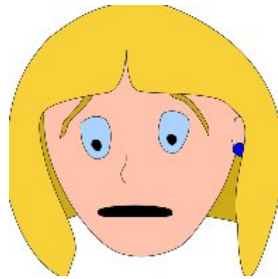




St Luke's News

July 2023
Number 275

Help! – We're in Charge!



So John Williamson and I are in charge of St Luke's while our Vicar, Michael, is on Extended Study Leave!

As Church Wardens, we have promised to make sure ...

“there is someone to conduct services, and that liturgy and the life of the parish continues as far as possible as with the incumbent. If there is no one available they should conduct any service, as far as possible themselves.” Eeek...!

Fortunately, Michael was diligent in ensuring visiting clergy were booked for Communion services, our lay leaders in worship received the appropriate training and certification, and that, together with our Readers and Ordinand, all Sunday and Tuesday services were covered so John and I don't need to conduct any services ourselves! We want to thank each and every one of them for their leading and preaching that has blessed us during this time.

We wish Michael well while he is away from the pressures of everyday ministry in order to take time for personal study and development. We look forward to his return and to hearing how the Lord has refreshed him in prayer, and guided his thinking and learning for our next steps in furthering the Kingdom within St Luke's, the Cassiobury Estate and beyond.

I am conscious that John and I have not been left alone in the task of ensuring daily life continues here at St Luke's. First, there is our wonderful staff team. Beth who keeps us all organised and is our centre of communications. Her knowledge, smiling welcome and capacity to problem-solve is a blessing to us all. Thank you Beth.

We have the Jeremys who coordinate the amazing worship teams we are so fortunate to enjoy. Each does so much more towards the life of St Luke's – thank you both.

Then we have Neil and Lydia who keep our Children, Youth and Families ministry growing in faith and discipleship. Again, each contributes to the life here at St Luke's in many additional ways. Thank you Neil and Lydia and your hard-working team of volunteers.

There is the PCC “promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church” and including Martin, our Treasurer, leading the finance team to keep our finances in good order; Mary, our Safeguarding Officer, ensuring every member of our church family is kept safe; Richard, our Lay Chair; those representing us on Deanery Synod; those supporting on the sub-committees and working groups – everyone giving of their time and energy to ensure the Church in all its aspects is kept in good order. Thank you to every one.

Let's not forget Tim and the AV team who ensure all the technical stuff works and our Deputy Wardens, Stewards, Welcomers, Tea and Coffee volunteers, Prayer Ministry Team, Pray-ers, Readers, Prayer Visitors, those who keep the building in order and are looking for ways of reducing our carbon footprint and energy costs, those involved in caring pastorally for those of our family in need. Thank you to you all!

Those contributing to the daily life and mission of the Church are many, yet there is always a need for more to come and join.

At a recent PCC meeting we read *1 Peter 5:1-4*:

“To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.”

We are all called to be servants of Christ, to set aside our personal rights

in order to love, serve and obey the will of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus gave us instructions in His Word, and the more we read and learn, the better we do. We do our work humbly and with love. We believe the hardships and struggles we face while in the flesh will be far outmatched by the glory and reward awaiting us in Heaven.

We have many examples of faithful servants for Christ in our church family who have recently been taken up to heaven, our dear Jack Watson being one. It is apparent from the outpouring of sadness and memories from those of all ages just how many this servant of the Lord impacted. He had a vast knowledge of, and firm belief in, Scripture and he desired for it to be available to all, through the Gideons, through daily scripture notes, through the Watford Schools Trust and as a leader of Junior Crusaders where I first met him, as well as supporting church youth groups. My daughters said, "He was always interested in us, wanting to know how we were doing and conversations with him were always an encouragement. He was lovely."

I can imagine Jack receiving the crown of glory that never fades, and hearing Christ saying "Well done, good and faithful servant.... Enter into the joy of your Master!" (*Matthew 25:21*).

We are not perfect and throughout the Bible God seems to use those who mess up time and again, but the overriding motivation is our love for Jesus, and therefore our desire to care for one another. Time is short in the busy world of work and family pressures but Jesus calls us all to serve, young children as well as the oldest among us. We have young teenagers volunteering with Holiday Club and playing in the worship band. We have retirees who give an amazing amount of time and energy in service, and we have everyone in between! Jesus said, "By this, everyone will know that you all are my disciples, if you have love one for another." (*John 13:35*).

