

St. Matt's Summer News – 19th July 2024



It's nice to be writing the summer newsletter on a day that actually feels like summer!!

We're praying for extra energy and strength for all those in education finishing today or next week - you're nearly there!

This newsletter will cover the whole of the summer holidays, so keep it safe or put all the dates in your diary.

Office closed - some of us from St. Matt's will be at New Wine from 25th - 30th July. This means there will be no-one in the church office during this time. If you need any help or support during this time, please contact the church wardens on wardens@stmattschurch.org.uk.

I will also be taking the rest of that week off, so please contact Chris between 31st July and 4th August if you need anything.



This Sunday we just have our 10am service with groups for children and youth. This will be the last Sunday of groups until September.

Services over the summer

Over the summer holidays we will have all-age services every Sunday morning to give all our youth and children's volunteers a break. We will be basing our talks on sports and the Olympics. These services will start on Sunday 28th July and will run through all of August.

Other services in August:

8am Book of Common Prayer communion service - Sunday 4th August

5pm service (more traditional with organ) - Sunday 11th August

There is no 7pm service in July or August. It will be back in September.



New "Be Still" mindfulness & relaxation sessions for adults

Jill is starting some St. Matt's Christian "Be Still" Mindfulness & Relaxation sessions on Wednesday 24th July, from 11am-12noon, in the church centre, initially for 6 weeks.

Some of you have already registered your interest, but if you wish to join in, please do come along and the sessions will run weekly on Wednesdays to the 28th of August.

Please bring your own drink if you wish.

We will review your feedback as to whether more sessions could run in the future. Please feel free to invite your friends, family or neighbours.

Walking Hub - the next walking hub is on Saturday 3rd August. We have had requests for a seaside walk, with a stop for fish and chips, ice-creams, and lots to see and do, so we will be going to Hastings.

We will be leaving from High Brooms Station, catching the 10.05 train to Hastings, so suggest we meet at 9.50am at the station. **We strongly advise you to purchase your tickets in advance** or the day before as they are often cheaper either on-line or at the ticket office before travelling otherwise its queueing at the machine on a Saturday for your tickets.

Look forward to seeing lots of you there and having a fun time at the seaside come rain or shine!

Our last walk this year will be on Saturday 7th September for your diary, venue yet to be confirmed.





Summer BBQ - we are planning another BBQ at Chris and Carole's house during the summer for anyone who would like to come.

It will be on **Friday 16th August in the evening** - 6.30pm - 9pm. We will have the same arrangements as last time - we will provide meat (or alternative), rolls and soft drinks. Please bring a salad or pudding if you can.

Suggested donation of £2.50 per person, or whatever you can manage.

Please can you sign up if you plan to come, to help us cater for the right numbers and dietary requirements. You can sign up on the sheet at the back of church or using this

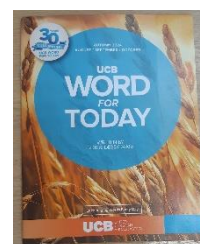
link <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/ktiusiy8>



Just a reminder that the **community larder will be open every Friday** all through the summer, 9.30am - 10.45am at the Bethel Hall. £5 for a bag of food and hygiene products.

UCB have sent us some **free samples of Word For Today**, which is their daily devotion booklet. The samples run from August through to October.

I'll put them at the back of church - please do take one if you would like to. You can then sign up to have them delivered free to you door each quarter if you find them helpful. I think you can also find them online.



Youth For Christ are running a camp at Adamswell this summer.

It's from 20th - 22nd August, for anyone in school years 6-13. The cost is £60 per person, but we can help with that as a church if your young person would like to go and the cost is a problem.

There will be quad bikes, faith talks, outdoor activities, bush craft, BBQ, bonfire and more!

For more information and booking go to www.madapps.uk/twyouth4christ/

Every year, Friends of Kent Churches run their **Ride and Stride event**, where people can do a sponsored walk or cycle around local churches. The money raised helps to maintain church buildings in Kent. This year's Ride and Stride is on **Saturday 14th September**.



By cycling, walking or running around Kent churches, you can raise money to be divided equally between the Friends of Kent Churches and the church or chapel of your choice.

If you would like to join in this year, let me know and I can give you a sponsor form and all the details. You can also have a look at their website <https://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk/>

Have a lovely start to the summer holidays, and do be in touch if you need any help or support over the summer. Although a lot of our activities and groups stop, we are still here if you need anything.