

# St. Matt's Summer News!



I hope you have had a good week!

This newsletter will be for the whole summer, as there's not so much going on and I will be away for some of it.

## Update on appointment process

We just wanted to update you on where we are with the process for looking for a new vicar. We had our PCC meeting on Monday and we have now approved our parish profile, which is the important document that goes out with the advert. This document lays out who we are as a church, what our vision is for the future and what we are looking for in a new vicar. Thank you so much to everyone who filled out the survey a couple of months ago, as your answers helped to shape the parish profile.

The parish profile has now gone to the Bishop's office as part of preparing the job advert for our new vicar, and as soon as this is published we will be able to share it with you.

The other thing we did at our meeting on Monday was to appoint two PCC reps who will be the ones taking part in the appointment process from now on, including being on the interview panel. Our two reps are Mary Wilson and Brian Hobden. They will act with our patron CPAS and the Bishop's representative to carry out the interviews and make an appointment. As Mary and Brian take this process forward, they will not be able to share any specific details with any of us until an appointment is made, so please respect their need for confidentiality. We are very grateful that they are willing to take on this role, and we will be keeping them in our prayers all the way through. We will update you again at the end of the summer, when we can share the parish profile with you and let you know when the advert will go live. Please keep praying!

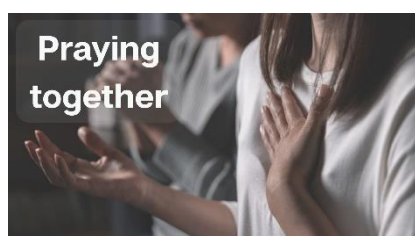
## Services over the summer

Over the summer holidays, all our 10am services are family services, so that our volunteers can have a rest!



These are the services coming up over August:

<b>Sunday 27th July</b>	10am family service - "I am the way" John 14:1-7
<b>Sunday 3rd August</b>	8am Book of Common Prayer communion service 10am family service - "I am the light of the world" John 8:12
<b>Sunday 10th August</b>	10am family service - "I am the resurrection and the life" John 11:17-27 5pm service with communion
<b>Sunday 17th August</b>	10am family service with communion - "I am the bread of life" John 6:25-36
<b>Sunday 24th August</b>	10am family service - "I am the true vine" John 15:1-9
<b>Sunday 31st August</b>	10am family service - "I am the gate" John 10:1-10



## Let's get together to pray!

Our next prayer meeting is on **Tuesday 12th August** at 8pm in the church centre.

We'll spend some time worshipping and praying together, especially focusing on appointing a new vicar and our future as a church.

## Chris and Carole's Open House - Saturday 30th August 2025 from 11am

Just a reminder of Chris and Carole's open house - they would love to see you. All the details are on flyers at the back of church, so do pick one up if you would like to go and see them and their new house on that day. Please RSVP to them by 16/8/25.





### Could you join a team in September?

Last Sunday we talked about needing another couple of people to help at Ignite, just once a month from September (Tuesday evenings 6pm - 7.30pm).

We had one person come forward, which is great, but she can no longer help with Deeper, so that leaves us a couple of people short at Deeper now, again for once a month from September (Monday afternoons 3.30pm - 5pm).

The summer is a great time to think about whether you can join a team, and maybe your routine will change from September. Do come and talk to me if you would like to get involved with any of our groups and ministries, including the community hub, toddler group, the community larder, Sunday mornings, etc.

### TW Youth For Christ sponsored walk

This year on 30th August the team are walking 26 miles again to raise funds for Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ.

They will start at Herstmonceux Castle, then walk to Battle Abbey, medieval Winchelsea, and end in historic Rye following the 1066 country walk.

This fundraising is vital to ensure that they can support young people. This year they have met over 700 unique young people at their events and given away over 30,000 pieces of toast outside The Youth Centre.

For more information and to sponsor the team, go to <https://tunbridgewells.yfc.co.uk/walk-2025/>

All the money raised will be used to fund their work in schools, the youth centre and with churches in order to see young people's lives changed by Jesus.



**Churches for Tunbridge Wells** are excited to be joining together at the [Gatehouse](#) in the Market Square, Tunbridge Wells, from 1st – 7th September to pray for our town.

Please click the link below to sign up for a 30 minute booking (or longer!) in the prayer room. There will be interactive prayer activities and prayer gatherings throughout the week. More information will be shared over the next few weeks.

Sign up to pray here - <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/13713d/>

### Office hours over the summer

This week some of us are going to New Wine, so I will be out of the office from Wed 30th July to Wed 6th August.

I will also be on leave from Monday 18th to Monday 25th August.

In between those times I will be working my normal days of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the office.

While I am not in the office, please email [brian@stmattschurch.org.uk](mailto:brian@stmattschurch.org.uk) or phone and leave a message, and it will be picked up by Brian.

We hope to see you soon! Enjoy your summer, whether you are here or going away. Please do be in touch if you need any help or support over the next few weeks.

