

major step forward as churches seek ways in developing a joint youth gathering that would be made relevant to all young people in this area. The plan is that each church nominates 3 young people to be on a steering group with one leader from each church and to deliver a real, radical relevant gathering for all young people to have the opportunity to meet with God in a way that allows them to connect in a way that is right for them.

On behalf of the young people at WSUC we would like to offer our appreciation of the support the circuit has provided and continues to do so with in the youth work and ministry

that is available for the young people in and around the circuit - together we are making an amazing difference.

 **A new Circuit Website**

Tim Salter (Bicester) has kindly agreed to look after the Circuit website. He has recently been busy setting out a new pattern for the site. More content will be added soon.

Why not have a look at it (www.bbbcircuit.org.uk) and then let him know what you think about it and what ideas you have for what it could become (by sending an e-mail message to mail@timsalter.co.uk)?

CIRCUIT DIARY

Sep	1 Sat	7.30pm	Absolute Play-in-a-Day at Bicester
	6 Thu	7.30pm	Local Preachers meet at Silverstone
	8 Sat	10.15am	Northampton District Synod at Daventry
	14-16 Fri-Sun		Senior Hill End Camp
	20 Thu	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Thornborough
Oct	13 Sat	6.30pm	World Church supper and speaker (Bible Society)
	26 Fri		Organ recital at Bicester
Nov	10 Sat	2.00pm	Induction of Revd Steve Fisher at Buckingham Parish Church
	17 Sat		Bazaar at Brackley
	21 Wed	7.30pm	Circuit Property Committee at Steeple Claydon
Dec	5 Wed	7.30pm	Local Preachers meet at Bicester

◆ Why not use this Circuit Diary in your prayers?

To get your church's information into the next "Bulletin" write, by Saturday 10 Nov., to Malcolm Wainwright at 35 Cartwright Crescent, Brackley, NN13 6HA or to malcolm-w@talktalk.net

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The Methodist Church 

Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley Circuit

www.bbbcircuit.org.uk

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A word from Norman...

I write this following the Circuit Service of 15 July, and am totally overwhelmed by the love, support and kindness shown to Janet and myself from across the Circuit, not only at the service itself but also throughout the years that we have been privileged to be part of the '3B's'.

It has been such a privilege for us both to have shared with you all in the journey we have been on together, both within the Buckingham section, as well as worshipping across the whole Circuit, speaking at Fellowship groups and sharing in things like Network and Education and Youth, as well as being part of the fellowship of leadership with colleague ministers, youth workers, and the Circuit Leadership team. We have been so blessed by you all, and we extend our warmest thanks for all you have meant to us. Our prayer is that the '3B Circuit' will continue to know God's very richest blessing in the years ahead.

Do feel free to keep in touch - your friendship means so much

to us.

With our love in Jesus, Norman and Janet.

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 **Change at Well St., etc**

You may not have heard yet - but Well Street has a new minister coming! The Rev. Steve Fisher will be inducted on November 10.

Steve and his wife Debbie are currently in Tonbridge, Kent where he is minister of the URC church in the town centre. He also shares leadership of an Anglican LEP in a more rural location at Five Oak Green and is the Ecumenical Officer for the Medway District. Debbie is a nurse and they have three grown up children, a married son, a daugh-

ter working in Germany and another at college in London.

Well Street started the process of looking for a new minister back in September 2006. It seems a long time ago and a lot of work to get to where we are now. We're very pleased that God has led Steve and Debbie to Buckingham and look forward to introducing him to everyone sometime in the late autumn.'



Building at Thornborough

Monday School and *Lazers* continue to flourish. They are anticipating their summer activities: swimming, sports, farm visit during the holidays, following a Mr & Mrs Competition on 7 July. After 7 years of *Monday School* and *Lazers*, *Scramblers* has been formed as a weekly junior church for children. They begin and end worship with adults but separate for their learning session. They had an exciting start a few weeks ago with a live lamb the first week and a live puppy the second!

Building work has been in mind at Thornborough for a few years. Permissions and grants have now been obtained and a contract is being drawn up with the selected builder who plans to start work in September. The work should be finished by the end of November at an agreed cost of £77,000 (of which the Circuit has been pleased to offer 50% and another 20% raised through sale of spare land). All are looking forward to the dedication service planned for the winter.

Building at Steeple Claydon

We would like to be able to report that work has started on our extension, but grant confirmations have been very slow coming in. However, we are now in the happy position of knowing that WREN (Landfill) have granted us £10,000, which means we now have, with other funding, £32,000 towards the project (budget- £45,100). At the time of writing we are on the point of signing up the Contract with WREN, which then means work can start as soon as the local Builder from Steeple is available.

Specific local fund-raising has gone very well - currently £6,600 - with a variety of events that have included much fun and laughter (and not a little hard work from those involved!) but this feeling of 'togetherness' and 'fellowship' is sometimes underestimated, and we are grateful for all the support we are receiving, in lots of different ways.

Perhaps by the next Bulletin a spade will have entered the ground!!



Building at Gawcott

During the last few months the plans to improve the premises at Gawcott have moved nearer to becoming a reality.

We are truly grateful to God for his provision during this project. A locally based Trust has recently confirmed that it will grant us £12,000 towards the projected costs. This together with monies raised locally and that granted by the Circuit have ensured that our

original budget figure has been reached.

Planning Approval has been received and we are currently seeking Building Regulation Approval. A schedule of works is also being prepared in readiness for us going out to tender. Realistically, we now expect building work to commence sometime in the Autumn.

The alterations and refurbishment planned for Gawcott Chapel are of course only part of the overall picture and we trust that with the potential appointment of a part-time layworker attached to the Buckingham section chapels we will be better placed to reach out to the community both in practical and spiritual ways.



World Church Evening at Brackley

Now that the Circuit no longer arranges these kind of events Brackley would like to offer you a particularly warm welcome to their supper evening with the *Bible Society* on Saturday Oct.13 at supper 6.30pm.

The speaker will be Simon Foulds, Regional Manager of the Bible Society. Vera Douglas (01280 702596) would like to know if you intend to be there (to be sure that there will be something for you to eat).



New Lay Worker for the Brackley Section

Some months ago Richard Wilson expressed a feeling that God was calling

him to extend his ministry beyond his involvement in the church at Silverstone and his Local Preaching (which he has sustained for 46 years).

Following discussion with the Circuit Ministers and Stewards, Richard was invited to accept an invitation to offer pastoral support within the Brackley section of the Circuit, visiting church members who are in need or housebound. Reports received so far suggest that this is much appreciated.



Youth Church at Well St

WSUC ran a six week midweek youth gathering as a trial run for alternative church. We received a very encouraging reception as over 50 young people attended and felt this was something they could relate to.

A typical evening would include; worship, teaching, group or prayer and ministry and then social time with a light supper. The most popular item was prayer and ministry. The young people provided feedback through our questionnaire and we were totally encouraged by the nearly 100% positive feedback. There were over 20 young people involved making this happen and was a great deal of work, but definitely worth while, writes Youth Minister, Brian Stocker, as people were drawn closer to the Lord.

He adds: We are liaising with the local Anglican church and Catholic Church to form a small group of young people and a leader from each church to organise a united Youth gathering. This is a