

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026



I hope you have had a good week.

It feels like a real time of change at the moment - for us a church but also for me at home with Zara moving on to her next chapter soon.

I don't know about you, but change can feel unnerving sometimes, even when it is good change. We may be feeling both excited and apprehensive about the next chapter in our church life, and that's ok!

We are all really ready for Rob, Alice, Phoebe and Jacob to join us this week and to start getting to know us as a church, and vice versa. But there are also a lot of unknowns, and we all need to be prepared for change as Rob brings fresh perspective and new ideas and as God works in this season to grow and develop St. Matt's.

We know that whatever change we face in life, God is constant and faithful, and we can put our trust in Him. But let's also remember that He doesn't want us to stay stuck where we are - He wants to help us to grow and flourish and thrive, both individually and as a church.

So as we move into the next season this week, this is my prayer for us...

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

## Notices



**This Sunday (14th June) we have two services at 10am and 5pm.**

Our 10am service will have groups for children and young people, and we will be finishing off our Women in the Bible series with Rev. Jane Edwards coming to speak to us about Mary the mother of Jesus. The readings are from Luke 1:26-38 and Acts 1:7-14.

Our 5pm service is more traditional and will be a communion service, with Rev. Richard Arding leading and speaking.

### **Rob's Installation Service - Tuesday 16th June 7.30pm**

We're really looking forward to seeing you all at this service, so we can welcome Rob and Alice really well! Just a reminder to anyone involved in the service, we have a rehearsal on Monday 15th June at 7pm in church.

**Note about parking** - we are expecting this to be a busy service, so do come in time to find parking and get a seat. If you are local enough to walk, please do that. We do have use of the school car park, so you can try there, but we have told Rob's family and friends and local clergy to park there.

**Next Sunday (21st June) we have our 10am service and then a bring and share lunch** afterwards. This is the Byrne family's first Sunday with us, as well as being Father's Day. The service will be a communion service, with groups for children and young people, and Rob will be speaking about the Prodigal Son.

**Please sign up this weekend if you are able to come to the lunch**, to give us an idea of numbers and what food to expect - there is a sign up sheet at the back of church or you can sign up here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/s0sxvo9k> At the moment, in true St. Matt's style, we have 2 people signed up!!





**No Ignite or Toddler Group next week** - due to Rob's service, there will be no Ignite on Tuesday 16th June. There will also be no Toddler Group in church on 18th June, as the church is a polling station. Katy and Paul will be at Grosvenor Park though, to meet anyone who wants who wants to join them at the usual toddler group time.

**Mission Prayer Meeting** - Wednesday 17th June 3.30pm at Mary's house  
**Knitting Hub** - Saturday 27th June 10am - 12pm in the church centre

### Funeral for Helen Steven

There will be a Thanksgiving Service for the life of Helen Steven on Friday June 26th 2pm at St Philip's Church followed by tea there. Her family extend an invitation to anyone who would like to attend. You are welcome to wear any colour to remember Helen/Nen.

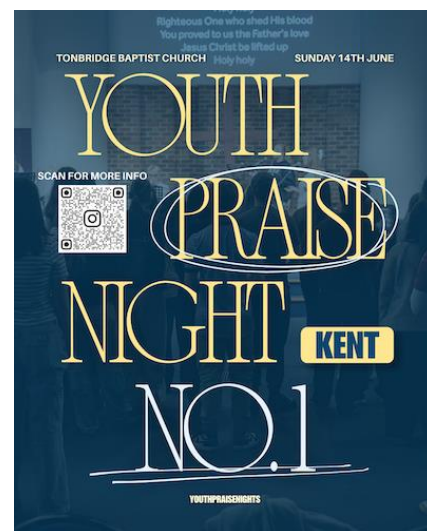
### Funeral for Mike Southwick

Mike's funeral will be on Friday 3rd July at 12.30pm in church and everyone is welcome. As we get more details about this, we will let you know.



The next **Unite town-wide youth event** run by YFC is **TODAY**, 5.30pm - 8pm at The Wells Church in town. This is for anyone in school years 6-13 and some of our young people go along to it. You can sign up here [Unite sign up](#)

There is also a new **Youth Praise Night** happening at Tonbridge Baptist Church on **Sunday 14th June at 6pm**. This is being run by young people from a mix of churches across Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge and is for youth (secondary school age to mid-twenties). Some of our older youth have been to events similar to this in the past and have really enjoyed them.



Please do be in touch if you need any help or support at the moment. I hope you have a good weekend and we'll see you on Sunday.