Have you picked up one of our leaflets listing all the opportunities there are to serve at St Luke's? We have an immediate need for a PCC Secretary. The PCC Secretary works with the Chair of the PCC to ensure decision making is clearly and accurately recorded and that all the documents for the meeting are available. There are 5-6 PCC meetings a year. Please talk to John Williamson or me, even if you are not sure what or how much you can offer – Jesus was able to do great things when given five loaves and two fish by a little boy.

But Michael, we miss you and are looking forward to welcoming you back!

Susan Miller
Church Warden, St Luke's

Services at St Luke's Church

Sunday

8:00am Holy Communion Service

This is a said Communion and is held once a month in the Chapel at St Luke's. All are welcome.

10:30am Morning Service/Holy Communion Service

This is our main morning service, and is currently available live-streamed on YouTube. All are welcome, and there are usually children's groups and a crèche for younger ones. The details in the calendar below may change.

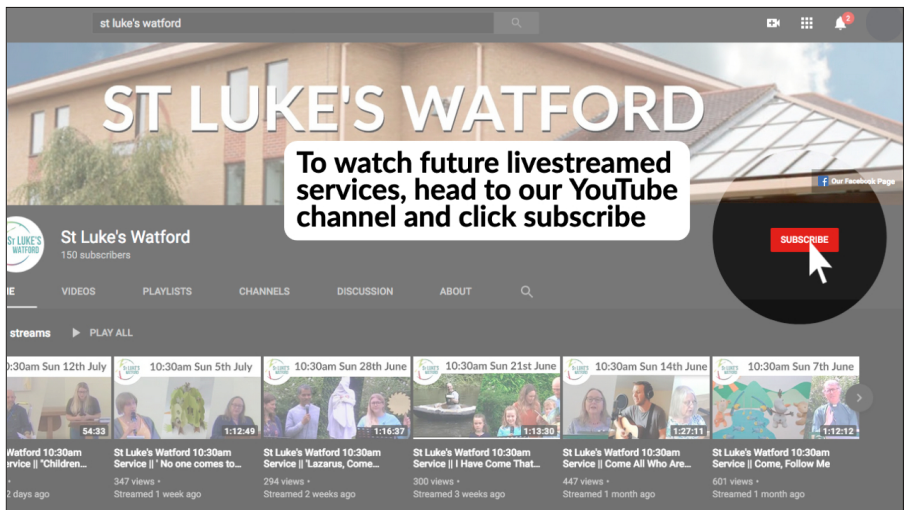
5:30pm Encounter - Informal Evening Service

This service includes worship, a talk and opportunities to be prayed for. There are activities for children and young people.

Tuesday

10:00am Holy Communion Service

We also have a weekly Communion (or Service of the Word if the Vicar is unavailable) at 10:00am on Tuesdays. This is a lovely, reflective service with a couple of hymns, followed by community tea and coffee.



If you've missed any of our services, check out our YouTube channel.

July	8:00am	10:30am	5:30pm
Sunday 23rd		Family Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	Encounter <i>Ancient prayers 5</i>
Sunday 30th		Holy Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	No evening service
August	8:00am	10:30am	5:30pm
Sunday 6th	Holy Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	All-age Service <i>Holiday Club</i>	No evening service
Sunday 13th		Family Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	No evening service
Sunday 20th		Family Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	No evening service
Sunday 27th		Family Communion <i>Lectionary</i>	No evening service

The sermon titles may change at the discretion of the preacher.

Please check our website for September services. We will be updating it regularly.

If you would like to give to St Luke's by bank transfer, the details are as follows:

Account name PCC St Luke's Watford

Sort code 20-91-79

Account no. 70687472

Reference Please state if the donation is for a specific appeal,
eg Santa's hampers, Foodbank, etc.

