
WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH, SWAY
SUNDAY 5th October 2025



This Sunday is Mission Sunday, a chance to think about how we live out our faith and share it with others. At this week's Alpha session, we talked about the question, "What is faith?" and it ties in really well with our reading from Luke 17:5-10, where Jesus says that even faith as small as a mustard seed can make a big difference. It's a great reminder that what matters isn't having all the answers, but trusting God and being willing to serve with humility.

*Dear Lord,
Help us to trust You, even when our faith feels small. Teach us to serve with open hearts,
and to walk each day in love, humility, and hope.
Amen.*

Worship

Sunday 5th October - Mission Sunday

Luke 17: 5-10

9.30am Informal Service

Leader Revd. Jane Mitchell, Speaker Tim Cosby

10.30am Coffee Time - Thank you very much to our coffee team this week: Ken, Jonathan and Ian.

11am Parish Communion

Leader Revd. Jane Mitchell, Speaker Tim Cosby

Please see Mission News at the bottom of this newsletter regarding the visit of Bishop Assiel of Kigeme Diocese, Rwanda, together with his wife Valerie, as our special guests at Evensong on Sunday 19th October at 4pm here at St Luke's.

Click on the link below to see all the services for October. Paper copies are available at the back of church.

[CLICK HERE to see ALL October Worship dates](#)

Prayer

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

*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.*

Thursday morning online prayers

A reflection on the bible passage for the coming Sunday and prayer using the church monthly calendar.

[CLICK HERE to join online prayers](#)

This week please pray for :

*Lydia and family
Little Flyers nursery
Pastoral team and home visits
Alpha guests and helpers
Love in a Box outreach
Family and friends of John Alexander.*

During ALPHA please pray at home for the guests and leaders.

CHURCH NEWS

Children's Society Coffee Morning

This year our Coffee morning is on **Saturday, October 11th** from 10am till 12noon. As usual it will be at my house, Hillside, Middle Road. There will be a cake stall, a raffle and Christmas cards for sale all in aid of the society. Like most charities, they are really struggling and the people who are affected most are the young teenagers in our country. Please come along, have a cup of tea/coffee, a piece of cake, a chat with all your friends, buy a cake for you tea and at the same time, help our young vulnerable people.

Donations of cake are needed and very welcome, please drop off at my house the day before, or on the morning of the 11th.

See you there. Janet and Sophie

Love - in - a - Box



We are at that time of year again when we start filling shoe boxes with small gifts to go to the children in Moldova. Last year we sent 252 boxes from the village of Sway. I would love to send more this year. There are 3 ways you can help. You can fill a covered box. I have got boxes ready if you don't want to cover your own. There are lists of appropriate gifts at the back of church or in the Church Rooms. You can donate items for my team to pack or you can make a monetary donation. **Please note that filled boxes need to be returned by the end of October.** For more information contact me on 682965, lealan@uwclub.net or at Hillside, Middle Road. Many thanks. Janet

St Luke's Church Choir



At our first Lunchtime Concert on the **25th October**, 12.30pm in the church, we are celebrating the British composer John Rutter's 80th birthday year, by singing 3 of his most famous songs.

Make a date in your diary, come and listen to the beautiful singing of the Church choir

and enjoy some music to brighten your day, for around half an hour.

No tickets, just a retiring collection.

Rosemary Elliott -Jones - Choral Director



John Alexander

There will be a celebration of life service for John Alexander, a resident of Sway Place. The service will be on **15th October at 11.30am** and the family are providing refreshments afterwards in the church. Everyone is welcome.

