

St. Matt's News – 2nd October 2026



I hope you have had a good week.

This week one of the morning devotions on the Lectio 365 app really spoke to me. It felt really relevant for something specific but I also think it is a really helpful reminder for all of us.

The passage is from 2 Kings 6:15-18, when Elisha and his servant are in a city surrounded by enemy troops. The servant is understandably scared and only sees what is in front of him. But Elisha sees beyond the physical and asks God to open the servant's eyes to see God's own army of angels surrounding them.

It's so easy for us to be just like the servant, only seeing what is obvious and often what is causing us problems. We can be so focused on how to get out of the problem we are in, that we forget to ask God for help and we also forget that God is so much bigger than our problems!

Rather than asking God, "What shall I do?", maybe we should be asking Elisha's question to God - "Open our eyes Lord that we may see."

God is always with us, doing far more than we see or even imagine. Wouldn't it be amazing to be able to catch a glimpse of that, and to be able to focus our eyes on Him rather than the problem right in front of us?

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe." Ephesians 1:18-19a

Notices



This Sunday (4th October) is our Harvest family service at 10am.

Mike will be speaking to us all about renewal as we celebrate harvest together. The Bible passage is Revelation 21:1-7.

Any financial donations this Sunday will go to Tearfund, and we will also be collecting food items for our Community Larder.

Here are the items they currently need:

Pasta and pasta sauces

Cereal

Any tins - sweetcorn, tomatoes, beans (baked or kidney), soup, potatoes, chick peas, tuna, tinned fruit or custard etc

Tea bags

Please bring these in on Sunday, or drop them in during the week if you can't be here this weekend.

We also have our **8am communion service this Sunday** - everyone is welcome.



Next Sunday (11th October) we have 2 services at 10am and 5pm. In the morning, there will be groups for children and youth, and Mark will be speaking in our Keys to the Kingdom series, about Expectancy. Rob will be leading and speaking at our 5pm service, which will include communion.

A few dates for your diaries this month...

Sunday evenings 7.30pm - 9pm - Love Joy Peace course
 Wednesday 21st October 3.30pm - 4.30pm - Mission Prayer Meeting at Mary's house
 Thursday 22nd October 8pm - 9pm - Prayer meeting in the church centre
 Saturday 24th October 10am - 12pm - Knitting Hub in the church centre



Inter Church Quiz

Saturday, 17th October 2026

The Wells Church
Hanover Rd, Tunbridge Wells
TN1 1EY

£17.50 per person
includes a hot meal

Doors open 6.30pm

Gather a team of upto 8 people
from your church

Book your team in by emailing Polly:
pollyjoyce@gmail.com

Youth For Christ Inter Church Quiz

Thank you to everyone who came to our quiz night last Friday - we raised over £300 for Life & Soul and had a great night as well! Thank you to Mark and Brian for running the quiz. If you love a quiz, then there is another quiz coming up on 17th October, for churches in Tunbridge Wells to raise money for YFC. It would be great to get a St. Matt's team together to join this YFC quiz, especially as they are supporting us with Ignite still. If you are interested in being part of a team for this quiz, please can you let me know this week.

Have a lovely weekend, and we hope to see you on Sunday.
 Please do be in touch if you need any help or support at the moment.