Please remember to complete a Gift Aid form if you are a tax payer

Diary dates coming up

July

28th Friday Club Tea Party, 2:30pm

August

1st-4th Starship Discovery Holiday Club (5-11 year olds),
10am-1pm, lunch included (pre-booking essential)

7th Church Help Out morning, 10:00-12 noon

25th Friday Club Tea Party, 2:30pm

September

2nd Half-day of prayer (to be confirmed)

8th Cameo + talk on Barnabus

10th Recital, 3:00pm, Winnie Wu (piano)

12th Urban Saints restarts

14th Toddlers restarts

16th Breakfast Club restarts

28th Alpha meal

29th Friday Club Tea Party, 2:30pm

October

1st Harvest

7th-8th Church Week-end (Saturday at Restore Hope,
Latimer)

13th Cameo Film Night



Prayer

FOCUS 8pm Tues

Zoom (Chapel 2nd Tues of the month)

Prayer for Children & Youth

Thursdays during term time
3pm in the Chapel

Hour of Prayer

Fridays 10am in the Chapel

Regular groups at St Luke's Church

Children/Youth Groups (evenings, term-time)

Urban Saints	Tuesdays	6:15–7:30pm	7–11 year olds
Base	Thursdays	6:15–7:30pm	11–14 year olds
K2	Tuesdays	7:45–9:00pm	12–15 year olds
RISE	Thursdays*	7:45–9:00pm	14–18 year olds

* Meeting intermittently so check with Neil and Lydia for dates

Breakfast Club

From 16th September, every other Saturday, 8:30–10:00am

For more information, speak to Lydia

Cassiobury and Nearby Community Choir

Wednesday evenings, term-time, 8:00pm in the church

For more information, speak to Jeremy C

Come And Meet Each Other (Cameo)

Friday evenings, monthly (usually 2nd Friday of the month)

For a programme, speak to Jos or Pam W

Creative Space

Craft activities for women, monthly

For more information, speak to Pam N

Friday Club

Monthly, last Friday in the month

For more information, speak to Janet G

Knitting Group

Monthly on a Monday morning

For more information, contact Di via the church office

Prayer

FOCUS, Tuesdays, 8:00pm: every 2nd Tuesday of the month meet in the chapel, all other Tuesdays meet on Zoom (for log-in details, contact the church office)

Prayer for Children & Youth, term-time, Thursdays, 3:00pm

Hour of Prayer, Fridays, 10:00-11:00 am

Toddlers (term-time)

Thursday mornings, 9:30–11:00am

Summer camps and events

Members of St Luke's Church family will be attending Christian camps, clubs and other events over the summer. Some will be leading or helping. Please pray for all those involved, for safety and for God's message to be heard and received.

15th July–4th August	Keswick Convention
24th–28th July	Spark in the Park (holiday club)
26th July–5th August	New Wine
29th July–5th August	The Point (youth holiday club)
1st–4th August	Starship Discovery (St Luke's holiday club)
6th–14th August	InterAction France
12th–20th August	Bethany House Party
24th–27th August	Greenbelt Festival



Christian Aid Week 2023

I wish to thank the people who delivered and collected envelopes for Christian Aid Week in May. Together with a church collection, we achieved a total of £1012.56. This is lower than previous years for a few reasons, including cash is not used as much and online giving is not accounted for in the total.



On 16th June I attended a meeting at Christian Aid headquarters in Lower Marsh, London, to meet with other Christian Aid representatives and to hear reports from the experts in various fields.

Richard told us how Cyclone Freddy had devastated crops and homes in Malawi in February and March this year. We learnt how pigeon peas were being planted because they are a drought-resistant crop and have long roots which can survive some stormy weather.

Pigeon peas are a staple food crop that provide good protein. They can be used like fresh peas or dried like any other peas, beans or lentils. In India they are one of the most popular pulses. Dhal is made from pigeon peas. They can also be sprouted to make them even more nutritious, and they can be ground into flour.

Before the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, there was no Christian Aid presence in Europe. A young Ukrainian woman has now joined the team in London and spoke about how Christian Aid is working with partners in evacuation, mobile health support and other practical help in Ukraine and border areas of Hungary and Romania.

Since the destruction of the Nova Kakhovka dam, the Ukrainian authorities say at least 37 towns and villages have been flooded and 16,000 people have lost their homes. The full impact of rising water along both sides of the frontline Dnipro river has yet to be seen but the United Nations fears it could be an environmental disaster.

As one of the members of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Christian Aid worked with partners on the ground after the earthquakes in Turkey in February this year to provide shelter, winter kits, food and clean water. Christian Aid has been working with local

partners across Syria for decades, responding to the Syrian crisis since 2012. It was among the first responders when the earthquakes struck and has been working with locally led relief efforts in northwest Syria.

Finally, Mohamad spoke about the new initiative being promoted by Christian Aid and other churches, called Faith Will. Gifts in Wills are a way for congregations to let their faith live on by leaving a gift in their Will to Christian Aid which could fund projects such as helping farming communities thrive in Zimbabwe.

