

St. Matt's Midweek Update – 7th June 2024



I hope you are well and have had a good couple of weeks.

This week has seen the anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy - 80 years since the huge operation that was the start of the end of World War 2.

There have been a lot of events to remember the sacrifice and bravery of all the thousands of men and women who were involved in the invasion that led to the liberation of France and then to the end of the war. I have found it really moving and fascinating to watch some of the programmes on TV and to hear some of the stories of people involved, from the men who actually landed on the beaches, to the women making all the communication happen, to the weather forecaster who told the commanders when the weather would be right for the invasion to happen. Countless people involved and all playing their part, and it is so important that we remember them and that their stories live on.

It made me think about the things we do as Christians to remember what Jesus has done for us. The events of Jesus' life and death happened a lot longer ago than D-Day, but it is vital that we remember them and that we continue to be grateful for the freedom we have.

We remember every time we take communion, that Jesus died in our place.

We remember whenever we celebrate Christmas or Easter, that God came in human form to live on earth so that we could be saved.

We remember whenever someone is baptised, that we are all made new in Jesus, and that our old sinful lives have been washed away.

And we remember when we share testimonies, that God is continually working in our lives and that He is present with us today.

Notices



This Sunday we have two services, at 10am and 5pm.

In our 10am service, we will have groups for our children and young people. Richard will be speaking to us about Peter's encounter with Jesus in Acts 11:1-18.

Our 5pm service is a communion service this Sunday, and Anthony Hammill will be leading and speaking. Tea and cake is served from 4.30pm.

Next Sunday we just have our 10am service - Chris will be speaking to us and we will share communion together. It is also Father's Day, so we will be celebrating our dads and the father-figures in our lives.

All our normal groups and activities are happening this week:

Deeper on Mondays 3.30pm - 5pm for those in school years 3-6.

Ignite on Tuesdays 6pm - 7.30pm for young people in school years 7-13, and year 6s can now start coming along.

Community Hub on Wednesdays 11am - 3pm in the church centre.

Baby and toddler group on Thursdays 9.30am - 11.15am in church.

Community Larder on Friday mornings 9.30am - 10.45am in the Bethel Hall.



This week is National Volunteers Week, so a huge thank-you to everyone who volunteers in some way in church. When I added up the volunteers it takes to run the above activities in a week, it came to about 40. When you then add in hubs, and Sunday services, we are probably up to about 70 volunteers a week making everything happen that we do as a church. And that is then multiplied across a month as not everyone helps out every week. That is amazing!! You are all amazing!!

Other dates for your diary

Sewing Bee Hub - tonight 7.30pm at Ruth's house

Knitting Hub - Monday 10th June 7.30pm in the church centre

Mission prayer meeting - Wednesday 19th June 3.30pm at Mary's house and on Zoom

Church BBQ lunch - Sunday 7th July after church in the Vicarage garden



The next YFC Unite youth event is on Friday 14th June 5.30pm - 8pm at TW Christian Fellowship. It's for anyone in years 6-13. It's a 1st anniversary celebration with workshops, food, football, faith, console games and tuck shop. To book, go to www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/

That's all for now. Chris and Carole are away now for a week, but I am in the office if you need any help or support.

Have a lovely weekend and see you on Sunday.