



ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

*A thriving, open and welcoming church community
for all ages*

www.standrews-chesterton.org

Weekly News Update, 6 October 2023

Important news about music at St Andrew's

Last Sunday at the 10am service, Philip gave the following notice about our music and worship at St Andrew's.

- Since the autumn of last year – before I arrived as Vicar – the PCC has been reviewing the nature of music provision for our worship. Since my arrival, I have been working with the PCC to agree a set of intentions and aims for our music, building on the long-standing traditions of St Andrew's, the aspirations expressed in the Parish Profile for my role, and taking into account views expressed by members of the congregation.
- This review and process led the PCC to realise that its aims required a new structure of voluntary and paid roles for music and worship. Adopting this new structure will mean that, regrettably, the existing role of Director of Music, held in a self-employed capacity by Peter Wadl, comes to an end.
- This [last] week, I shared this difficult news with Peter, and gave the formal 3-months' notice for this happening as required under the terms of his Contract for Services.
- I was also able to tell him a bit about the new roles and structure we have in mind: a Worship and Music Coordinator, a team of organists, a team of volunteer group leaders for choirs and music groups. All of these we hope will offer fresh opportunities for wider involvement in music-making at all levels of our church, and will promote learning and building confidence through music for all ages, abilities, and experience.
- But given the difficult circumstances of this news, the PCC felt it only right that Peter should have the choice either to remain Director of Music until the end of the notice period – and apply for any of these roles; or, if he wanted to leave earlier than this, to honour the fees he would have earned in this time.
- I can now share with you Peter's choice to leave with immediate effect; and so that is why Peter has not been with us this [Sunday] morning, and is no longer our Director of Music. Sadly, this choice will mean we won't have the formal opportunity - which many of us might have hoped for and expected - to thank and acknowledge him in person for all his work at St Andrew's over the years he has been with us.

Philip concluded by saying we have now entered a period of building up and working out our new arrangements for music. He offered reassurances that there will continue to be music provision at our services during this time – with the intention to maintain our existing month-by-month pattern. It is the PCC's aim and intention also to seek to create new opportunities for music, and to consult widely about these. Philip, Maggie and Chris are all available to be contacted and spoken to about any suggestions, concerns or hopes about these aims or process. More information about the new roles and responsibilities which will make up the new music structure will be shared in the coming weeks.

Music at future Sunday services - Sunday 22 October

In the spirit of the PCC's vision for music at St Andrew's, we would like to experiment with an opportunity for "all comers", both experienced and inexperienced singers, to join together to provide music at the 10am Parish Communion service. There will be a rehearsal on Friday 20 October 7.30-8.30 in church and then a warm-up on the Sunday from 9.15am onwards in the choir vestry. These will include some basic training for anyone who has never sung in a choir before. Please let Chris Pountain know (01223 311055, 07838 709746 or chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org) if you would like to be involved, so that appropriate music can be chosen and enough copies produced.

Taize Service this Sunday evening - 8 October, 5.30pm

The Sunday evening service in October will be a Taize service, with contemplative prayers and chants from the Taize Community tradition. Please join us as we resume this reflective service - and invite others you know who might value this distinctive style of Christian worship.

News from the Flower Group.

For Harvest Sunday you may have noticed the use of new flower holders on the pew ends in the central aisle. These have been purchased using part of a legacy left to the church by Edna Andrews who was a founder of the Flower Group in 1966. Monthly meetings were then held where Edna would demonstrate techniques in flower arranging to any interested members of the congregation. She passed away in 2018 aged 98 years.

- The present arrangers continue to ensure fresh flowers are always in church and work to a pre-arranged rota, being called upon about 4 times during the year. In addition, all arrangers work together for church festivals, Easter, Whitsun, Harvest and Christmas.
- Meetings are now only held 2 or 3 times each year. These take place in the Church Hall where, over light refreshments, ideas are shared and a rota is planned for the year ahead.