These links give further information on Faith Will and giving to Christian Aid:

caid.org.uk/Faithwill

give.christianaid.org.uk

Pamela Willis



Friday Club Tea Parties 2:30pm at St Luke's

June 30th
July 28th
Aug 25th

*Now all you people
At work bench and sink
Stop all your business
Have time to think.
Who else on his birthday
Is put back in a cot
That was only part one
Now read the lot.*



Finance Update from St Luke's Treasurer

It is now over 6 months since I took on responsibility to serve you as Treasurer. I am grateful to the rest of the finance team for their faithful service.

This year is a year of transition for me as I learn how the finance works. John Sills' help with this handover is much appreciated.

A few aspects of interest:

1. Giving

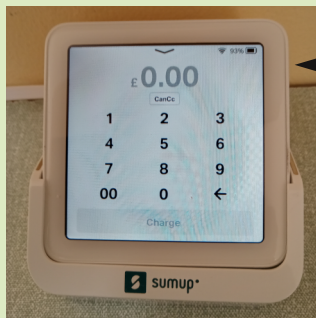
Please be aware that we incur fees on cash and contactless reader transactions. These attract fees of about 1.5%. So, when giving, please could you send the money online which is generally free. Add your name to the reference. Happily, many people do this already either as a standing order or as one-off payments for which we are most grateful.

2. Card reader/contactless payments

In preference to cash, we have been making the card reader available at services and other events.

The steps to using the reader are:

- 1 If the display is not showing, **press** the button on the side on the right near the top. The reader should then light up:



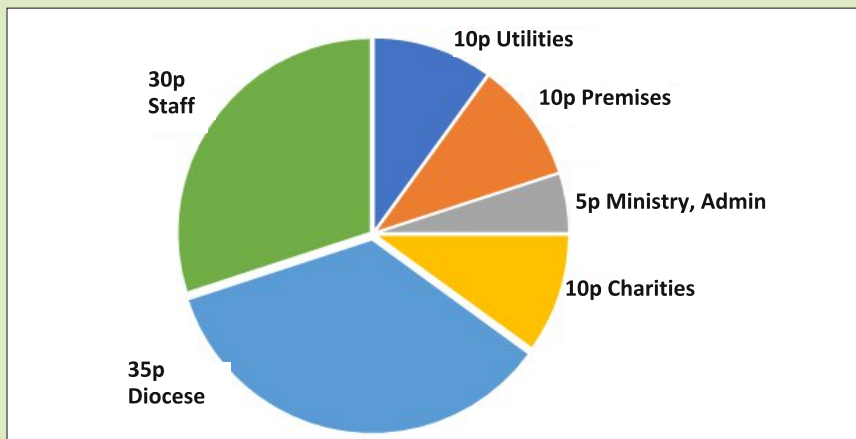
Press 'wake-up'
button here
to light up
the display

- 2 **Type** in the sum of money you are giving
- 3 See the note on the next page if you can gift aid the money
- 4 **Press** 'Charge' button at the bottom of the screen. It will then show you the contact sign once it has linked up with the internet
- 5 **Tap** your contactless card or insert it in the slot at the top
- 6 It should then accept the payment and will confirm acceptance

Note to step 3: If you can gift aid the donation and have already registered this with John Sills then **select** 'Add description' and **type** in your first initial followed by your surname and then the words 'Gift Aid', eg 'J Brown Gift Aid'. If you forget to do this you can email John Sills at john.sills5@gmail.com confirming payment details (how much and when).

3. Your money: What do we do with it?

This is a breakdown of how every pound of your donation is spent:



How your pound is spent

If you are a taxpayer your pound can be increased by 25% with Gift Aid. Please speak to John Sills if you have not signed a St Luke's gift aid form.

Note: The Partners in Mission group manages the charities share out.

