

The Parish Call

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S PARISH MEMBERS

MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

During my sabbatical, I had time to reflect and pray about what kind of church we are called to be as we follow Jesus here in Stratford.

That reflection has shaped our new teaching series, Come and See. At the heart of it is a simple question: If Jesus were standing outside St John's today, where would he go? And would we be willing to go with him?

Jesus was always drawn towards people — especially those who were overlooked, struggling, searching or in need. He saw the world differently. Where others saw problems, Jesus often saw possibilities for the Kingdom of God.

As we enter this autumn season, I am particularly drawn to his words: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

When we see problems, Jesus sees a harvest. When we see difficulty, Jesus sees people whom God loves. When we see needs that seem overwhelming, Jesus invites us to trust him and join in what he is already doing.

So this term, I want to invite us into a deeper and perhaps more radical obedience to Jesus. May our prayer be: "Jesus, wherever you go, I will follow."

My prayer is that God will raise up many of us as workers for his harvest in this particular season — willing to come to Jesus, see what he sees, and go wherever he leads.

May God bless you richly as we follow him together.

MONTHLY PRAYER UPDATE - OCTOBER

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 after-effects of climate crises

For Our Mission Links

In August, we pray for **Stratford Foodbank**, as they provide for families and people in need in Newham and Stratford. Pray for the safety of volunteers and staff, for the beneficiaries, and for continued generosity in the community.

Members of the Congregation for health issues

- Rev Young, his brother and mother
- Janice (Bev's sister), David (Bev's brother), Kim, Mona, Joan, Millie Ferguson, Joyce, Rev Pat

Recently Bereaved members of the Congregation

- Friends and family of Tony Bowker
- Boyd Bowker's maternal aunt
- Daniel for the loss of his brother
- Christine for the loss of her family member
- Sheva for the loss of her great-grandniece
- Youjin for the loss of her father

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

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

4th October - Holy Communion

Guest speaker - Andrew and Lisa

- Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
- Matthew 21:33-end

11th October - Morning Worship

What does our community actually need?

- Nehemiah 2:11-18
- Mark 6:34-44

18th October - Holy Communion

What is missing?

- 1 Corinthians 13:1-7
- John 13:1-17, 34-35

25th October - All-Age Worship

Small hands, big love

- 2 Kings 5:1-15
- Mark 10:13-16

Contacting the Church Office:

- Tel: 020 8503 1913 | General email: admin@stjohnse15.org | Office opening hours: 10am – 1pm (Mon-Fri)
- Rev. Young Lee, Vicar | Email: young@stjohnse15.org
- Website: www.stjohnse15.org | www.facebook.com/stjohnse15

EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 FNP, 9pm --- Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm	2 FNP, 9pm	3 Church Cleaning, 11am
4 Holy Communion Service, 11am --- Nigerian Independence Lunch, 12.30pm	5 FNP, 9pm	6 FNP, 9pm --- Healing Cafe, 11am	7 FNP, 9pm	8 FNP, 9pm --- Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm	9 FNP, 9pm	10 Church Cleaning, 11am
11 Morning Worship, 11am --- Men's & Women's Groups, 1pm	12 FNP, 9pm	13 FNP, 9pm --- Healing Cafe, 11am	14 FNP, 9pm	15 FNP, 9pm --- Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm	16 FNP, 9pm	17 Church Cleaning, 11am
18 Holy Communion Service, 11am	19 FNP, 9pm	20 FNP, 9pm --- Healing Cafe, 11am	21 FNP, 9pm	22 FNP, 9pm --- Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm	23 FNP, 9pm	24 Church Cleaning, 11am
25 (Daylight Saving Time ends) All-age Worship, 11am	26 FNP, 9pm	27 FNP, 9pm --- Healing Cafe, 11am	28 FNP, 9pm	29 FNP, 9pm --- Lunchtime HC, 12.40pm	30 FNP, 9pm --- End of Month Night Prayer, 10pm	31 Church Cleaning, 11am

FNP: Facebook Night Prayer on Facebook (www.facebook.com/stjohnse15)

*End of Month Night Prayer on Zoom (Meeting ID: 862 5670 7791; Passcode: 473130)

Praying for our neighbours

In October, we pray for: Romford Rd, Lichfield Rd, Deanery Rd, and Sarah Bonnell School. Do commit these areas of our parish to your daily prayers.

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 us.



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

WEEKDAYS - Weekday Receptionists

GRIME BUSTERS - Church cleaning team on Saturday at 11am

GAZEBO TEAM - Mission & Evangelism team on Saturday

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