

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 10th June 2022



How are you?

As you know, this term in our morning services we are looking at the circles of growth that we go through to become like Jesus, which is God's purpose for us in life.

It's very easy when we first become Christians to think that life will be rosy, and that God will take away all our suffering and pain, but I'm sure most of us know that is not the case. If anything, it can feel like the Christian life is the opposite of easy sometimes!

I read this quote this week, and thought it was worth sharing...

Elisabeth Elliot, whose husband was murdered as a missionary to the Auca Indians, wrote, "Our vision is so limited we can hardly imagine a love that does not show itself in protection from suffering... The love of God did not protect His own Son... He will not necessarily protect us - not from anything it takes to make us like His Son. A lot of hammering and chiselling and purifying by fire will have to go into the process."

We are made to be in relationship with God, and He wants us to become more like Jesus every day, and to do the things on earth that Jesus did, but it's not easy.

We need each other for support and encouragement as we walk this journey together.

Notices

This Sunday...

10am - in our 10am service we will be celebrating Pentecost and Trinity Sunday in one! Pentecost was last Sunday, and Trinity Sunday is this week.

We will have groups for all our children and young people, and the church centre will have toys out for preschool children to use with their parents if needed.

5pm - this Sunday we also have our 5pm service, which Trevor will be leading and speaking at. It is a more traditional service, with tea and cake served from 4.30pm.

Things happening this week...

Deeper - Monday 3.30pm - 5.30pm - for school years 2-5

Knitting Hub - Monday 7.30pm - 9pm in the church centre

Ignite - Tuesday 6pm - 7.30pm - for school years 6-13

Mission Prayer Meeting - Wednesday 3.30pm - 4.30pm - at Mary's house and on Zoom

Matt's Monkeys Toddler Group - Thursday 9.30am - 11am

Community Larder - Friday 9.30am - 10.45am at the Bethel Hall

Picnic in the Park...

We will be having a picnic together after the service on **Sunday 3rd July** - a great way to get to know people a bit better and have time to chat!

We will meet in Grosvenor and Hilbert Park from 12pm, on the lower football pitch. Bring your own lunch and something to sit on, and any outdoor games for children if you have them (games or children!).

You can park in Hilbert Road or in Dorking Road. Here is a map to show where we are meeting...



Nourish collection...

We have supported Nourish Foodbank for many years as a church, and now we have our own community larder, we are trying to support both, as they serve different people. You are welcome to donate food to the larder at any time, either through the crate in Lidl TW or by bringing food to church.

We would like to do a one-off collection for Nourish before the summer holidays, as we know that this is when referrals go up for them, as families aren't benefiting from free school meals.

So we will be **collecting food for Nourish on Sunday 3rd July** - please bring your donations to church and then we will take them to Nourish in the week following.

Here are their most wanted items at the moment



MAY 2022

WE DESPERATELY NEED:

- LONGLIFE MILK
- CHILLI SAUCE/SWEET & SOUR SAUCE
- WASHING POWDER TABLETS
- BAKED BEANS
- PASTA
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- SPREADS - JAM, PEANUT BUTTER, MARMITE
- COFFEE
- BISCUITS
- TINNED PULSES
- TINNED FRUIT
- RICE PUDDING
- SOUP
- RICE PUDDING
- TOILETRIES
- NOODLES
- TEA & COFFEE
- TINNED POTATOES
- TINNED FISH
- DOG AND CAT FOOD
- HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS

Request for a bed for a night...

Would anyone be able to offer a friend of Charis's a bed for Friday 22nd July?

She will be helping Gill with flowers during the day and has accommodation with other friends on the Saturday, so just needs Friday night. Please contact Carole or Charis if you can help or let me know and I will pass the message on.

Job vacancies at the hostel...

Colebrook Hostel in Tunbridge Wells is a 14-bed hostel providing support to single homeless people. We are currently recruiting for Bank Staff and Support Workers to cover weekdays and weekend shifts on a flexible basis. It is desirable but not essential that you have some experience of working with homeless people or an understanding of their support needs. Most importantly is your enthusiasm and availability to cover a range of shifts.

Please look at our website to apply for current vacancies www.lookahead.org.uk

I hope you have a good weekend.