4. This year

I recall my predecessor, Paul Evans, talking a while ago about the fat years and the lean years. This is a lean year. It has not felt appropriate to raise an appeal for church funds this year (a year of rising inflation and still high business power costs) but it is important that you know the budget predicted a deficit of over £20k which will need to be met by our reserves.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask me. I don't guarantee to give an immediate answer as I am still in learning mode. For treasurer and PCC work please use the following email address:

treasurer@stlukeswatford.org

Martin Kirk



Alpha Programme 2023

Introductory Supper and Taster Evening (28 Sept)

- **Week 1: Who is Jesus? (5 Oct)**
- **Week 2: Why Did Jesus Die? (12 Oct)**
- **Week 3: How Can We Have Faith? (19 Oct)**
(no meeting half-term week)
- **Week 4: Why and How Do I Pray? (2 Nov)**
- **Week 5: Why and How Should I Read The Bible? (9 Nov)**
- **Week 6: How Does God Guide Us? (16 Nov)**
- **Week 7: How Can I Resist Evil? (23 Nov)**
- **Week 8: Why and How Should I Tell Others? (30 Nov)**
- **Week 9: What about the Church? (7 Dec)**

In addition, there is an Alpha “Awayday” at Latimer Park near Chenies (Saturday, 18th November) where we explore topics such as:

- **Who is the Holy Spirit?**
- **What does the Holy Spirit do?**
- **How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?**

For more information about Alpha and to register your interest, see the next page.



Alpha Course 2023

Sign up via the QR Code



Alternatively, contact the church office:
email office@stlukeswatford.org
tel 01923 246161

Starting 28th September
Thursdays, 7:30pm
in St Luke's Church Lounge



Sunday Afternoon Recitals
Every 2nd Sunday of the month @ 3:00pm

Sunday 10th September
Winnie Wu – Piano

News from some of our Mission Partners



Dear friends

I am back in the office in Lancaster after my 3-month sabbatical! The time has gone very quickly but I am excited to be back into the swing of things, especially as we plan ahead to the next academic year. I wanted to take the opportunity to fill you in on what I was doing over my sabbatical and how it has helped me to move forward in my ministry among international students.

The first two months of my sabbatical were spent mostly based in Lancaster, with trips to visit family and friends elsewhere in the UK, including a holiday in Cornwall. I was able to enjoy some rest and some time reading Christian books as well as casual reading.

One thing I had time set aside to do was to reflect on the past few years of ministry, and in particular the period of time coming out of Covid. In planning this time, I particularly wanted to think about how to better envision our team of volunteers and those who might be interested in being involved in international student ministry in the future. As I thought about this, I spoke to other Friends International staff about their experiences and was able to get some ideas and thoughts from them. It became clear that part of the wider problem we were having with growing our volunteer team lay also in our communication of the vision of international student ministry and so that is what I will be working on moving forward.

Also in May, I had the privilege of joining St Luke's for your Mission Sunday and meeting with many of you who have been praying for me in my work with Friends International for many years. It was a great opportunity to share the joy of international student ministry with the church and why students returning home has such an important role to play in the growth of the church around the world.

In June, I had the privilege of travelling to Hong Kong and the Philippines for the last part of my sabbatical. I spent the first few days of my trip in Hong Kong where I was able to meet up with some former students who have returned home. Although I was only able to stay in Hong Kong for a



Meeting former Lancaster students who have returned home to Hong Kong

short time due to flight delays, it was a joy to meet up with them and to hear how the past few years have been from their perspective.

I then flew from Hong Kong to Davao City in the Philippines for the Leadership Matters course, a course on Christ-centred leadership for those in cross-cultural ministry around the world. The course was a really helpful mixture of big picture aspects of ministry, such as maintaining our spiritual life and the vision for our ministry, and the practical elements of leadership training. From communicating with ministry partners, to developing deeper relationships, to delegating well, I came away feeling much better equipped than beforehand.

As well as the course itself, though, there was the great encouragement of meeting other participants involved in ministry from around the world and, in particular, from the Philippines. I thought I would share a couple of encouraging stories, highlighting some of their ministries:

Thyra works for a small Bible school which specifically works with Christians who come from tribal communities, training them theologically so that they can return to their tribes and share the good news of Jesus with their communities in their own language. Please do give thanks for the opportunity they have with two of their students at the moment who are from a tribe that is officially classed as 'unreached' and are committed to taking the gospel back to their community.

Ricardo, a minister responsible for several churches within a district, has set a goal of seeing 10 new churches planted throughout the district by 2030. Already, in answer to prayer, 4 new churches have been established, 4 small groups will be launching as churches in the next year and 2 more groups are in the beginning stages!

It was such an encouragement to be sharing and learning with all of the other participants and to be able to pray with them and for their ministries.