Thanksgiving Service 2nd November at 3pm



If you would like someone remembered at this very special service for those who have died, then please add their name to the sheet at the back of church, or let Sara in the office know on office@swaychurch.com / 01590 682358

Messy Church - Monday 13th October 3.30pm

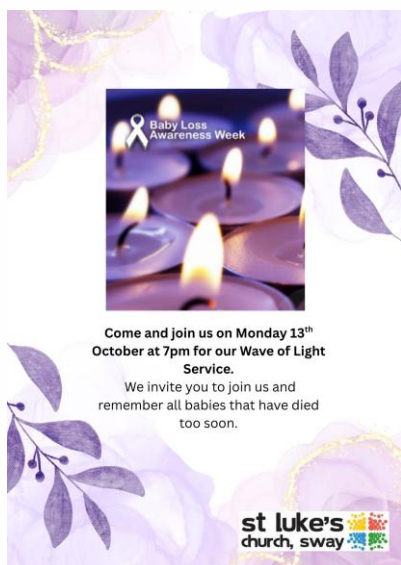


The next Messy Church is fast approaching! Click on the link below sign up.

[SIGN UP HERE for Messy Church](#)

Wave of Light Service Monday 13th October at 7pm

Come and join us at this special service to remember all the babies that have died.



Church Youth Centre Land : Update

The PCC met this week and would like to update church members on progress. Communication will be prepared for the wider village too and offered in Sway News and on Social media.

- First and foremost, **the building is not going to be demolished.**
- It was unexpected but a delight to welcome **Little Flyers Nursery**, who have recently moved into the building as their new home, and we wish them every success. Their presence brings a wonderful opportunity for closer connections and proximity to the Church, St Luke's School, and facilities at Jubilee Fields.
- The Church remains fully committed to **supporting community activities** and all the groups currently using the centre. It is encouraging that bookings and use of the centre have increased over the last 12 months and see the building used well. We hope these groups will continue to grow, and we want to reassure everyone that **no rash decisions are being made** that will affect any of these groups in the long term.
- The Church has always and will continue to be, dedicated to **serving the needs of the village** and enabling **community use of the site.**
- Church Members have a strong focus on **sustainability, eco-awareness, and making the most of the life of the current building.**
- Importantly, the Church is **working in close partnership with the Parish Council** to explore the best long-term use of the site for the **benefit of the church and residents of the village.**

A meeting with the property manager at the diocese who represents the Winchester Board of Finance took place this week. He confirmed his role to ensure the PCC of St Luke's adheres to Charity Law and any decisions about the land and

any income from the land is vested in the PCC of St Luke's Sway and not the Diocese. He also offered some helpful suggestions for going forward and endorsed our process and thoughts so far.

It is hoped to meet with the Parish Council shortly to continue conversations about the best way forward within parameters agreed by the PCC.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Further updates and opportunities for feedback will be shared soon.

THANK YOU

We have received more kind financial donations to cover the cost of food for an Alpha sessions - this is so appreciated. If you could donate £30 - this would cover most of the essential ingredients we need to offer generous hospitality for one evening. Others can then cook! Update: the food is delicious, but we are asking for more financial contributions. We are feeding 20-25 people every week! Thank you.

Legacy Giving



We were delighted to receive a legacy from Lizzie Woodward's estate recently. Legacies are a lifeline for our parishes however big or small. Each year around 4,000 people leave a gift in their will to a Church of England parish. These gifts can be used finance mission projects, maintain beautiful church buildings and grow faithful communities. For many people, leaving a gift in their will is a final opportunity to make lasting gift to God. It is also away to make a lasting difference to the future of their church and community. If you would like to find out more about leaving a legacy then click on the link below.

[CLICK HERE to read about Legacy-Giving](#)

Also, the Diocese of Winchester is pleased to be able to offer a number of FREE wills through our two recommended will writing providers, Farewill and Batt Broadbent. There is no obligation to leave a legacy gift through this scheme however both providers will enable you the opportunity to leave a legacy to your chosen parish if you would like to do so. All free wills are provided on a first-come-first-serve basis. If you require further support do not hesitate to get in touch with stewardship@winchester.anglican.org

[CLICK HERE to read Why every Christian should leave a will](#)

Urgent Prayer Requests



Contact Jane on 07885505532 or the church office on 01590 682358, or if you are unable to make contact with Jane or the office then please email Jennie McNaught on mcnaughthome@protonmail.com

The next ALPHA session at St Luke's is on the 8th October 2025!



