

# *The Parish Call*

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S PARISH MEMBERS

## **MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR**

### ***Happy New Year!***

Dear friends at St John's,  
As we step into the New Year 2026, I am deeply thankful for God's faithfulness among us and for the privilege of serving Christ together here in Stratford. A new year always invites reflection—not only on what lies ahead, but on how we live as disciples of Jesus, where he has placed us.

In the weeks ahead, we will be exploring what it means to pursue excellence as followers of Christ. Scripture consistently calls God's people to offer him their whole hearts and lives—not in perfectionism or fear, but in grateful response to his grace. Christian excellence is not about faultless performance; it is about faithfulness, readiness, and love shaped by the gospel. Because Christ has given himself fully for us, we seek to live fully for him.

This matters deeply for God's mission in Stratford. In a community marked by both great need and great opportunity, the way we live our everyday lives—at work, at home, among neighbours and friends—speaks powerfully of the hope we have in Christ. When our lives are marked by integrity, compassion, and attentiveness to the Spirit, the gospel is made visible.

My prayer is that this new year will find us rooted in grace, strengthened by the Spirit, and ready for every good work God has prepared for us.

With every blessing,  
Revd. Young Lee

#### **You can contact the Church Office:**

- Tel: 020 8503 1913 | General email: [admin@stjohnse15.org](mailto:admin@stjohnse15.org) | Office opening hours: 10am – 1pm (Mon-Fri)
- Rev. Young Lee, vicar of St John's | Email: [young@stjohnse15.org](mailto:young@stjohnse15.org) | Day of rest: Monday
- Website: [www.stjohnse15.org](http://www.stjohnse15.org) | [www.facebook.com/stjohnse15](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnse15)



#### ***SERVICES FOR JANUARY***

4th January (HC) - Wholehearted, not Half-asleep

- Colossians 3:12-17
- Mark 12:28-34

11th January (MW) - Faithful in the Ordinary

- Zechariah 4:6-10
- Luke 16:10-13

18th January (HC) - Working as for the Lord

- Colossians 3:22-24
- Matthew 5:13-16

25th January (AAW) - A Prepared People

- Isaiah 55:6-11
- 1 Peter 3:13-16

(HC = Holy Communion | MW = Morning Worship | AAW = All Age Worship)

## EVENTS IN JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Gazebo Outreach, 11.30am
4 Holy Communion Service, 11am	5 FEP, 6pm	6 Healing Cafe, 11am --- FEP, 6pm	7 FEP, 6pm	8 Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm --- FEP, 6pm	9 FEP, 6pm	10
11 Morning Worship, 11am --- Men's & Women's Groups, 1pm	12 FEP, 6pm	13 Healing Cafe, 11am --- FEP, 6pm	14 Prayer walk, 11am --- FEP, 6pm	15 Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm --- FEP, 6pm	16 FEP, 6pm	17 Gazebo Outreach, 11.30am
18 Holy Communion Service, 11am	19 FEP, 6pm	20 Healing Cafe, 11am --- FEP, 6pm	21 FEP, 6pm	22 Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm --- FEP, 6pm	23 FEP, 6pm	24
25 All Age Worship, 11am	26 FEP, 6pm	27 Healing Cafe, 11am --- FEP, 6pm	28 FEP, 6pm	29 Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm --- FEP, 6pm	30 FEP, 6pm --- End of Month Night Prayer, 10pm	31

FEP: Facebook Evening Prayer ([www.facebook.com/stjohnse15](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnse15))

End of Month Night Prayer on Zoom (Meeting ID: 897 0542 7512; Passcode: 984804)

### EVERY MEMBER MINISTRY

We believe everyone has a part to play to BE CHURCH TOGETHER. Therefore, we seek Every-Person Ministry at St John's. There are many opportunities to be part of the ministry. If you sense God's nudging to a particular ministry, please speak to Young.



**SUNDAY SERVICE TEAMS** - Welcomers, Carpark team, Refreshments team, Cake team, Sound & Visual team, Choir & Worship team, Readers, Intercessors, Prayer Ministry team, Sunday Clubs & YPF (Youth group) team

**CRIME BUSTERS** - Church cleaning team on Saturday at 11am

**GAZEBO TEAM** - Mission & Evangelism team on Saturday

**RECEPTIONISTS** - Welcoming people at the reception desk in the cafe on weekday mornings

### MONTHLY PRAYER UPDATE - JANUARY

#### Our Wider Community

- Our local Stratford Churches
- For an end to street violence, knife and drug crime in East London
- For the vulnerable in our community, particularly during this cost of living crisis
- For God's peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, Pakistan, India, Sudan, Nigeria, and other global conflicts
- For areas around the world suffering the aftereffects of climate crises

#### Members of the Congregation for health issues

- Marion and Peter (Bev's sister and brother-in-law)
- Rev Young, his brother and mother
- Kim, Mona, Joan, Millie Ferguson, Joyce

#### Recently Bereaved members of the Congregation

- Bridget for the loss of her dad
- Daniel and his family for the loss of Patrick
- Joyce for the loss of her family member
- Friends and family of Garry Walker

#### For Our Mission Links

In January, we pray for Amos Trust, for their mission to challenge injustice, restore rights and create hope. Please pray for three areas - Street Justice, Palestine Justice and Climate Justice.

**\*\*If you have any prayer requests or need a pastoral visit, please let us know. \*\***