



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 157

July 2023

Are you new to St Jude's?

It's lovely to welcome you among us – in person or online. Please make yourself known and let us know how we can help you feel at home. If you have any questions, suggestions, requests for prayer or if you would like to come and talk more personally, please contact our Vicar on vicar@stjudeschurch.info

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 3.30pm on 8th July. This will be followed by a piano recital (see below). Do come along for a cup of tea and a chat and have a look round.

Food Bank

Each week between mid-April and mid-June 2023 Geoff Chew has taken an average of 17kg of non-perishable foodstuffs and other items to the Runnymede Food Bank. Thank you to all of you whose generosity has made this possible! This is a vital ministry, especially in such challenging times. We are very grateful to Geoff for coordinating it for us. Items may be left in our Food Bank crate in church. Thank you!

Enhanced Coffee Morning
Saturday 15th July
10.00am–1.00pm

Do come along and have a look round our church

Piano Recital
by James Webb

playing music by
Franz Mozart, Beethoven
Ireland, Schubert and Chopin

Saturday 8th July
4.00pm

St Jude's Church

Admission free
Refreshments provided
Donations welcome

The best of times, the worst of times

Dickens opens his book 'The tale of two cities' with the following lines – "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, ..."

The book was of course, set at the time of the French Revolution, but the sentiment has stood the test of time and certainly could well be applied to our situation today. Whether it's Climate Crisis, a European war, or the serious rises in the cost of living, to name but a few, I think it would be fair to say we are in a bit of a pickle!

At such times it's very easy to feel a little bit gloomy, so it was a welcome change the other day to be driven by a taxi driver who very much saw the positive side of everything. His take on our current situation was that we had got through as bad or worse before, and we would get through this current situation too. Things might be difficult for a while but it was giving England a much-needed haircut and it would all work out in the end. We talked about the fact that nowadays it was expected that everyone had all the white goods and technology they needed and that perhaps the current situation might make us value material goods a bit more.

He also spoke about how when he was growing up, it was quite usual for there to be only one car in a village and this really gave me food for thought as I have someone who I am very proud to say calls me his friend who is the owner of the one car in his village. That car and village are halfway round the world from here, in a little village near Siam Reap in Cambodia.

As some of you know, I started teaching English once a week, to a few Cambodian students in lockdown via zoom and that has continued to this day. When much of the world went into lockdown, the owner of the car, Kimleng, assembled the students in his yard and started to try to teach them English. Kimleng is a photographic tour guide and his work completely dried up in the pandemic as the hotels in Siam Reap emptied. Initially he was helped by a couple of his former clients and when his story was picked up by the BBC, he gained me. Somehow three of us, have stumbled on since then, sometimes helped by others, sometimes not. It has its frustrations, for instance sometimes the internet doesn't work, often at their end, but not always; if it rains heavily there the students can't come, as the roads are impassable. But above all it has its rewards; every week we talk about the temperature where we each are; their temperature rarely drop below 30.0C, which led to the hilarity of explaining what a pullover is and about all the outdoor clothes we need in the winter, and I now know much more about Cambodian food and culture.

The biggest reward however, is seeing the progress the students have made. When I started teaching, they told me of their career ambitions and I must admit I felt very daunted and inadequate, but one of the other teachers reminded me that I was better than nothing, which was the only other choice. Now I look back and am so proud of what they are doing, several of them have been sponsored to go to University and no doubt others will follow. One of the girls now wants to be a teacher, as she wants to make a difference. They are the bright hope for the future of their country.

Hope is the theme running through both the Old and New Testaments.

Isaiah tells us that (40v31)

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Paul reminds us again and again that our hope is in faith and that we can have confidence in it because God has promised it will come to pass. And hope pours out of Jesus like a stream of pure water flowing over drought-parched land. It continues to do so, and that stream will never run dry, no matter how often we fill our pitcher from it.

Diana Bendall

Audio Visual Project

A Special Invitation! Come and be part of the St Jude's United Church Live-Streaming Team!

We are delighted to report that our AV System is now up and running and we are looking for volunteers who can help with our live-streaming on a rota basis. Could this be you?

Guy Bunce has produced a Training Manual and Video: *Handbook: Streaming at St Jude's United Church* and he is also offering "live" training during some of our Sunday Services.

You will never be left on your own! Once the training is under way you will be invited to join a WhatsApp Group which will ensure that support and advice is always available.

Please contact guybunce@hotmail.com if you would like to be part of this exciting project or if you would simply like to know a bit more about what that would entail. We look forward to hearing from you. You will be making a real difference to those who depend on our live streaming for their worship. Please do consider offering your help. Thank you!

Enhanced Coffee Morning

On Saturday 15th July from 10am-1pm we have an enhanced coffee morning!! Cakes and preserves will be on sale as usual and there will be one or two additional stalls. The church will be open, offering an opportunity to visitors to look round and ask questions and perhaps to discover something more about this beautiful building right in the heart of our Village.

We are very grateful that Mr John Scott, MBE has kindly offered to loan us for this event the model of the Village War Memorial, "Sons and Daughters Remembered". It will be available in church for visitors to see and the Books of Remembrance, donated to St Jude's Church by Mr Scott, will be alongside it. Mr Scott is currently working on bringing these separate books into a single, leather-bound volume. If you have any further information about a relative whose name is included on the Village War Memorial please do bring the details along on that morning between 10am and 11.30am.

At approximately 11.30 am Dr Andrew Sheer will be giving an illustrated talk – *Where does Englefield Green start and finish' – an illustrated look at its boundaries through time*. This is an issue which is of historical interest but which still has implications for today – not least for couples planning to be married in St Jude's!

