

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 4th September 2025



I hope you are having a good week.

Over the summer we have been looking at the "I am" sayings of Jesus.

In the Old Testament, we see God refer to himself as "I Am" or Yahweh.

In Exodus 3, Moses asks God what he should say to the Israelites when they ask who God is and what his name is. God's reply is, "I am who I am".

So when Jesus uses the phrase "I am" throughout John's gospel, it is more than him just saying what he is like. It is also him telling us that He is God, He is Yahweh, and then showing us what that looks like.

So what does Jesus show us through these "I am" sayings?

I am the bread of life - Jesus can sustain us and provide for us.

I am the light of the world - Jesus brings spiritual light into our human darkness.

I am the gate and the Good Shepherd - Jesus know us, speaks to us and guides us, into his flock and out of things that hem us in.

I am the resurrection and the life - Jesus gives us eternal life and resurrection by conquering death.

I am the way, the truth and the life - believing in Jesus is the only way to God and to being in relationship with Him, and Jesus shows us the truth of God.

I am the true vine - Jesus is the source of all life and we need to stay connected to him.

This Sunday we are going to be looking at one last "I am" saying that comes in Revelation.

God says "I am the Alpha and the Omega, who is, and who was, and who is to come."

Notices



This Sunday (7th September) is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am Book of Common Prayer communion service, and our 10am family service. Brian will be speaking at 10am, and the Bible passage is Revelation 1:1-8.

Next Sunday (14th September) we have two services:

10am - we will have groups for our children and young people and we will be starting a new sermon series about prayer.

5pm - our more traditional service with hymns on the organ and more liturgy.

Midweek groups

All our midweek groups and activities will start back week beginning 8th September.

Just a reminder of what those are:

Deeper (for school years 3-6) – Mondays 3.30pm – 5pm in church

Ignite (for school years 7-11) – Tuesdays 6pm – 7.30pm in church

Community Hub – Wednesdays 11am – 2pm in the church centre - all welcome

Baby & Toddler Group (for preschool children and their parents / carers) – Thursdays 9.30am – 11.30am in church

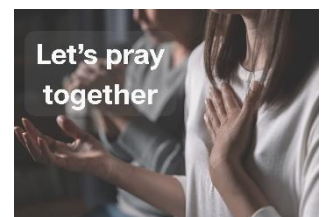
Community Larder – Fridays 9.30am – 10.45am in The Bethel Hall

We want to keep praying together as a church as we head into a new term and go through the appointment process, so these are the dates of our prayer meetings for the next few months:

Wednesday 10th September 8pm - 9pm in the church centre

Thursday 16th October 8pm - 9pm in the church centre

Sunday 16th November 8.30am - 9.30am in the church centre with simple breakfast





Autumn coffee morning - Rosemary and her team are holding their next coffee morning on Tuesday 16th September 10.30am - 12pm in the church centre.

There will be cakes, toiletries and gifts for sale, as well as a raffle, with proceeds going to Crosslight Debt Advice.



The annual Ride and Stride event, run by Friends of Kent Churches, is happening on **Saturday 13th September** (sorry for the late notice!).

You can cycle or walk around as many Kent churches as you like, getting sponsored for your efforts. Sponsorship money raised will be divided equally between Friends of Kent Churches and the church of your choice.

I have some sponsorship forms if anyone is interested in taking part in this event.



Our harvest service this year will be on Sunday 5th October and we will be having a **bring and share lunch** after the service.

You can sign up for the lunch either on the sheet at the back of church or using this

link <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/cxfk2tlx>

We will be having someone from Tearfund coming to share about their work during our service, and we will let you know over the next couple of weeks about giving food or money.



Can you nominate us to win £1000?

Please could you nominate St. Matt's Church so we have a chance to win £1000? You just go to this link <https://movementforgood.com/> and put in our charity number 1185772.

Thank you!



Tunbridge Wells CAN! CLIMATE & NATURE FAIR

Saturday 13th September
10am – 5pm Calverley Grounds

Free entry!



SAVE THE DATE! Join us for a vibrant day of community, fun & hope for the planet we love.

Everyone welcome ❤️

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday
13th September
10am – 5pm
Calverley Grounds

There's something for everyone:



Speakers - including:

- **Isobel Losada**, author & journalist renowned for her blend of humour & swimming against the tide
- **Bors Hulesch**, climate & social scientist sharing a positive, informed path to the World We Want.



Green energy & tech - put your questions to our straight-talking expert panel on everything from insulation to solar and heat pumps.



Live entertainment with a climate & nature twist! including music, spoken word, eco-fashion and dance.



Family activities - woodblock printing, competitions, face-painting, arts and crafts.



Food, drink & eco-stalls - everything from meeting local bee enthusiasts (& their bees!) & our Friends of the Earth team or enjoying some eco-product retail therapy

Whether you're curious, committed or just want a fun day out, everyone is welcome.



TW CAN! Take one step - big or small - & make positive change happen!

Find out more, get involved or register for a stall:

twcan.org.uk



Tunbridge Wells CAN

[@tunbridgewellscan](https://www.instagram.com/tunbridgewellscan)



£5 TICKETS
& some bubbly!



From
7-9PM

🌸 Women and Girls' Clothing 🌸 Local models 🌸 Clothes Rail Sale

27 September 2025

ST JAMES' CHURCH
TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Charity Ref No. 1165176
PO Box 830, East Grinstead, RH19 9GU



That's all for now - there's lots going on at the moment!

If you need any help or support, please be in touch with me.

Have a lovely weekend.

St. Matthew's Church Office High Brooms Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9BW

01892 618108 office@stmattschurch.org.uk www.stmattschurch.org.uk

Registered charity number 1185772