Vision

My priority as I returned to work was our upcoming Vision

Morning, which took place on Saturday 15th July. We invited local Christians to give thanks for the past year of international

student ministry, shared our plans for the coming year, and reflected on the wider vision of international student ministry. If you would like to hear what was said, please email me at sally.miller@friendsinternational.uk and we can send you the recording from the morning.



Thyra (second from right), who I met at the Leadership Matters course

Prayer points

- Please give thanks for refreshment and re-focussing on the big picture of international student ministry from my sabbatical. Please pray that I would keep the vision of seeing the lives of international students transformed by the gospel as my motivation in all my work and that this would be the driving force in decisions being made about the upcoming year.
- Please pray for the follow-up from the Vision Morning on 15th July, especially that many Christians from Lancaster will want to be involved with sharing the good news of Jesus with international students.
- Please pray for wisdom as we plan for the coming year. Please give thanks for the outcome of important meetings with staff at both the University of Cumbria and Lancaster University and pray for lots of opportunities to come alongside international students in the new academic year and connect them with local churches.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers!

Sally Miller
Friends International, Lancaster Branch

Update from Alastair working for a Bible translation organisation

Dear all,

Hopefully you enjoyed last month which was apparently the warmest June on record in the UK although I find that a little hard to believe. For me, it was a particularly full month.

After learning some useful tips at the EMDC conference in Thailand in May, it has been good to put them into practice and complete a whole New Testament for a minority language in SE Asia. However, it did require a few iterations due to some extremely minor revisions. An apparently insignificant change can add an extra line of text – which might push some text containing a footnote onto another page – which can cause large blocks of white to appear in the rest of the book as the system tries to re-lay the pages through to the end. The solution is to shrink and expand paragraphs around the revisions to make them fit neatly on a page – a process which is quite time-consuming.

Using the same software and techniques, I have been able to typeset the book of *Luke* in a dialect of the language I have been working with for the last several years. Hopefully this will be printed soon as it is a slow process when not physically present with the locals. Speaking of whom, we are also working on further updates to the very successful songbook.

The Ancient Path (a booklet showing the ancient origins of Christianity) and *Bible for Children* (BFC) project work took a bit of a break due to the typesetting. For *The Ancient Path*, I am now developing a SE Asian version in the Bloom Library (a free internet-based library resource where anyone can add a book they have produced) but also trying to update the Google Play version when we found out that people with new phones can't install the app. This was notified by a couple who work with refugees who speak the language.

It was good to have a last-minute meeting in Staines with a couple who work with Sikhs, just before their flight to the Philippines. They are excited about the possibility of using *The Ancient Path* in their ministry using Punjabi so I demonstrated what could be done. Please pray that they can get the translation and we can make the app.

Just a handful of BFC stories have been added to the Bloom Library but it has been good to be able to demonstrate the booklets. At the beginning of the month, Youth with a Mission (YWAM) in Harpenden

(who I heard about in SE Asia!) held their first 'Together for the Bibleless' event, which will hopefully continue. In a way, it was a micro version of the EMDC conference in Thailand. I had heard that there was going to be Portuguese translation for some of the YWAM students so I made a few Portuguese BFC samples. At the welcome coffee, I 'happened' to meet someone from Brazil and showed her my samples. She was very enthusiastic about them and asked if there were any in Turkish as her ministry is in Turkish. As it happens, I print a story each week for my parents' Turkish cleaning lady and I always print a spare. I had taken a pile of Turkish spares to the event so I was pleased to find a new home for them.

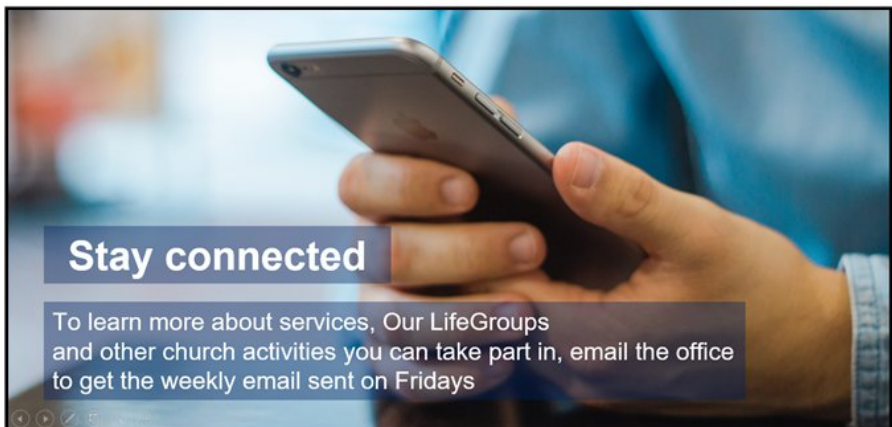


Something I learnt at the event: Which indigenous language in the UK does not have any Scripture? The answer is British Sign Language.

