - We also have a range of Homegroups and other gatherings which meet physically and online.
  - Monthly prayer meetings.
  - We wish to reintroduce the monthly 'Prayer Diary', a prayer-a-day written by those in the congregations, praying for the local churches and villages or anything that is on their hearts.
- **Promoting Fellowship and Kindness:**  
**as part of being 'One Church' we want to support:**
  - We seek to offer Hospitality on as many occasions as possible seeing such times as a key time to be together as a Church and extending such hospitality to all.
  - To take forward 'The Bigger Table' project, based on a book by John Pavlovitz, as an initiative whereby each person in the life of the church is invited to share in a meal with others so we learn about each other's stories and how God has impacted our lives. This is a profound way of expanding how we get to know each other. Details about taking this forward will be coming out in the New Year.
  - Promoting acts of kindness through Love Banwell and Love Congresbury, the community arms of the church.
  - Working with other organisations in our villages, particularly the two Parish Councils with a variety of community projects.
  - Working with and donating to the local FoodBank.
  - Coffee and Chat in Banwell.
  - Film afternoons and trips.
- **Caring for the Planet as part of Eco-Church:**  
**As we discover ways to reduce our impact on the environment we are trying to:**
  - 'Reduce, re-use, recycle'
  - The Church of England has set targets for all churches to work towards 'net zero' by 2030.
  - Eco-Church, a project run by A Rocha UK, (see [www.arocha.org.uk](http://www.arocha.org.uk)) encourages us as a church community to become more climate friendly. By registering and attaining set standards we can qualify for an Eco Church award, tending flower beds, preparing areas for wildflowers & creating insect homes.

- Recently many of us enjoyed making willow bird feeders and painting bird houses after the Environment Sunday service - a good feeling of community coming together.
- We continue to reduce plastic usage & old (bath) towels are replacing paper hand towels.
- Use of projector screens and emails wherever possible has reduced printed matter.
- Hopefully a candle wax recycling system us being set up soon.
- We aim to look at ways to improve the green credentials of our churches and increase environmental awareness.
- **Creating Children and Young People Space:**  
**We want to reach out to and value children and young people by:**
  - Planning to overhaul the Children's Corners in our two churches as well as creating Sunday School rooms to teach in away from wider worship.
  - Build up the 'Sunday School' provision in both communities and also online.
  - Provide a monthly Muddy Boot Church as a 'family' based worship in both communities.
  - Continue to develop and deepen our relationship with all three of our Primary Schools in the area.
  - Develop the outreach project in Congresbury to some of the older young people in the area.
  - Look to restarting a 'parent and toddler' group in Congresbury.
- **Major Building Projects and Repairs:**  
**We have a few larger scale projects and building works in development:**
  - Quinquennial building work and repairs to be carried out in both churches.
  - Reorganisation in both churches to allow for the diversity of worship and allow congregations to better engage with their church experience.
  - Sound system and outside lighting updating in Congresbury.
  - Church office provision in Banwell.
- **Reaching out to the New Housing Projects in Both Communities (including Banwell Village):**  
**There are a number of large housing developments in and around our villages that we aim to reach out to in fellowship and discipleship:**
  - Look at reaching out to forthcoming New Build Projects in both communities, with special emphasis on the new Wolverhill Village in Banwell as a particularly large development (effectively doubling Banwell's population).
  - Develop a relationship with the new schools in the area and engage with them as we do with the other schools in our catchment areas.
  - Provide 'Welcome packs' to new build homes and to those moving into the area to engage new families and help them to know what services can be accessed.
- **Holding Regular and Special Events:**  
**As a Church we hold both a number of annual events and special one-off events which include:**
  - Sharing in the production of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' with the three Primary schools in our area as a way to further develop and deepen the faith of children and young people and their relationship with the Church.
  - Sharing in a number of annual community events throughout the year under Love Congresbury and Love Banwell – including the Congresbury Fete each June.
  - Holding special one-off events under these umbrellas, i.e. Christmas Tree Festival.
  - Hosting a number of other events and concerts in both our churches throughout the year (Saxophone Band, Choirs etc).
  - Looking to a possible trip to Israel in 2026 (subject to the political climate – our last Israel trip in 2018 was valued by many).

- **Improving Communication and Building on our Online Work as a Church:**  
Continuing to improve methods of communication between the church, the congregations and the wider villages:

- 'Church@Home' groups where each person in the life of the Church is part of a small group supported by a co-ordinator. This is a good way of keeping in touch, sharing communication, and of caring and praying for each other.
- A fortnightly edition of 'New Creation Pew News' providing details of forthcoming services and events plus a topical 'thought' from Matt.
- Developing online content on our website and social media platforms.
- Visually eye-catching displays in both churches to emphasise what is happening.
- Continuing our friendships with our Methodist brothers and sisters within our villages, strengthening our bonds across the Deanery of Locking and the Diocese of Bath and Wells and maintaining links with our friends in our link Parish of Chililabombwe in Zambia, the community of Christ Church in Jerusalem and Pastor Nihad and the congregation of Immanuel Church in Bethlehem.
- Continuing to support the work of Toybox by sponsoring two children each year.
- Charitable Giving and supporting and promoting the work of these charities.

**Future Objectives:**

- **To look into forming one PCC across both villages.**  
This will help to develop closer links in being 'one church'.
- **To form a 'Friends' of St. Andrew's, Banwell.**  
There is a 'Friends' of St. Andrew's, Congresbury who are instrumental in fundraising for the general repair and maintenance of the church as well as special projects.
- **Have a Common External Giving Policy across both churches.**  
We aim to nominate twelve charities per year across both churches and to promote their work as well as raise funds.
- **Provide a number of ways to promote giving to the church – in time and skills as well as financially.**



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