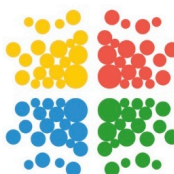


st luke's church, sway



WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH, SWAY SUNDAY 15th September 2024

Please find our live-streamed or recorded services on YouTube:
[Youtube.com/@StLukesSway](https://www.youtube.com/@StLukesSway)

MESSAGE

The message from our preaching series on Jonah is that God pursues us and loves everyone. This helps us focus on the wider community rather than ourselves as church members. It helps us reach out to those who may be interested in the Christian faith and learning more. One way we are doing this is the new trial **PRAISE and PLAY on 22nd Sept at 9AM** (note the time) This is fun time for the next generation to meet as community without the structure of a church service. Please come along and be present and share this time together - your presence will make a difference.

Love and prayers

Jane

07885505532

Rev Jane Mitchell vicar@swaychurch.com

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 15th September: 16th Sunday after Trinity

Sermon Series Jonah

Chapter 4 - Bitterness over the Generosity of God

Mark 8: 27-end

9.30am Informal Service Leader: Taiwo Ogunjimi Speaker: Jane Mitchell

10.30am Coffee Time

11am Family Communion Leader/ Speaker: Revd Jane Mitchell

4pm Evensong

Please click [HERE](#) to view our Sunday 9.30am Informal Worship for September

Please click [HERE](#) to view our Sunday 11am Traditional Worship for September.

Printed copies can also be found in church.

Prayer

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This week please pray for -

- Churches in Rwanda under threat of closure
- Reception children starting school
- Lisa Thomas starting year 3 of ordination training.
- Housebound and care home residents

CHURCH NEWS

Eco Church News

BREAKING NEWS: St Luke's Shortlisted for a Green Church AWARD

The Ecochurch team are overjoyed to hear that we are one of three churches nationally, who have been short listed for the Church Times Green Church Award 2024 in the Land and Nature Category. St. Luke's have been specifically shortlisted for all the work the eco and gardening team have done over the last two years, caring for the churchyard and garden for people, heritage and nature.

This is very exciting and huge thanks have to go to Andrea, Wendy, Sheila and all the community gardening helpers who volunteer and give their time. Thank you.

Wendy Collyer, Sheila Green and Andrea Janssens are looking forward to travelling up to London on 26th September to attend the awards ceremony at St John's Church, Waterloo. There they will have the chance to meet people from all the churches short listed in various categories. They will then hear the judges decisions about the winners and runners up in each category.

We wish the Eco Team all the best and look forward to hearing about it.

Green shoots and green plant

Tim Wyatt reveals the entries shortlisted in three of the seven categories in the 2024 Church Times Green Church Awards

Buildings

St Luke's Church in Southwark, London, has been awarded a Green Church Award 2024 in the Land and Nature Category. The church's renovation project, led by architect Sasaki Architects, focused on sustainability and green building. The project included the installation of solar panels, rainwater harvesting, and the use of recycled materials. The church's commitment to the environment and the role of the congregation in the project were also highlighted.

Land and Nature

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Church Times Green Church Awards 2024

The Church Times Green Church Awards 2024 celebrated the most innovative and sustainable churches in the UK. The awards were presented to churches that have made significant contributions to the environment and the community. The winners and runners-up were announced on 26 September 2024.

Awards Ceremony: 26 September 2024

The awards ceremony will be held at St John's Church, Waterloo, London. Tickets are available for purchase. For more information, visit www.churchtimes.co.uk/green-church.

You are invited to the Creation Care and Sustainable Buildings Event in Winchester

Join Andrea and Wendy at this event on Saturday 19th October held at Winchester Christ Church, Christchurch Road, Winchester SO23 9SR from 10:00 - 15:00.

If you are interested please speak to Andrea or Wendy in the first instance, or get in touch with danielle.walmsley@winchester.anglican.org.

Children & Youth News

Praise and Play: Sunday 22nd September 9am in the Church Rooms

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 9AM
CHURCH ROOMS

† PRAISE AND PLAY †



Come and be part of this exciting new worship for families at St Luke's Church. A relaxed fun hour for the whole family suitable for newborns up to age 11.

PRAISE. Enjoy a half hour of joyful music and praise.

PLAY. Try football, drama, music or craft. All whilst enjoying refreshments throughout and having time to chat and make new friends in the community.

Let us know you are coming by signing up online.
www.stlukeschurchsway.org.uk

A trail format with the aim to invite families to join. Half hour of informal time of praise from 9am followed by activities for children- drama, music, sport games..... Refreshments served.

Please click [HERE](#) to let us know that you'll be joining us for Praise and Play.

If you could help in the kitchen team with refreshments PLEASE let Sophie know comms@swaychurch.com. Come and be part of this exciting outreach and please pray.

Buildings





Phot take this week showing repointed brickwork.

The scaffolding is down and the builders have completed the maintenance work to repair the degraded pointing and brickwork. that was letting in damp. Hopefully this will be preventative for the next 100 years or so! **The next job is to replace the guttering and downpipes that caused the damp in the first place....** We do not have sufficient reserves to go ahead with this job so we are planning a 6 week fundraising campaign starting in October - **GIVE TO GO GREEN** for the guttering. Please watch out for the advertising. There is £10,000 of match funding for the first £10,000 raised that will help us on our way..