Thanks as always for your prayers and support

God bless

Alastair





6th July 2023

Dear PCC members of St Luke's Church, Watford

On behalf of the Trustees of the Rafiki Thabo Foundation, I would like to thank you so much for your recent generous donation of £500.

We are currently paying the school and college fees for over 300 children and young people who would otherwise not be able to continue with their education. We know this support is making a huge difference to each of those young lives in so many ways, but we are particularly delighted when we hear real, tangible stories of that difference when we receive responses to our annual impact survey from our current scholars and our graduates.

One story that has particularly stuck with me this year is Eleanor's. I first met Eleanor in 2015 when she was about to finish secondary school. We had supported her throughout secondary school as, tragically, she had lost both her parents when she was young and no one else could help to pay her school fees, let alone university fees. I remember her as quite a shy but intelligent girl, with a quiet determination and ambition to succeed. After I met her, we supported her to study towards a Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences & Entrepreneurship and were delighted when she graduated in 2019. She is now working as an agro-dealer and also trains youth in building farming businesses.

That in itself is a huge impact – she now has a solid income and a great future career path. But last year, she married when she was ready to do so, and for love, rather than being forced into a marriage so her family could get a dowry payment as sadly happens to so many young women from poor families in Uganda.



Eleanor at school in 2014

Then this year she has had a beautiful baby boy. Her son's life opportunities will be so much better with an educated mum – he is statistically much more likely to be healthy as his parents will be more likely to be able to access the right healthcare for him; and he is much more likely to go to school. Thus, your support is not only having an impact on the individual scholars we support but also their wider households and future generations.



Eleanor's wedding day

Through your continued support, you are helping to transform young lives, like Eleanor's, in Africa.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Hayes

Director, Rafiki Thabo Foundation



Lend a hand. Make a change.



**Monday 7th August 2023
10.00am-12:00pm
@ St Luke's Church**

Spring Cleaning & Gardening
Morning

Please sign up if you can help!



HOLIDAY CLUB

STARSHIP DISCOVERY

**TUESDAY 1ST -
FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST**

10 AM - 1 PM
WITH LUNCH INCLUDED

FOR 5 - 11 YEAR OLDS

SIGN UP HERE




Back on Tues 12th September

URBAN SAINTS

7-11 Year Olds
Tuesdays 6:15 - 7:30PM

Cameo Bluebell Walk

We started off from St Luke's expecting rain but when we arrived at Dockey Woods, Ashridge, the rain stopped. Even when we moved on to the Bridgewater Monument to have coffee and a chat – no rain!

After coffee, some decided to follow Tony to find more beautiful bluebells! Those not wanting to walk had time to browse in the National Trust shop before we all headed down to The Greyhound pub in Aldbury, a lovely village with a pond which nestles below the Ashridge estate.



Some of our group before our walk in Dockey Woods



Coffee and chat at the Bridgewater Monument café

This is our third Spring visit to Ashridge and once again we had a lovely lunch with Cameo (+) members. Every visit, we all so enjoy seeing the bluebells and never tire of the peace of the countryside!

Jos Lawrance



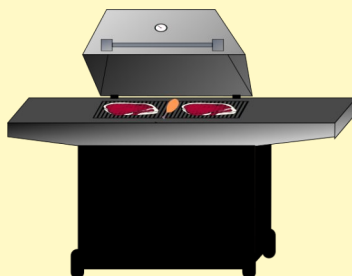
Twenty for lunch at The Greyhound



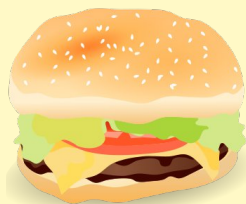
Father's Day Barbecue

The Beaver Scouts, although small in number, thoroughly enjoyed the Father's Day Barbecue, painstakingly prepared by my colleagues in Scouts. The Scouts all deserve a big thank you, particularly James, for co-ordinating the event and getting the production line of assembling baps, burgers and sauces, with delivery to the end recipient working like a well-oiled machine.

