

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 21st October 2022



How has your week been?

I'm afraid I'm a bit out of inspiration this week, so I'm going to share with you a quote I read this morning.

It's from Christopher Reeve, the actor who played Superman, who was paralysed from the neck down in a horse-riding accident in 1995. After his accident, he said this...

"When the first Superman movie came out, I was frequently asked, 'What is a hero?' I remember the glib response I repeated so many times. My answer was that a hero is someone who commits a courageous action without considering the consequences - a soldier who crawls out of a foxhole to drag an injured buddy to safety. Now my definition is completely different. I think a hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."

Are you a hero at the moment, having to find strength each day just to get through whatever situation you are facing? Keep going, and remember that we can draw our strength, endurance and perseverance from God.

"...those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength..." (Isaiah 40:31)

Notices

There are quite a few things happening in November, so make sure you read on so you don't miss out on any events!

This Sunday we will have two services, at 10am and 7pm.

In the morning we will be continuing our series on Finding God where we are, and Carole will be speaking. There will be groups for children and youth during the service, both this week and next week.

Our 7pm service is on this Sunday - it's a smaller, more relaxed service, with more worship.

Next Sunday we just have our 10am service, with groups for children and youth. Mary will be speaking to us next Sunday.

Creating a warm space

You may have heard warm spaces or warm hubs being talked about on the news recently. It is another way of providing support for people in these uncertain economic times by opening up public spaces so people in local communities can have somewhere warm to go.

St. Matt's would like to get involved in this scheme and are hoping to open the church centre on Wednesdays from 10 am to 4pm from early November. We hope to offer a warm place where people can get tea or coffee and hopefully a soup lunch.

To open St. Matt's in this way, we will need to create a team to make teas and coffees and chat to those who attend. Is this something you might be interested in getting involved in?

It need not be every week or the whole day; enough people offering a morning or an afternoon a month would make it possible. It would also be great to know of anyone who might be willing to make soup once a month for the warm space.

At the moment we have no idea what the take up might be, but we feel this is a practical way we can serve our local community and help those most in need.

If you can help or would like to know more please speak to Chris.



Eating Out at St. Matt's...

We are aware that people are struggling to have enough money to go out for meals or to meet up with friends so much at the moment, so we are going to be holding a **supper in church on Friday 11th November**. It's an opportunity to meet up together, invite friends to come with you, and eat amazing home cooked food (thanks Dedo!) for a very small cost (£2.50 per person or £5 for a family). Come along from 6pm, with food ready at about 6.30pm. Bring your own drinks.

We will need to know how many people to cater for, so please can you sign up if you would like to come, and let us know how many people will be coming with you <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/pxxcmjm6>



Revive Wreath Making...

Revive for Women are bringing back their wreath making evening this year, and we can't wait to see what amazing creations you'll make this time!

It will be on Friday 25th November 7.30pm - 9.30pm in church, for women aged 14+.

The cost will be £15 per person, with lots of mulled wine and Christmas snacks to keep you going while you create! We will provide everything you need to make your wreath.

It's a really lovely sociable and creative evening, so do book your tickets soon to avoid disappointment, as numbers will be limited by space and materials.

You can book your tickets using this link <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/uoth32hu> (you have to pay when you book your ticket, using a debit or credit card. If this is a problem, please talk to Hannah in the office).

Community Larder Christmas Event...



The community larder will be having a Christmas Event on Saturday 19th November 10am - 12pm in the Bethel Hall to raise funds for the larder. There will be a bottle tombola, cake and book sale, lucky dip, raffle and refreshments. Please do come along and support this on the day. If you have any bottles of anything to donate for the tombola, please leave them at the back of church.



Knitting Hub is on next Saturday 29th October, 10.30am - 12pm in the church centre. Anyone is welcome to come and learn to knit, or take part in some of the knitting projects that the group work towards.

As soon as we come back from half term, Deeper and Ignite have two special events, which we need parents to sign their children and young people up for if they are coming.



The **Deeper Light Party** is on Monday 31st October 3.30pm - 5pm in church and is for any children in Deeper, Glow or Bright. There will be music, games, and party food!

Please sign your children up using this link <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/6qtqijwf>



Ignite fireworks is on Tuesday 1st November in Chris and Carole's garden, 6pm - 7.30pm for anyone in secondary school. There will be fireworks, a firepit, hotdogs and marshmallows. We are asking for £3 per young person to help towards the cost of this.

Please sign your young people up here if they would like to come <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/qatkepyv>

Thank you! - Lastly, we just wanted to say thank you to everyone who increased their giving to church following Kate's letter about finance earlier in the summer. We really appreciate it and know times are hard for lots of people right now. We are still about £1000 a month short in income, so if you haven't got round to reviewing your giving and you would be able to, that would be amazing. However we also understand the pressures that lots of people are under, so please don't feel any pressure or obligation to give more than you are able to.
If anyone would like a copy of the letter from Kate, please do let me know.

There won't be a newsletter next week, as I am on leave, so have a lovely half term!