



# ST ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON

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

[www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org)

## Weekly News Update, 13 October 2023

### **Building repairs - progress and temporary unsightliness!**

The most disruptive part of our building repairs project in the South Side Aisle is now finished and completed, and we look forward to resuming services and seating in this aisle. However, just as one area of the church returns to normal, views of and access to the Chancel will be disrupted for a very short time: this weekend the chancel contains scaffolding for a small repair to the ceiling. This should be completed by early next week. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we carry out these repairs - and do come and enjoy our newly-painted South Aisle!

### **Volunteer Opportunities with Junior Church!**

We are delighted that our Junior Church is growing and that we are welcoming new families all the time. This means that we are looking to recruit and train up members of the wider congregation to support this important work. A small commitment from you would make a big difference to our children and young people growing and finding faith for themselves! There are many different ways you can help. Could you:

- be on a rota of helpers to assist the group leaders on the 2nd Sunday in the month?
- share your love of crafts by liaising with our Story teller at Cafe Church and dream up some creative responses for children and adults?
- help prepare the children's area in church to welcome families with pens, colouring and toys in the children's area - by getting to church 10-15 minutes early for Family / All-Age services and staying a little longer to help tidy after?
- make and serve coffee for the start of Cafe Church on a 4th Sunday (on an occasional basis)?

If the answer is 'YES' to any of these (or indeed if you have other ideas!) please contact Julia Eisen [junior.church@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:junior.church@standrews-chesterton.org) Thank you!

### **And even more volunteer opportunities with Youth!**

And if supporting the youth is something you are passionate about, we would love to have your help either hanging out on an occasional Sunday afternoon, cooking a meal for the youth (we still need someone to do this on 5th November!), joining us for a WHY Group or two on a Sunday morning during Junior Church, or praying intentionally for the youth. Please, don't hesitate to chat to Jess if any of these things sound like they might be something you'd be willing to try!

### **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 7.30-8.30pm 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](mailto:chris.pountain@standrews-chesterton.org)) if you would like to be involved, so that appropriate music can be chosen and enough copies produced.

The **Bible Study Group** meets on Tuesday at 10.30am in the St Andrew's Hall Annexe, continuing our studies of Genesis. New members are always welcome.

The next **Umbrella Group Meeting** is on Thursday 19th October at 2.30pm. We meet at 55 St. Andrew's Road Cambridge. Please come along if you would like to join us for a chat, tea and cake.

### **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](mailto: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.

### **Hymn and song-writing workshop in church - Saturday 11th November c.9am-12 noon.**

Are you creative with words? Are you creative with music? Would you like to get together with others in our church community to share words and music for expressing our faith, worship and praise? Alex Coke-Woods is looking to organise a workshop for anyone interested in our own hymn and song-writing in St Andrew's. We'll gather on the morning of Saturday 11 November, from 9am. Do come along - or get in touch with Alex for more details. [alex.cokewoods@gmail.com](mailto:alex.cokewoods@gmail.com)

## **Service details**

### **Sunday 15 October, 19th Sunday 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

### **Sunday 22 October, 20th after Trinity**

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

10.00 am Parish Communion (live-streamed and in church)

10.00 am Cafe Church 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.

The Bible Study Group meets in the Annexe at 10.30am.

Pilgrims Group meets at the Vicarage, 7.45–9.15 pm.

**Thursday:** The Umbrella Group meets at 55 St Andrew's Road at 2.30pm.

## **Please pray for...**

Peace in the Middle East, and aid for all those suffering from the ongoing terrible violence.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York made this statement on Wednesday:

“We are grieved and deeply concerned at the violence in Israel and Gaza, and we unequivocally condemn the attacks by Hamas. We pray for those who are mourning, those who are injured, and all those fearing for their safety. We pray for restraint on all sides, and renewed efforts towards a just peace for all. The way forward must be for both sides to build confidence in a secure future through which Israel and its people can live in security within its internationally recognised borders, and Palestinians have their own state and live in their lands in security, and with peace and justice.”

**From the Book of Remembrance:** Emma Pointon

## **More news and some reminders...**

### **Could you help steward concerts at St Andrew's this Autumn? Free listening included!**

Help is needed to steward two evening concerts and the pre-concert rehearsals, which are taking place at St Andrew's on Monday 30th October and Saturday 18th November. If you are interested in helping please see John Reynolds after church or contact him by email ([reynolds.4@btinternet.com](mailto:reynolds.4@btinternet.com)) or tel: 01223 249591. It is hoped that the number of concerts at St Andrew's will increase, so all offers of help will be gratefully received.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:lizzie.h.thomas@gmail.com).

### **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>

**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](#).

## Community News & Notices

### **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 11<sup>th</sup> 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](#)

**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 15<sup>th</sup> 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>

### **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](http://www.esolcafe.co.uk), where the programme for this term can be found.

### **Climate crisis exhibition at St George's Chesterton**

St George's Chesterton is pleased to host the "Letters from the Global South" travelling exhibition between Monday 16 and Wednesday 18 October. This exhibition aims to raise awareness and foster solidarity with communities in the southern hemisphere most affected by climate change and environmental destruction. It includes quotations, illustrations, letters, and drawings from campaigners and schools in countries such as Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe. The exhibition will be open to church groups and local schools on Monday and Tuesday and to the general public on Wednesday from 12 am to 8 pm, including storytelling, crafts and refreshments for families after school. Additionally, on Saturday, from 2 pm to 5 pm, we invite everyone to participate in a workshop and refreshments session at the Cambridge Unitarian Church (5 Emmanuel Rd, CB1 1JW). This workshop is for everyone but was especially designed for those who are not yet involved in climate-related campaigns to socialise and generate collective ideas for local community-led environmental action. Register for the workshop here:

[www.bit.ly/letterscam](http://www.bit.ly/letterscam)

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