Thanks also to those in the kitchen making drinks and to all those involved in clearing up after this event.



As Beaver Scout Leader, I was tasked with organising an orderly line for the delicious burgers but once the smell of burger hit the air this was more of a stampede. Everyone had their fill, with my Beaver Scouts mirroring the words of Oliver Twist when he said "Please sir, can I have more?" as they returned for seconds. Some would have had thirds had they believed they could get away with it.



Dads who stayed also enjoyed the late afternoon/early evening and the addition of giant Jenga in the garden area was also a hit.

All in all, a wonderful event visible to the larger Cassiobury community and thankfully the rain held off until right near the end. On behalf of the Beaver Scouts, thanks again to all involved.

Val Cohen, Beaver Scout Leader

Parade Service for Father's Day

The barbecue was followed by a Parade Service of the uniformed organisations at St Luke's at the one-off time of 5:00pm. The focus of the service was on how our Father God is always with us and never leaves us, and how we can grow to be more like Him.

LADIES CAMEO CLUB

Autumn 2023 Programme

September

Friday 8th
7 for 7:30pm
Upper Hall

'Barnabas'
Cameo + event

Talk by David Dean
Refreshments
from 7 pm

October

Friday 13th
7 for 7:30pm
Church Lounge

Film night
*'Fisherman's Friends:
One and All'*

Includes choc ices!

November

Friday 10th
10:15am
Meet in car
park, St Luke's

**Trip to Tring Garden
Centre**
Cameo + event

Coffee, lunch
and chat

Bring your friends and neighbours!

For more information, email:

Jos (jocelyn_lawrance@hotmail.com) or Pam (pamela.willis@btinternet.com)



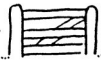

Cameo + events = men are welcome too





Donation for Club evenings - £4






Children's Page

JESUS WAS A...

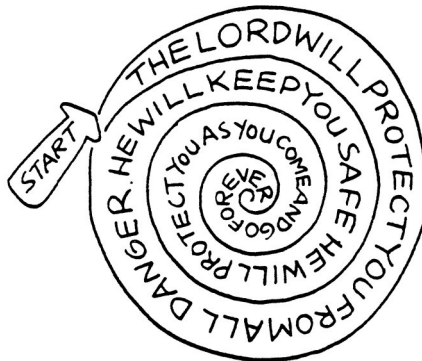
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DON'T be Afraid!

Do you ever
 feel frightened?
 In Psalm 121
 verses 7 & 8,
 there are words
 to comfort you.



Alternate Saturdays

8:30 - 10 AM

Bacon, Vegan Sausages, Pastries, and Cereal
Table Tennis, Mini Snooker, Board Games, Crafts, and Fun!



All pre-school
and primary
school families
welcome!

FREE!

16th Sept
30th Sept
14th Oct
28th Oct
11th Nov
25th Nov
9th Dec

TODDLERS AT ST LUKES

Back on 14th September 2023

**THURSDAY
MORNINGS**
9:30 - 11AM
in the church hall



**Donation at the
door:**

£1 per adult
50p per child

free tea and coffee
but bring your own snacks

for more information talk to Lydia at children@stlukeswatford.org

You are welcome to submit an article for the next edition of St Luke's News which should be no more than 450 words. We may edit articles for clarity.

Please email articles to the Church Office: office@stlukeswatford.org

If you wish to receive St Luke's News regularly, either delivered to your door or emailed, please contact the Church Office (246161). Large print is also available. Alternatively, please let us know if you no longer wish to receive it.

The magazine appears on our website, www.stlukeswatford.org

Vicar	Michael Norman
Readers	Dave Clarke
	Pam Norman
	Wendy Somerville
Ordinand	Tolu George
Music Director	Jeremy Cooke
Youth Director	Neil Brookes
Children & Family Team Leader	Lydia Davies
Administrator	Beth Burns
Worship Leader and Media Administrator	Jeremy Hogarth
Church Wardens	Susan Miller
	John Williamson
PCC Lay Chair	Richard Waddington
PCC Treasurer	Martin Kirk
PCC Secretary	Vacancy
Safeguarding Officer	Mary Bowen

Please leave a message for any of the above on the Church Office answerphone – 01923 246161

Website www.stlukeswatford.org

Email office@stlukeswatford.org