

# St. Matt's Midweek Update – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024



How are you?

Did you see the Northern Lights last night? I didn't!! When I flicked through Facebook this morning, I realised that lots of other people locally had seen them and had got great photos as well! I don't mind missing out though - I need my sleep too much.

But what struck me as I was looking at all the photos was how incredible it is that the sky can change colour in such a beautiful way, and all because of some particles way up in space.

I really needed that reminder today that God is huge, and He is beautiful, and He wants to amaze us with His creation. It's so easy to get bogged down in all the little boring details of life, but sometimes we need to look up and see how small we are in comparison to God and all He has made.

The pictures of the Northern Lights made me think how much more beautiful and amazing God must be, if He can create something like that. The book of Revelation uses the most descriptive language possible to try to explain what Jesus looks like in John's vision, but I'm sure it doesn't do justice to the beauty and majesty that we will one day see.

So today, I'm thanking God for giving us a glimpse of his beauty and his awesome power through His creation.

Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

## Notices

### Update from Chris and Carole

Chris is still off work recovering from his surgery.

We are grateful that the operation was successful, however it was more extensive than originally expected. This may mean that Chris will require a further two operations. We will keep you updated as and when we know.

We are very thankful for all your love, care, support, food, chocolate, flowers and general amazing kindness.



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

In our morning service, there will be groups for our children and young people and we will be carrying on looking at our values as a church. Mark will be talking about the cross, and the Bible reading will be 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 2:5.

Our 5pm service is more traditional, and communion will be shared this Sunday. Richard Arding will be leading the service and Suzanne will be speaking.

**Next Sunday** we just have our 10am morning service, and Liz will be speaking to us about our value of love.



### Dates for your diary this week:

Knitting Hub - Monday 14th October 7.30pm in the church centre

Mission prayer meeting - Wednesday 16th October, 3.30pm at Mary's house and on Teams



Come and join us for a fun evening of quizzing, on **Friday 15th November 7.30pm in church.**

Mark will be our quiz master again and I'm sure there will be some new and exciting rounds this year! This is a great event to bring friends along to.

Tickets are £5 per person and the quiz is for anyone aged 14+. Tables of up to 8 people.

We will provide soft drinks - feel free to bring any snacks and other drinks for your table. Any proceeds from the night will go to St. Matt's Community Larder.

You can buy your tickets here <https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/f0plhxqs> or email me at [office@stmattschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stmattschurch.org.uk)



Every year, we hold a **memorial service** in the afternoon of Remembrance Sunday.

This year the service is on Sunday 10th November at 5pm.

This service is a quiet, reflective service for anyone who has been bereaved, whether recently or longer ago.

I'll put some flyers at the back of church, so please do invite anyone you think would find this service helpful.

### School forms

Don't forget to let me know if you have a child in year 6 and need Chris to sign a Bennett or St. Greg's form. Please can you let me know asap, so that we can get a meeting in the diary around Chris' sick leave. Chris likes to meet with you to discuss what you are putting on the form as well as signing it, and the criteria are different for each school. We have to follow the guidelines that we are given by the school in terms of the categories and levels of attendance at church.

### Working party in October half term

David Johnson would like to get a working party together in October half term, to do some high level cleaning and some general tidying. If anyone can be available the week of 28th October, please speak to David in the first instance to let him know when you are free.

### Parent Support Drop-in

Crossways are starting a parent support drop-in for any parent who is currently providing mental health support for their young person.

It starts on Wednesday 23rd October and is on every Wednesday through to December. 12pm - 1.30pm at the The Kitchen Table, 19 Camden Road.

Contact [sara.barker@crosswayscommunity.org.uk](mailto:sara.barker@crosswayscommunity.org.uk) for more information.



Last week at harvest we collected money for Tearfund - thank you for all your donations.

**Tearfund are working in the Middle East** and have got some helpful resources, so I thought I'd share them here.

They've got a page with ideas about how to pray for situation in the Middle East [here](#)

They are also running a free event with their Regional Director for the Middle East, Safa Hijazeen, on Saturday 9th November 2024. During the event, Safa will be sharing inspiring stories from the region, which will then be followed by a time of Q&A and prayer. The event is at Kings Cross Church in London, but you can also join on Zoom. All the information is [here](#)

Please do be in touch if you need any help and support.