If anyone reading this is interested in joining the group we would love to hear from you. Do have a chat with any of our members over coffee after a service, or at the Monday coffee mornings in the Hall. Alternatively, email Linda Marsh on lindamarsh300@gmail.com

Pilgrims - a group for going further on the journey of faith. From Tuesday 17 October, 7.45-9.15pm, Pilgrims will meet at the Vicarage for a 6-week Church of England course called Pilgrim. The group is a relaxed and welcoming space to explore what we believe as Christians, with no questions off the table. The course will run until Tuesday 28 November (with no meeting on 21 November). To find out more, or to indicate your interest in attending, contact Philip.

Repaired hearing 'loop' in church: The hearing 'loop' in church has now been repaired, and will be tested this weekend - hopefully to then be available in the Sunday services. Apologies again to all of you who rely on it - for the weeks it has been out of action because of the building work. Please let Philip or the sound team know if any further problems arise.

The October–November edition of Chesterton Chimes, which contains news from our church community and details of services and events coming up in the next two months, is available [here](#).

Service details

Sunday 8 October, 18th Sunday after Trinity

[8.00 am Holy Communion](#) (BCP; live-streamed and in church)

[10.00 am Sung Eucharist](#) (live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am Junior Church Groups meet in St Andrew's Hall

5.30 pm Taize service in church

Sunday 15 October, 19th after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP; live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am All-Age Communion (live-streamed and in church)

5.30 pm Youth Group meets in St Andrew's Hall

Weekdays

Every weekday, except Tuesday: [Morning Prayer](#) online at 9.00 am.

Tuesday: Morning Prayer in church (Common Worship) at 9.00 am.

Monday: Coffee Morning in the Hall, 10.45 am to 12 noon.

Tuesday: Morning Prayer in church, 9 am.

Please pray for...

From the Book of Remembrance: Elizabeth Annie Tuttle and Walter Harry Miller

More news and some reminders...

Stewardship and Giving

On Sunday 24 September, within the Parish Communion Service, Treasurer Michael Grande, and PCC Giving Coordinator Mark Lawson, gave a short presentation on the current church finances and the range of ways anyone can choose to give to the work of St Andrew's if they wish. Michael drew our attention to the ways that inflation is likely to affect our spending as a church in the coming year, with increases to our heating bills and wider costs going up - just like any household. St Andrew's is a generous church, and we rely almost entirely on regular giving to meet our operating costs as a church community. In recent years, the amount coming in has largely remained level, while costs have increased. This has meant that in 2023, we have had to use reserves to meet spending commitments, although not as much as we once feared, thanks to several very welcome donations. To everyone who gives regularly to St Andrew's - in all manner of ways, time, expertise and financially - Michael, Mark and Philip express huge thanks.

Mark then spoke more about ways to give, including the Parish Giving Scheme - which allows you to choose whether you want your gift to increase with inflation. There is a new yellow leaflet available called Growing as a Generous Church, which is at the back of church - and explains different ways of giving. Mark is very happy to discuss giving matters with anyone in confidence - and happy to advise on how to set up on the Parish Giving Scheme, if you want to know more. Contact

mark.e.lawson@live.com to arrange this.

Minims

Minims is the singing group for 4-8 year olds that runs on Sunday afternoons in the church. You may have heard the Minims singing at the front during one of the Easter or Christingle services. The group now meets on 1st and 3rd Sundays, rather than only once a month. We would really benefit from another person to come and accompany us on piano or guitar for some of the sessions.

We would also love to hear from anyone who would like to commit to praying for Minims from the comfort of your own home, perhaps while the session is running (4-5pm), or anyone who would like to serve refreshments to the parents who attend. Any questions or ideas, please email

lizzie.h.thomas@gmail.com.

WinterComfort and Cambridge Church Homeless Project Quiz Night - St Barnabas Church, Mill Road - Wednesday 11 October, 7pm

WinterComfort and the Cambridge Church Homeless Project are holding a fundraising event on Wednesday 11th October. This is a Quiz and Curry Night at St Barnabas Church. A similar event was held last year and was a great success. The quiz is reportedly something quite special – nothing like your average pub quiz! They are using an interactive quiz system – very flashy and LOTS of fun. Teams from churches are encouraged. This link should take you to Eventbrite for tickets.

