

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 9th May 2025



I hope you've had a good week.

Things have been relatively normal here, which makes a change!

Last Sunday, in our APCM service, we read these verses from Jeremiah 29:11-13:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

I didn't really talk much about these verses in the service, but they are great verses to come back to now. The first verse is very well quoted - that God has good plans for us and wants to give us hope and a future.

But the next verses need to go hand in hand with this. God is asking us to call on Him, to seek Him and to pray to Him.

So at a time when we are looking to the future and wondering what the plans are that God has for us, both as a church but maybe in your own life as well, let's remember that we need to be seeking God for His wisdom and His guidance and His reassurance through it all.

If we are seeking God with all our heart, then we will be focused on the One who wants the best for us and who we can put our hope in. We won't be focusing on the potential problems or worries or uncertainty.

Please pray with us as we start the process of looking for a new vicar - for our church as a whole, for wisdom for those involved and for the right person for St. Matt's to be appointed.

Notices



This Sunday (11th May) we have two services:

10am service with groups for children and youth. Mark will be speaking to us and starting a new sermon series for this term on Joseph.

5pm service, which Trevor will be leading for us.

Next Sunday (18th May) we just have our 10am service. We will be sharing communion together in the service, and Anthony Hammill will be speaking and leading communion for us.



As you know, we had our APCM (annual church meeting) in the service last Sunday. If you missed it, you can watch it on You Tube - there's lots of info about all the things we do as a church and our finances.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-uVV4mea5U>

Following our APCM, we have some **new members on our PCC.**

The PCC is the governing body of the church, dealing with all sorts of things like finance, buildings, safeguarding, HR, to name a few! St. Matthew's Church is also a registered charity, so the PCC members are the trustees of the charity.

Following the APCM, this is our PCC...

Brian Hobden (vice chair), Hannah Mwesigwa (secretary), David Johnson, Kate Whitehead (treasurer), Mary Wilson (Deanery Synod rep), Kevin Barnes (Deanery Synod rep), Ian Wilson,

Julia Church, Mike Southwick, Graham Church, Matt Taylor, Phil Grainger, Kim Shilling, David Seedhouse and Jane Richardson.

Welcome to Dave and Jane who were elected at the APCM.

Thank you also to Suzanne and Fiona who stepped down from the PCC at the APCM, for all their time on the PCC.

We also have a **Leadership Team**, who are made up of people helping to oversee different areas of ministry in church. At the moment our Leadership Team is:

Hannah Mwesigwa, Kate Whitehead, Brian Hobden, David Johnson, Dedo Rampe, Julia Church, Sophie Wilson, Ali Granger and Mark Gabriel.

Please do be praying for our PCC and our Leadership Team as they lead us through this time without a vicar.



The next Unite Youth is today!

Unite Youth is a monthly event for young people (school years 6-13) from church youth groups in the area, The Youth Centre and their friends. This is a great opportunity for young people of many ages to get together on a Friday evening and socialise with their friends, take part in craft, games, sung worship and of course, eat lots of pizza!

Doors open at 5.30pm and the main event starts at 6pm. Parents to collect at 8pm.

Venue – The Wells Church, Hanover Road, Tunbridge Wells.

You can join the fun by booking your place via <https://www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/>

Please do be in touch with me in the office if you need anything. Have a lovely weekend and see you on Sunday.