

## St. Matt's Midweek Update – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023



How has your week been?

Mine has been really challenging! To the point where I really had nothing to write about this morning and was just going to give you the notices - sorry!

But then this morning I was reminded by Kim's post on Discipleship and by lovely Robyn, that it doesn't matter how we are feeling, Jesus is still in our heart and doesn't leave us.

And Dan was talking about the same thing last Sunday - about how the disciples on the road to Emmaus were so downcast and sad that they didn't recognise him. But Jesus was still walking with them. And He walks with us, whether we realise it or not.

So whether you are having a challenging time like me, or whether you are just plodding along, or whether things are going really well at the moment - know that Jesus is walking with you and is living in your heart. He knows where we are at, and He meets us there.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### Notices

**This Sunday** we just have our 10am service. We will be finishing our Walking with Jesus series and Richard is speaking to us. There will be groups for children and youth, but it will be a short service and we will all have to leave quickly at the end, as it is then Dan and Angeli's wedding at 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come to the church service and stay for cream tea afterwards. Please pray for Dan and Angeli as they get ready for Sunday and as they start their married life together.



**Next Sunday** we will be having a family service based around the King's coronation. There will also be our monthly 8am communion service.

### NO children and youth groups next week

There won't be any children or youth groups during the week next week for various reasons.

There is no Deeper on Monday as it is a bank holiday (and it won't be on the week after either for the same reason).

Ignite is not running on Tuesday as key leaders are not available.

Toddler group is cancelled on Thursday as the church is a polling station for the local elections.

**The next walking hub** is happening in a couple of weeks. Instead of holding it on the Saturday, which is the day of the King's coronation, the next walk will be on Monday 8th May, which is a bank holiday. We will meet at 9.30am at the entrance to St Johns Park in Beltring Road (TN4 9UA). We will then go to Hurst Wood to (hopefully) see the bluebells and then finish up at one of the local cafes in St Johns Road. All welcome plus dogs!



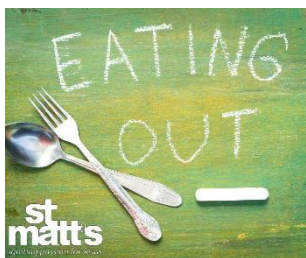
### Come along to **St. Matt's Community Hub!**

The hub will be open on Wednesdays between 11am and 3pm, for anyone who wants to drop in or stay for the whole time. There will be drinks available, as well as light lunches (things like toasties, beans on toast, etc). Jill will be running her art activities every Wednesday in the hub, Jane will sometimes have knitting available, and there will be board games as well.

Donations will be welcome for drinks and lunches - whatever people can afford.



And don't forget the **community larder** is open every Friday 9.30am - 10.45am if you could do with some food at a much lower cost. You are also welcome to drop in for a coffee and cake and a chat any time that the larder is open. There are tables and chairs out so you can have a drink and meet others and support the work all the amazing volunteers are doing.



We are going to have another **"Eating Out at St. Matt's"** meal on Friday 19th May in church.

We know that people's finances are as tight as ever, so this is a chance to eat out for a small cost, and enjoy time with family and friends and delicious home cooked food!

We will get more details out soon, with a sign up link as well.

### **APCM**

Our annual church meeting will be happening on Monday 15th May, 8pm in church.

Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting, but you need to be on the electoral roll to vote or stand for any elected roles.

At this meeting we elect members to the PCC, which is the group of people who are trustees of the church and who help make decisions about how church is run. We welcome any nominations to stand for the PCC, and these are then voted on at the APCM. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please let myself or Chris know in the next couple of weeks.



We will be holding a **Revive breakfast for women** on Saturday 10th June at church, 8.30am - 10.30am.

We haven't had a breakfast for a while, so put this one in your diaries and come and hear Isobel Broadie speak to us. We will have breakfast, worship, a talk and time for prayer and ministry.

### **Anyone interested in a midweek daytime pod or small group?**

Someone in church would like to be in a daytime pod or small group for friendship and support. If anyone else would like this, let me know and we'll see if it will work.

### **Unlock walk**

A very big thank you to everyone who sponsored Rosemary, Gordon, Pat, Jane and Olivia in their 8 mile walk around 7 churches in London. They raised £432!

### **Job opportunity**

Someone in our church congregation is looking for some paid help for themselves at home, in the garden, and shopping/banking. It will be a paid job on a temporary basis.

Monday or Wednesday mornings are best. The person must be mobile, reliable, good at keeping in touch (WhatsApp) and be able to read well.

If you are interested in this, please contact me so I can pass your details on.

**Chris on leave** - Chris will be on leave next week, so he will be back in the office on Tuesday 9th May.

That's a lot of notices!! We hope you have a lovely bank holiday weekend!