

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025



I hope you have had a good week.

This week a few things have made me think about why we do what we do as a church.

One of my favourite verses in the Bible is from Micah 6:8...

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

As Christians, we aren't supposed to just sit in church on a Sunday and then forget about God for the rest of the week.

But we are called to live lives that reflect the nature of God, which we see in Jesus.

We are called to act when we see injustice; we are urged to show compassion and mercy to those around us; we are called to feed the poor and clothe the hungry; to love our neighbour and pray for our enemies.

And that is why we do all the outreach we do as a church. Sharing the love of Jesus through our actions should be our motivation as we serve in the community larder or in the hub, as we welcome children and young people in through our doors each week.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the needs around us, or to get worn out by the volunteering and serving we are doing.

But sometimes reminding ourselves why we are doing it can help to spur us on. We're not reaching out on our own - we can ask God for strength and love and compassion when we feel like we have run out.

And we can be ready to take our turn if someone else needs a break, supporting each other and allowing rest where it is needed.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me." (Matthew 25:40)

## Notices



**This Sunday (6th July)** is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am communion service and a family service at 10am. Mike will be speaking to us at the family service.

**Next Sunday (13th July)** we are back with Joseph in our 10am service as we near the end of his story. Suzanne will be speaking to us from Genesis 45 and there will be groups for our children and youth.

The year 6s will be moving up to youth for the last couple of weeks of this term, as they get ready to go to secondary school in September.

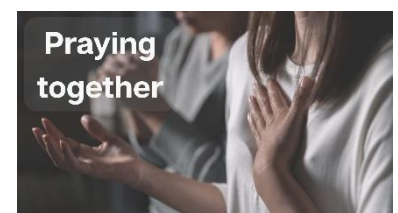
We also have our 5pm service on 13th July, with Trevor leading and speaking.

### Let's get together to pray!

Our next prayer meeting is on **Sunday 13th July 8.30am to 9.30am** in the church centre, with a simple breakfast. Please can you let Hannah or Mary know if you are hoping to come, for catering purposes. Thanks.

We have also added in another prayer meeting during the summer.

We will get together on **Tuesday 12th August** at 8pm in the church centre to pray.



### **A few things coming up over the next couple of weeks:**

Monday 7th July 7pm - Additional needs training for youth and children's volunteers

Tuesday 8th July - Ignite boating at Dunorlan Park

Wednesday 9th July - last community hub of the term

Monday 14th July - Leadership Team meeting

Monday 21st July - St. Matt's School year 6 leavers' service in church

Monday 21st July - PCC meeting

Please do keep all these things in your prayers, even if they are not for you!

### **Inclusive Church Network**



We've been talking about being an inclusive church over the last couple of years, and wanting to be welcoming and accessible to everyone.

Having applied to join the Inclusive Church Network earlier in the year, we are now members! This just affirms where we are as a church and aligns with the journey we have been on, and still are on.

Part of the letter from Inclusive Church says this:

"We hope your membership will be something your whole church community can celebrate and feel proud of. It marks a public commitment to becoming, and continuing to grow as, a place where all people are truly welcomed, affirmed, and able to belong. It's a journey of becoming more inclusive, more accessible, and more reflective of the wide diversity of God's people. Which we hope excites and inspires you!"

To find out more, have a look at their website <https://www.inclusive-church.org/>



### **Become a Life & Soul Mentor**

Life & Soul is one of our mission partners and is a Christian charity working in local secondary schools to offer one-to-one mentoring for students who need someone to walk alongside them with care, consistency, and hope. Right now, they're inviting new volunteer mentors to join them. What does it take to be a mentor? Just a couple of hours a week in term time, a desire to support young people, and a willingness to join in with training and ongoing support. They provide everything else: a clear programme to follow, a friendly and prayerful team, and—of course—cake whenever they gather!

If anyone would like a no-pressure chat about what's involved, or is ready to sign up, they can get in touch with Angie at [angies@lifeandsoul.org.uk](mailto:angies@lifeandsoul.org.uk)

Please do be in touch if you need any help or support at the moment.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.