

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH WELTON BABY PROJECT NEWSLETTER April 2023



*For you created
my inmost being;
you knit me together
in my mother's womb.
I praise you
because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made;
your works are
wonderful,
I know that full well.*

Psalms 139:13-14 NIV

In our world today, we seek to listen closely to the needs of precious babies, because they are such a vulnerable part of our human family.

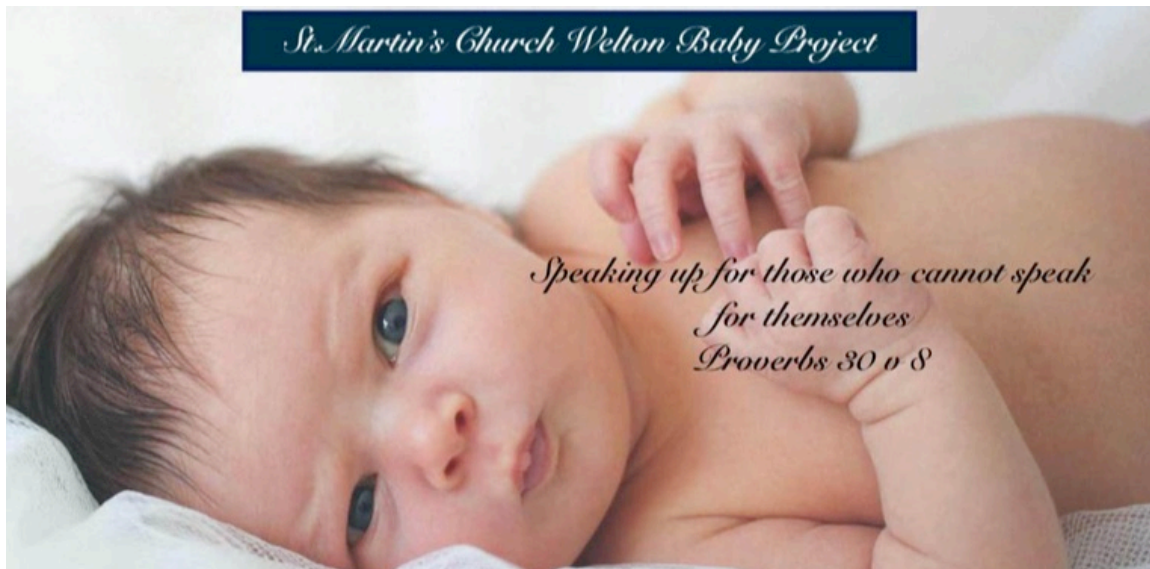
Dear Friends,

Following the Easter opportunity to make all things new with the story of a beautifully hand stitched Christening gown; we now continue to examine some questions regarding our work together. We pray they refresh the sense of direction for our work as a growing community of compassion in 2023. In this newsletter we will ponder these things .Why are we doing this work together? What are we doing? Who are we?

OUR INTENTIONS THIS YEAR as we work together.

We try to be a compassionate voice speaking up for babies in need.

We create, collect and donate items using information given to us by Voluntary groups locally, nationally and internationally to in order to see the reality of their needs.



We have also discovered, over the past 10 years, that whatever our age or level of skill we know the relaxation and joy of making things. We have, along the way, explored a fresh meaning and purpose in our lives.

OUR ACTS OF LOVING KINDNESS and the nature of our work. As we contribute gifts of active loving kindness, here are some practical examples of our work over this past month.

On the left in the pictures below is a selection of your donations collected this month by Holly a member of The Big Issue Support Team. These items will be distributed to the families in need from Oxfordshire in the south, to Birmingham in the North. On the right is a bath of toiletries and clothes requested by a local minister for an especially needy family. Milk and You, our other local partners, have requested a large pack of disposable nappies for a newborn baby. These we could supply immediately because local schoolchildren had given toiletries to Mary at the Ecumenical Christmas interactive at the Methodist Church



Other disposable nappies of a different size have also been given to a Ukrainian family, awaiting housing in this country, using a £50 one off grant. The lemon blanket, pictured on the first page of this newsletter was given to a couple that had waited a long time for their first child. It is a prayer blanket knitted in thanks for their child's safe arrival. A Milk and You volunteer Mum donated the baby bouncer delivered to Ramona our local Big Issue collector for her twins.

NB THIS MONTH WE ARE SHORT SUPPLY OF ITEMS FOR BOYS from newborn up to 5 and 6 years old.

OUR RELATIONSHIPS AS A GROUP OF PEOPLE SUPPORTING BABIES AND THEIR FAMILIES. This is who we are. Here is a picture of two of our very first Baby Project Team Members with two local midwives. Thank you Jan and Jane for getting things started



We were a very small group of like-minded people who were inspired by the example of Baby Basics in Northampton and we wanted to find a way to support babies in our area. This inspiration enabled us, 10 years ago, to build on the firm foundations of mutual encouragement. So let us look at who we are today from that vantage point.

Our supporters consist of the St. Martin's Church P.C.C, over a hundred individuals who receive our monthly newsletters, seven local churches, three craft groups, BBC Radio Northampton who interviewed us last year and encouraged our annual Christmas challenge at the beginning of the autumn 2022 ,various prayer groups from all denominations, local schools including town and village schools and members of the public who follow us on 8 local public Facebook pages. Milk& You and Big Issue support staff are our partners who are closest to the reality of babies today.

They witness, first hand, to the real needs of babies today and are our vital allies. Annually international charities also receive a donation from us at Christmas.

These three questions have helped us adapt recently, to change brought about by Covid, financial insecurity and global uncertainty today.

We now have firsthand experience of the difference we can make to the lives of babies by offering small acts of kindness each month, each season and over the past decade. Together as a small community we have encouraged each other to express loving our neighbours as ourselves. We have never given up despite the challenges of our own everyday lives.

The Baby project team thank you for your consistent "bubbly" encouragement over the years.

The contents of this newsletter are dedicated to you all.

May we move forward with that spirit throughout this year?

Gilly Beardmore (Coordinator) and the Baby Project Team Jan Wall (Baby Project Treasurer) Sue Jennens (Team member) Sarah Parry (Team and community member) **OUR COLLECTION POINTS ARE AT DAVENTRY METHODIST CHURCH or by contacting Gilly 07807011205**



TO MAKE A DONATION A donation be made by cheque to Welton PCC
Please **label it, for the Baby Project, on the back and send to the address**
below Gilly Beardmore 07807 011205 beardmoregillian@gmail.com 27
Claydon Road Daventry NN11 8AZ Sue **Jennens** suejennens21@gmail.com
OR See full details of the Project on our Church website
www.stmartinswelton.org.uk **UNSUBSCRIBE BY E- MAIL** to Gilly at the email
above **UNSUBSCRIBE BY POST** 27,Claydon Road, Daventry.NN11 8AZ