Please come along for all or part of the morning and, most of all, enjoy a chat over coffee!

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us by using easyfundraising.co.uk when buying things through Amazon etc.

The Village Centre

www.villagecentre.org.uk 01784 471110

Our Village Centre had some very exciting news last month! We were recognised at the Spelthorne and Runnymede Annual Volunteer Awards which took place on Monday 5th June 2023 at Royal Holloway University College. We were nominated for the Volunteer Team of the Year Award and we were awarded the Volunteer Team Impact Award! Many, many congratulations to everyone involved on such an outstanding achievement. We are very proud of you all – staff and volunteers alike!

Appropriately for this month our Methodist Minister, the Revd Andrew Reed, has written his own reflection about the impact of the Centre in our Village Community.

"I have been involved with the Village Centre since I arrived in the Staines and Feltham Circuit of the Methodist Church in 2015. At that time I was not even really aware of the Village of Englefield Green, but gradually I have come to appreciate both the Village and the Village Centre. Management of the Village Centre is shared by representatives from St Jude's United Church and the Methodist Circuit. We meet on a regular basis to discuss the condition of the building and to look at the work that takes place on the premises. We hear from our Centre Manager, Ali Griffin, who keeps us up to date with all that is going on. Many of the Committee take the opportunity to pop into the Centre to enjoy what is on offer. We appreciate the hard work of both staff and volunteers who do so much to ensure that the Centre is a real asset for the Village and for individuals.

The other day I learned a little more about the impact that just one of our projects has on the lives of individuals. Baby Basics seeks to provide help for families who, for all sorts of reasons, find that it is difficult to provide all that is needed when a new baby arrives on the scene. A new mum needed help. This became apparent in a conversation with a church member and they both went up to the Centre and the necessary equipment was provided. The person was so grateful that she wanted her family to know what had happened and how grateful she was for the help that she had received. This is just one example among many and it shows how important the work of the Centre is for so many people".

A reminder that our café is open each weekday from 9.00am-2.00pm. (Please note a slight change from 24th July and throughout the school holidays, when we open at the slightly later time of 10.00am). A warm welcome awaits you!

As always, If you have any queries, suggestions, requests for bookings, or if you would like to offer your help to the Centre please contact Ali Griffin, our Centre Manager as below. Thank you! manager@villagecentre.org.uk

Diary for July

- 2 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Informal Holy Communion
- 5 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 8 Saturday 2.00-3.30pm Church open 4.00pm Piano Recital by James Webb
- 9 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 12 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 15 Saturday 10.00am-1.00pm Enhanced Coffee Morning at St Jude's Church
- 16 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Holy Communion
- 19 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 23 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 25 Tuesday 7.30pm Church Council meets
- 26 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 30 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30 Morning Service NO Holy Communion

Please note that our 9.30am each Sunday is always live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. If you are unable to join us in church we warmly invite you to tune in.



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



*"Excellence in Education, Kindness in Community, Courage
through Faith"*

Every year Guildford Cathedral holds a series of Year Six Leavers' Services for pupils from all our Church of England Schools across the Diocese. On Monday 12th June it was the turn of Year Six from St Jude's Junior School to be invited to the Cathedral along with pupils from several other schools and I had the great privilege of being invited by Mrs Chiverton to be among those accompanying them.

It was a beautiful day and we were able to have lunch on the grass outside the Cathedral as soon as we arrived. Afterwards we spent about an hour in groups visiting the various areas for reflection which had been set up in and around the Cathedral. Each area provided an activity around a theme. The children were given materials to make a paper flag – and to write on it a particular "Wow!" moment that they remembered from their time in school. They were asked to write down the name of someone at school who had really helped and inspired them – and to make a "stick" figure to represent that person. Other activities encouraged the children to think about the achievements of which they are the most proud, any regrets they may have as they prepare to leave, and any concerns they may have for the future. All these themes were brought together in the service which followed.

The Day was hosted by members of our Diocesan Department of Education, including our Director of Education, Mr Alex Tear and by the Dean of Guildford Cathedral, the Very Rev Dianna Gwilliams.

We have our own Leavers' Service for our Year 2 Leavers from St Jude's Infants School on Thursday 20th July. We look forward to welcoming the children, teachers and parents of Year 2 to St Jude's Church for that special occasion. We are glad that most of them are just leaving SJIS to move on to SJJS!

Please do pray for all our children who are facing times of transition and change. And please pray for all our school staff as they manage that change with sensitivity and understanding.

From the Registers

Marriage:

(10th June) Luke Joseph Lee and Chantelle Josephine Green

Funerals:

(8th June) Rita Catherine Mary Townsend; (15th June) David Paul Johnson.

Readings at Communion

Sunday 2nd July (Trinity 4)	Jeremiah 28. 5-9 Psalm 89. 1-4, 15-18 Romans 6. 12-end Matthew 10. 40-end
Sunday 9th July (Trinity 5)	Zachariah 9. 9-12 Psalm 145. 8-15 Romans 8. 15-25a Matthew 11. 16-19, 25-end
Sunday 16th July (Trinity 6)	Isaiah 55. 10-13 Psalm 65 Romans 8. 1-11 Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23
Sunday 23rd July (Trinity 7)	Isaiah 44. 6-8 Psalm 86. 11-end Romans 8. 12-25 Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43
Sunday 30th July (Trinity 8)	1 Kings 3. 5-12 Psalm 119. 129-136 Romans 8. 26-end Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52