

Next week's Services:

10am	The Joshua Paradox	Bill MacDougall
5pm	The Presentation	Chris Wicks
7pm	Soaking Evening	Jon Carroll

Midweek Activities:

M	3.45pm Deeper	Th	10am Matt's Monkeys
T		F	8.30am Breakfast Café
W	6.00pm Ignite	S	

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www.stmattschurch.org.uk



NOTICES & NEWS

24 January 2016

Welcome to St Matt's. We hope you enjoy being with us today. Our church is informal and family-friendly, and we serve tea and coffee at the back of the church throughout the service, except during Prayer.

Today's Services:

10am	Mission Focus—South Sudan	Ruth Radley
5pm	Joint 5pm & 7pm service	Ruth Radley
7pm	NO SERVICE	

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Forthcoming Events

One Week Without

Sunday 24 January - Sunday 31 January 2016

For just one week, could you go without: Hot showers? A warm bed? Cooked dinners? Your phone, email and Facebook? Starting on Homeless Sunday, 24th January 2016 (or any other time that works for you) get sponsored to go without one or more of your home comforts for seven days. This will enable Porchlight to continue to provide not just basic life necessities but long-term personalised support for more people here in our local community. Email getinvolved@porchlight.org.uk or telephone 01227 813199

TASTELIFE is an 8-week course that helps people break free from eating disorders. The course begins on **Monday 25 January**. Please contact livingfree@newlifechurchonline.co.uk or 077570 84885 for more information, or visit www.tastelifeuk.org. Flyers are on the noticeboards.

Sunday 14th February—Life & Soul's "Have a Heart" Lunch
Please come and join us for a fundraising lunch at St Matt's church, where we will be serving a selection of lovely food in return for a donation. Please sign up at the back of church by Sunday 7th February. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like to help either at the event or with the cooking, please speak to a member of the Life & Soul team. Thank you.

Friday 26th February—7.45pm Ladies Film Night

Film yet to be decided but do put the date in your diaries. Soft drinks, pop corn and chocolate provided. Bring your own alcohol. £1 donation for refreshments on door. Sign up sheet at the back. For more info, please contact Carole Wicks on 529098.

SPRING FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS (Sugarcraft)

St Matt's Church Centre

Fridays, 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Cost £3.50 per session x 4 = £14 [payment in full to register]

6th, 13th, 20th, May & 17th June 2016

Contact Dee Harper on dee.harper@btinternet.com for more details.

PARADOXOLOGY!

This term, our morning worship will be dipping into some of the themes Kish Kandia's book about the paradox of the Christian faith. He writes: "The Christian faith is full of apparent paradoxes:

- a compassionate God who sanctions genocide
- an all-powerful God who allows horrific suffering
- a God who owns everything yet demands so much from his followers
- a God who is distant and yet present at the same time

Many of us have big questions that the Christian faith seems to leave unanswered. So we push them to the back of our minds, for fear of destabilizing our beliefs. But leaving these questions unexamined is neither healthy for us, nor honouring to God. Rather than shying away from the difficult questions, we need to face them head on."

We begin in the Old Testament and move to look at the New Testament as we get closer to Easter - if you want to look deep at this subject, I really recommend Kish's book. You can get it on Amazon. *Chris Wicks*

"The Song That I Sing" with Christian singer songwriter Dave Bilbrough – Don't miss the opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening with Dave as he shares songs from his new album. Dave has been a musician and well-known worship leader for many years and it's great to have him come and share with us in Tunbridge Wells at Broadmead Church. The event will be held on **Friday 26th February 2016** – doors open at 7pm and the event starts at 7.30pm. Tickets in advance are £5 per person. For further information and to book your tickets please call Mark on 01892 526636.

The Choir from Lambersart (Southborough's twin town) is coming to join a choir from the Churches in Southborough for a grand concert in St Thomas' Church on 23rd April. Rehearsals begin on **9th February**. If you are interested in being part of the Choir, please contact Jean Best (01892 689972) or Jenny Heyes (jdheyes@btinternet.com). Jean has a list of music to be sung. Ladies and particularly Men (tenors or basses) are needed.

NEW WINE 2016

If any of you are planning to go to New Wine this year, please can you let the Office know? We just want a rough idea of how many of you to expect! Thanks very much.

FAREWELL FROM CHARIS

I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who has supported me on my trip to New Zealand with YWAM. I have been overwhelmed with the generosity and prayers that I have received. Thank you so much, see you all in July! Charis x