



# The Edgehill Churches

## Parish Link

Loving  
God,  
Serving  
People,  
Growing  
Community

### Cultivating Hope

April 2026

As I write this, Easter is just a few weeks away, and I'm hoping for some drier weather as the spring progresses. After a very wet January and February, the paths in the woods have been particularly muddy, and it would be nice to take the dogs for a walk without having to spend an age hosing them down and drying them afterwards.

There are many other things I'm hoping for besides less rain this spring... I'm hoping that diplomatic efforts would succeed in de-escalating the war in Iran; I'm hoping that the Strait of Hormuz would re-

open, and oil prices would come down; I'm hoping that a lasting peace can be made in the area; I'm hoping that an end can be found to the many other wars in the world, too – Ukraine and Russia, Gaza and Israel, Pakistan and Afghanistan... unfortunately, the list keeps growing.

All the above 'hopes' are outside my control, so are they just wishful thinking?

Well, the hope for a change in the weather might be, but I bring the rest (and many other things) to God in prayer. It's not that I think God will smite all the aggressors and force peace... I know that God is not in control. But I also know that God is at work with people who will work with him, and in praying, I'm lending my support to those efforts. Some psychologists might argue that all it does is remove my feeling of helplessness in the face of things I can't control, but as someone who has been on the receiving end of others' prayers, I know the difference they have made for me.

Apart from the global concerns that all of us carry, I know many people are struggling with stressful jobs, with family illnesses, with broken relationships, with parenting children, with caring for elderly parents, with grief, and more. We can sometimes lose sight of hope. When we find ourselves in that place, we may need to lean on others and borrow their hope; friends who can believe in a future that we can't yet see.

In these more immediate areas of concern, again, hope is not the same as wishful thinking or

optimism. Optimism depends on a particular outcome, whereas hope is grounded in the belief that, whatever happens, we will still find a way forward.

Psychologists suggest that we can cultivate hope by:

- Creating spaces around us that nurture encouragement, beauty, and possibility rather than constant negativity.
  - Spending time with people who support, encourage, and strengthen one another.
  - Developing daily rhythms—such as reflection, prayer, gratitude, or exercise—that strengthen resilience.
- Helping others can strengthen hope both for them and for you.
  - Making daily choices that align with who you want to become.

Hope helps people persevere, solve problems creatively, and support others during crises.

At Easter, we celebrate Jesus rising from the tomb. His friends saw him killed and had lost all hope, but God showed them that even when all seems lost, he will find a way forward.

My prayer for us all this spring is that we'd find ways to cultivate hope and do our part to help others who may have temporarily lost theirs.

Rev Barry Jackson



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## APRIL SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL PARISHES

	Kineton	Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
5th	10.00am All-age Communion	9:00am Communion	3.00pm Communion	6.30pm Communion	10:30am Communion	8:30am Communion
12th	10.30am Communion	9:00am Communion			10.30am Communion	
12th	10.30am Morning Worship		10.30am Communion	6.30pm Communion		8.30am Communion
26th	10.30am Communion				10.30am Communion	

### MIDWEEK COMMUNION

Every Wednesday 12 noon  
at St Peter's Kineton

A said Communion Service. All welcome.



### MAUNDY THURSDAY MEAL

Thurs 2nd Apr 7pm at the Methodist Hall, Kineton

A reflective communion service focussed on the events of the last evening Jesus spent with his disciples before he was crucified.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday 3rd April at Kineton Church  
at 10.00am

A reflective service of readings, meditations and prayers focussed on the passion, crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.



### THE EDGEHILL GOOD FRIDAY WALK

Friday 3rd April starts at Shotteswell Church at 11:30am

Join us for a 6.5 mile walk around the Edgehill area with a short service at each of the villages along the way. **Everyone Welcome**



### EASTER VIGIL

Saturday 4th April at 7pm at Burton Dassett

A richly symbolic service beginning with a fire in a brazier outside the church. The Paschal candle is lit from the brazier and carried into a darkened church. Congregants light their own candles from it, signifying the dispelling of darkness. There will also be an opportunity to renew our baptism vows.

**Everyone Welcome**



### SIMPLY EASTER

Sunday 5th April  
10am St Peter's Kineton



Come for **breakfast** to begin the service. A time with God for everyone. Activities for children include an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard.

### TEA & CHAT

Friday 27th Mar 3pm-4.30pm  
in Ratley Village Hall

Come and meet up with neighbours and friends for a chat and catch up. Cost £1.00  
Everyone welcome. No need to book, just turn up!



### CONNECT

A life group for 13-18 year olds on Films, video clips, pizza, chill & chat about God, life, the universe and everything.

**Next Meeting: Sunday 12th April 6 to 7:30pm**

More details Sarah 07801 303641



### 10:10

A YOUTH GROUP FOR  
10-12 YEAR OLDS

Sun 12th April, 5.30-7.00pm

10:10 is a monthly youth group for years 5-7.

We meet at the church in Kineton for pizza, games and chat about God, life, the universe and everything.

**Registration essential**

Liz at [SPKfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:SPKfamilies@gmail.com)



### LEGO CHURCH

**Build imagination with Lego!**

Sat 18th Apr, 1:30pm, Warmington Village Hall  
Snacks/drinks available and it's free!

Children must bring an adult

(BUT adults don't need to be accompanied by a child!)  
for more details from [rev.AlisonAbbott@gmail.com](mailto:rev.AlisonAbbott@gmail.com)



### PINTS OF VIEW

The White Swan, Kineton

**EVERY SUNDAY at 7.30pm**

Whatever your **pint of choice**, come & share your **point of view**. Each week we explore a theme or story from the news.

### SIMPLY PLAY

Wednesdays 9.00am-11am

St Peter's Kineton in term time

Come and catch up with friends over coffee and cake whilst your toddlers enjoy our new soft play area. More details Liz [lizhostelofson@yahoo.com](mailto:lizhostelofson@yahoo.com)



### THE BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

A weekly drop-in group

Mondays 2.30-3.30pm Scout Hut, Kineton

Come and join us in a safe, gentle environment for tea/coffee and a chat. More info from Rev Matthew Arnold on

[mtr.arnold@googlemail.com](mailto:mtr.arnold@googlemail.com)



### RADWAY'S TEA, CHAT & PLAY

Every Wednesday 3pm -5pm in the Village Hall

All ages are welcome from babies to grandpas!