[Wintercomfort and CCHP Quiz and Curry Night! Tickets, Wed 11 Oct 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-wintercomfort-and-cchp-quiz-and-curry-night-tickets-wed-11-oct-2023-at-19:00-|Eventbrite)

There is also a concert of readings and beautiful a cappella singing from a small high quality choir (The William Singers) at Downing Place URC on Sunday 15th October at 4:30pm with all proceeds going to Wintercomfort.

Here is the link to the means for tickets.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-william-singers-in-support-of-wintercomfort-tickets-714526095787?aff=oddtcreator>

Azul Wasi Newsletter

Life at Azul Wasi has been very challenging over the past few months for a number of reasons which we have explained in the latest Azul Wasi Newsletter. You can find this on the Mission and Giving section of the is available on the church website:

<https://standrews-chesterton.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Azul-Wasi-Autumn-Newsletter-2023.pdf>

There are some printed copies in the hall and at the back of the church. If you aren't on the mailing list and would like to receive the twice-yearly Newsletter, you can sign up to this on the website:

<https://www.standrews-chesterton.org/church-life/mission-and-giving/azul-wasi/>

Please pray for Alcides and the other staff and of course for the boys whose home it is.

Chris and Mary Pountain (azulwasista@gmail.com)

Book Club: The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Tuesday 28th November, at 8 pm, at the home of Ewa Allen (42 Hawthorn Way, Tel. 367351). We will be discussing *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk. It's set in a rural part of Poland and is part mystery story, part philosophical 'fable', offering ideas on injustice against marginalized people, animal rights, hypocrisy of traditional religion, among other issues. As ever, new and occasional members are most welcome.

Opportunities to help our communications as a church

We want to be a church that lets our community know what's on in our church and welcomes new people warmly and effectively. We are looking for new volunteers to

1) help design and produce posters to publicise which worship services and other events are happening when in our church each month, and

2) to help keep up-to-date our church database - ChurchSuite - which allows us to keep in touch with new people and keep everyone informed about church news.

These are two distinct yet self-contained tasks which need only a small but also regular amount of time each month. Training will be given - you just need to feel reasonably confident you would enjoy spending an hour or two every few weeks doing them! Please talk to Philip for more details.

Ecumenical visit to the Diocese of Vellore in South India in January 2024: The Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council (<https://www.cambsecumenical.org.uk>) has links with the Diocese of Vellore in the Church of South India. If you would be interested in joining a group of representatives from the

Ely Diocese in a visit to Vellore in January next year, please see this [leaflet](#) and find out more at: <http://www.vellorecambridgeshirelink.org>

Quinquennial building repairs: arrangements in church from mid-August to the end of October. The work has been progressing well since it began on 14 August. The most disruptive part of the project involves removing and replacing plaster from the wall in the South Side Aisle. The South Side Aisle has been sealed off with plastic sheeting, and will remain out of use by the church for an estimated further 7 to 8 weeks.

For the duration of this period, the 8am Communion service is being held in the Nave area. The prayer area and votive candle stand has moved to the North Aisle.

The church remains open to the public in the usual way, but regrettably won't be as peaceful on weekdays when the work is taking place. The church may be closed earlier on some days.

Community News & Notices

Something for Call the Midwife fans...Saturday 14th October, 3–4.30pm at Little St Mary's Church:

Heidi Thomas (Creator) & Stephen McGann (Dr Turner) share candid insights and exclusive behind-the-scenes images in an illustrated talk about this much-loved TV drama. This is a special fundraising event in aid of two Cambridge-based charities, Whitworth House and Camtrust. Tickets £16.96 including homemade cake, tea, coffee & booking fee from Eventbrite -

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/heidi-thomas-stephen-mcgann-on-the-hit-call-the-tv-midwife-tickets-717021569817?aff=ebdssbeac>

ESOL Cafe in Chesterton: A friendly group meets on Tuesday mornings at St Laurence's Church to help anyone who would like to improve their English speaking for whom it is not their first language. Each session deals with a different useful topic. Please see this [flyer](#) for details and visit www.esolcafe.co.uk, where the programme for this term can be found.

Please email any notices for inclusion in the next Weekly News Update by 12 noon on Thursday to admin@standrews-chesterton.org. Thank you.