ARTISTS STUDIO CLOSING DOWN SALE

Sheila Niekirk is holding an OPEN day at Summerheath , Manchester Road Sway on Saturday 21st September 10.30-3.30pm Donations by cheque or cash in aid of ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY. Everyone welcome.

Congratulations to Tony and Ann Devereux celebrating their 70th Wedding anniversary this week!! Amazing - we thank God for them and send our love and prayers from everyone at St Luke's. x

Mission News

Newsletter from Beverley in Ecuador



Please find the link below to the latest newsletter from Bev sharing with us the latest news from the Cuenca Christian Church in Ecuador and family news.

Bev's Newsletter Click [HERE](#)

Friends Of Kisiizi Day- Saturday 28th September, Brookside Church, Reading

St Luke's has been a friend of Kisiizi Hospital for many years – around fifty if you want a number. Kisiizi Hospital is in Uganda not far from the border with Rwanda. Run by the Church of Uganda it is a bright spark of hope in a rural area where no hospital existed before the church brought them one. A number of us will be heading to Reading for the day to hear how things are going at Kisiizi– there will be seats available in cars going there from Sway. A special treat this year is the presence of Moses Mugume – a long time member of the hospital staff.

Chat with Jonathan ((682504) if you want to join the trip

We ask for your prayers for the Church in Rwanda

Pray for our link parish under attack from building inspectors:

This week the Grenfell Tower report has bought attention to the need for buildings to be built to a standard to protect lives. Rightly so, but in Rwanda churches have been forced to close failing to meet newly increased demands for the standards of the church buildings. Why should the church in our link parish of Kibirizi need a paved car park when the village is miles from the nearest paved road – and none of the parishioners own a car?! In Kigeme Diocese, where our link parish is situated, just 24 churches are still open - the other 238 have been closed!

Pastor Vianney in Kibirizi Parish has none of his churches remaining open - this removes his income as he is totally reliant on giving by parishioners. Yet he is still battling on – he is working to mobilise the parishioners to rebuild the main church to a standard that meets the government's newly imposed demands.

This is a desperate situation. I am scratching my head on how best to bring pressure to bear on the Rwandan Government – where the President has been newly re-elected. Prayer will help! Please include our friends and partners in Rwanda in your prayers as they seek a solution to allow them to continue to worship and pray freely.

Jonathan

Coming Soon

Safeguarding Sunday on 22nd September at 11am service

Every year, thousands of churches across the country unite to mark safeguarding Sunday. It's a chance to listen, to raise awareness and is an expression of faith to protect the most vulnerable. Please do come along.

Mission Sunday - Eco Climate on 29th September



Sunday 29th September is Climate Sunday. Wendy and Andrea have prepared a theme of L.O.A.F. (Local, Organic, Animal-Friendly, Fairly Traded). We look forward to hearing more about this. In addition we are delighted to be welcoming visiting Speaker Revd Rosie Ward of Lymington St Thomas Church.

Other News

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Monday 16	9.30am	Bump, Baby & Toddler
Tuesday 17	9am	Prayer Meeting (in church)
	9.30am	Community Gardening
	10.30am	SWAG Community Cafe

	7pm	PCC Meeting
Wednesday 18	12pm	SWAG Lunch Club
	1.30pm	Open the Book at School
	2.30pm	Christian Meditation
Thursday 19	9am	Online Morning Prayer
	6pm	Band Practice
Friday 20	9.30am	Bump, Baby & Toddler Group
	10am	Friday Service
	7.30pm	Choir Practice

Here is the link for Thursday online parish prayers -

<https://zoom.us/j/95044393409?pwd=ekVMbFBachZaeDF0aUM4bTluWU14QT09>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY..

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 22nd sept 9.00am - Praise and Play in the Church Rooms

Tuesday 24th September 19:00 - Drop-in Bible Study

Tuesday 24th September 13:30-16:00 - Sway Place Art Exhibition

Thursday 26th September - Ecochurch at Awards Ceremony, London

Friday 27th September 9:00 - Church led School Assembly

Friday 27th September - School Harvest Rehearsal

Friday 27th September 11:30 - Birchy Hill Communion

Friday 27th September 14:00 - Creative Space. Click [HERE](#) to book.

Saturday 28th September - Friends Of Kisiizi Day, Brookside Church, Reading

Sunday 29th September - Climate Sunday

OCTOBER

Wednesday 2nd October 9:30-11:00 and 14:00-15:00 - St Luke's School Harvest Services

Saturday 5th October 12:00 - Wedding of Tom and Bethany

Tuesday 8th October 19:00 - Drop-in Bible Study

Thursday 10th October 19:00 - Autumn Synod

Friday 11th October 9:00 - Church led School Assembly

Saturday 12th October - Lay Ministry Licensing and Commissioning Service

Monday 14th October - 15:15 - Messy Church

Tuesday 15th October 19:00 - Newcomers to Church Drinks and Information Evening

Saturday 19th October - 10:00 - 12:00 Children's Society Coffee Morning at Hillside, Middle Road

Contact Information

VICAR: REVD JANE MITCHELL (Rest day: Monday) vicar@swaychurch.com | 07885 505532

REVD KEVIN SMITH (Fri) kevinsmith891@gmail.com | 01590 682358

ADMINISTRATOR: JANE NICHOLSON: (Tues and Weds) office@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358.

COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATOR: SOPHIE GATES:
(Thurs) comms@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358



St Luke's Church

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