

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 16th June 2023



I hope you have had a good week.

This Sunday is Father's Day (still time to make a quick dash to the shops if you'd forgotten!!). It's a great chance to say thank you to our dads and to bless them for all they have done for us.

But it is also one of those days that will be difficult for lots of people.

So if you haven't had the best dad, or you haven't had a dad who has been present; if your dad is ill or has died; if you're a dad who is grieving a child who has died; if you're a man who is grieving not being a dad when you want to be one; if you're a dad whose children are far away, either physically or emotionally; or if you just find the day hard for other reasons - please know that you are loved and that we are standing with you in prayer.

Whatever our relationship with our earthly fathers and children, we are all so amazingly blessed that we get to know our perfect Father - God.

God the Father is loving, He is compassionate, He gives us freedom, He is generous, He is forgiving, He is constant and eternal, He is our comforter and our refuge, He gives us strength, He disciplines and guides us, He is holy and righteous. The list could go on.

I pray that you would be reminded this weekend of all that God the Father has for you, and the way that He loves you.

"Now that we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts. And his spirit tells us that God is our Father. You are no longer slaves. You are God's children, and will be given what he has promised." (Galatians 4:6-7, CEV).

Notices



This Sunday we just have our 10am service, with groups for our children and young people.

Mark will be speaking to us about Resurrection Encounters.

Next Sunday we have two services - 10am and 7pm.

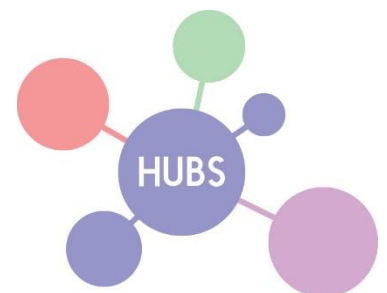
There won't be a group for youth in the morning on 25th June, but children will be going out to their group as usual.

There are a couple of hubs coming up:

Knitting Hub is on Saturday 24th June, 10.30am - 12pm in the church centre.

Walking Hub is on Saturday 1st July - this month they will be walking in from Hildenborough through to Haysden Country Park, where there is a cafe and toilets. The walk is about 45 minutes each way and is flat. They will meet at Hilden Park Road (TN11 9BN) at 9.30am. Head out of Tonbridge into Hildenborough (passing the Oast Theatre and Premier Inn), then turn left just before the BP garage. This is Hilden Park Road. Continue along to the corner of Stacey Road and park anywhere around there. Meeting near number 39 Hilden Park Road.

If you need a lift or any more help with directions, please contact the office for Phil and Jill's phone numbers.



Prayer meetings



The next **mission prayer meeting** is on Wednesday 28th June, 3.30pm - 4.30pm at Mary's house. Everyone is welcome to hear updates about our mission partners and to pray for them.
The next **church prayer meeting** is on Monday 17th July, 8pm in the church centre (this has moved from the first Monday of the month due to other meetings). Everyone is welcome to join in some worship and prayer.

Dates for your diary:

A few other dates coming up...

18th July - Rosemary and team holding an afternoon tea in the church centre

23rd July - church BBQ after church in Chris and Carole's garden

26th July - 30th July - New Wine United - day tickets are now available <https://newwineunited.festivalpro.com/form/F7D55B5DBEDA8DC409BA/45>

4th - 5th August - Youth For Christ are having a Unite Youth Camp at Adamswell for anyone in school years 6-13. I'll send out more information to parents next week.

Could you volunteer in any of the following teams?

Coffee team for the 10am service - 2 people per month needed

Welcome team (on the door) for 10am service - 1 more person per month

Computer and sound for the 10am service - both could do with another person at least to train up

Toddler group (Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am) - one more person per month

Deeper (Mondays 3.30pm - 5pm for older primary children) - at least one more person per month

Ignite (Tuesdays 6pm - 7.30pm for secondary school young people) - at least one more person per month

We aim for people to be serving once a month on a team if they can, but if you can do less frequently or more frequently, please do let me know.

Do speak to me if you would like to volunteer or want to know a bit more about a team.

Have a lovely weekend and hope to see you on Sunday.