

A message from Sue, our church co-ordinator:

I find it hard to believe that last week I was sat on a beach and this week I ordered the church Christmas tree!

Over the last couple of weeks I've had the opportunity to meet multiple people in many different situations and it's been a real reminder of the wonderful news that God's grace meets us right where we are. We all face different challenges, but what a privilege that we never have to face them alone. As you enter this next week, may His peace fill your heart and your home, and may you find fresh strength in His constant love.

This Week's Bible Reading:

Genesis 18:1-15 Three visitors

Psalms 20:1-9

John 8:54-58

The Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God:
Increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What's On This Week:

Saturday 10am - 1pm : Women's Day with guest speaker Hannah Fox. Please bring a packed lunch if you'd like to stay and eat in fellowship together afterwards

Sunday 9.00am: Holy Communion Service (& refreshments in the lounge afterwards)

Sunday 11.00am: Morning Service (& refreshments in the hall afterwards) Children's groups for ages 3-11. Children are also welcome to stay in the service and there is a relay in the lounge for parents to take their child to if desired.

Sunday 7.30pm Church Family Prayer Gathering in the church lounge (wouldn't it be great if we had to move into the hall for numbers). Arguably, the most important meeting of the week, please do plan to come along if you can; and join together with the church family as we pray.

If you've never been before and want to know what's it about - we gather together to thank and glorify God and to pray for one another. We bring before God the current things relevant to our church family at St Johns and the wider church family around the world. We start with a short reading from God's word and chat about the things we'd like to pray about, before praying as we feel led. There is no pressure to pray aloud - you're welcome to pray silently or aloud. It is incredibly humbling that God, the creator of all, wants to hear from us so please come along and join us as we pray.

Monday 2pm Christianity Explored - church lounge

Monday 6.30pm CYFA

Monday 7pm Christianity Explored - location to be confirmed - if you've signed up we'll be in touch.

Tuesday 6.15pm Explorers and 7.30pm Pathfinders

Midweek Home Bible Study Groups - See Karl Turner for details

Wednesday 10.30am: Mums bible study

Catch Up:

If you miss the Sunday sermon, you can watch a video of it on the St Johns YouTube Channel. It's usually uploaded on a Monday.

Dates for your Diary:

Mondays 5/10-16/11 2pm and 7pm Christianity Explored

25th October CAP Sunday with a Bring and Share lunch

1st November International Day of Prayer - join us to pray in the church hall after church for persecuted Christians around the world.

28th November CAP table top fundraiser

5th December Christmas Unwrapped

12th December Seniors Christmas Tea

News:

- Christianity Explored starts on Monday 5th for a series of 7 sessions over the next 7 Mondays. If you haven't signed up yet, it's not too late. Do get in touch and let us know whether you'd prefer 2pm or 7pm.

- This Saturday we welcome Hannah Fox as the guest speaker at our Women's Day. If you haven't booked yet, please speak to Mim or Christine to ensure that there's still space.

- The seniors Christmas Tea is booked for the 12th December. Do put the date in your diary and if you're new to our church and are over 65 (or if you're just new to being over 65), speak to Diane Jackson to secure your place. It's a wonderful afternoon of fun and fellowship. If you've been before, you will automatically be invited again.

Please join us in prayer for:

Women's Day on Saturday 3rd.

Christianity Explored as it begins on the 5th.

Attendees at the ICU remembrance service on Monday the 5th as they gather together to remember loved ones.

Alison and David Holburt as they mourn the loss of Alison's father, Terry.

Those facing health challenges in our family - Tristan Pereni, Tony Pang, Jenny Wong and Mei Lan Benn
The Walker family in Argentina as they lead a small Anglican church in Argentina, seeking to share the gospel and develop church leadership training.

Spotlight on Serving: The occasionals

Lots of our serving is done on a regular basis and people join a rota and take a turn to help out regularly. But just as important, are those ad hoc needs like Christmas Unwrapped, Seniors Tea, Christmas and Easter services, Football school, Christianity Explored, Schools services and many

more. Thank you to all of those people who serve at these events doing many different jobs that are too many to list! We thank God for your willingness to serve.

If you'd like to get involved in any adhoc activities, please contact Sue Lane and we'll put you in touch with the right person. Now is an excellent time to offer your assistance in Nov/Dec, where we will need many hands to help at all the extra Christmas events.

Pastoral Visits

Si and the pastoral visiting team are available to visit you at home, or elsewhere if you prefer. Pastoral care is very important to us, so please don't be afraid to ask for a visit. To organise a visit, please get in touch with Sue on 07563473620 or office@stjohnshensingham.org.uk

Useful contact details:

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Our Mission Community partner churches:

Church on the Moor (Cleator Moor): www.churchonthemoor.com

St Andrew's Church (Mirehouse): www.standrewsmirehouse.co.uk

St Bridget's Church (Moresby): www.stbridgetsmoresby.com

Mission Community Events website:

<https://www.churchonthemoor.com/mc-events>