The Alpha course, is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith. It's relaxed, low key, friendly and fun. Listen, learn, discuss and discover. And ask anything. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile. And it's supported by all the main Christian denominations.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR ALPHA](#)

A Message from Sway WI

Sway WI are running defibrillator training on **Sunday 16th November** in the Village Hall. This will include the British Heart Foundation training video, refreshments – tea, coffee cakes etc. And a collection for the maintenance of the Village Hall defibrillator. There will be two sessions to choose from during the afternoon : 2.30pm and 3.15pm. Please do come along if you would like to take part!

10.30am Coffee Time!



We would love more contributions of baked cakes or biscuits at our Sunday coffee times ! Feel free to drop these off at the table by the kitchen at the back of church.

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to help on one of the rotas in church, for reading, welcoming, coffee time, then please do get in touch with Sara in the church office on sarawillis@swaychurch.com

Mission News

Special Evensong with Bishop Assiel – Sunday 19th October, 4pm

We are delighted to welcome **Bishop Assiel of Kigeme Diocese, Rwanda**, together with his wife Valerie, as our special guests at **Evensong on Sunday 19th October at 4pm** here at St Luke's.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share in worship with our friends from Rwanda and to hear from Bishop Assiel about the life and mission of the church in Kigeme.

After the service, everyone is warmly invited to stay for **tea and cakes**, with time to meet and talk with Bishop Assiel and Valerie.

Please do join us for what promises to be a joyful and memorable occasion.

Thanks

Jonathan

Dates for the Diary Next Week:

Monday 6th October	9.30am-11am Baby Bump and Toddler group
Tuesday 7th October	10am Community Gardening 10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 8th October	9am Parish Prayers 1.45pm Open the Book Rehearsal 2.30pm Christian Meditation 6.45pm ALPHA
Thursday 9th October	9am Online Prayers 9.30am KS 1 Harvest Service St Luke's School 2pm Ks 2 Harvest Service St Luke's School 7pm Band Practise

Friday 10th October	9.30am-11am Bump Baby and Toddler group
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Future Dates:

Saturday 11th October	11am Lay Ministry Licensing and Commissioning Service in Winchester Cathedral
Saturday 11th October	10am Children Society Coffee Morning - Janet Lealan's House, Hillside, Middle Road, Sway
Sunday 12th October Harvest Celebration	8am Holy Communion 9.30am Informal Service 11am Morning Service
Monday 13th October	9.30-11 Bump Baby and Toddler group 3.30pm Messy Church 7pm Wave of Light Service for Baby Loss Awareness Week
Tuesday 14th October	10am Community Gardening 10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 15th October	9am Parish Prayers 11.30am John Alexander Celebration of Life Service 12pm Lunch Club 1.45pm Open the Book Rehearsal 6.45pm ALPHA
Thursday 16th October	9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 17th October	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 10am Friday Morning Service 7.30pm Choir Practise
Saturday 18th October	ALPHA Away Morning & Lunch

Sunday 19th October	9.30am Informal Service 11am Family Communion - visiting speaker Archdeacon Jean 4pm Evensong - Special Evensong with Bishop Assiel of Rwanda
Monday 20th October	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler
Tuesday 21st October	10am Community Gardening 10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 22nd October	9am Parish Prayers 1.45pm Open the Book Rehearsal 6.45pm ALPHA
Thursday 23rd October	9am Online Prayers 1.30pm Thursday Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 24th October	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 7.30pm Choir Practise
Saturday 25th October	12.30pm Lunchtime Concert by St Luke's Choir
Sunday 26th October	9.30am Informal Service 11am Morning Service

Please check the website or churchsuite for all other events and dates.

Contact Information

VICAR: REVD JANE MITCHELL (Rest day: Friday) vicar@swaychurch.com | 07885 505532
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: SARA WILLIS office@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358
 Family and Community Support Worker: Lizzy Smith - Wednesday mornings 01590 682358



St Luke's Church

[::unsubscribe_link::](#)