
WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH
SUNDAY 3rd May 2026



The highlight this week was our APCM and giving thanks for the last year and looking forward to the coming year. Congratulations and thank you to Russell and Janet elected as Church Wardens for the coming year. Thank you to Sandra for her faithful service over the years. A warm welcome to new members of the PCC - Colin, Peter, Barry, Jonathan and Warren - all very experienced and we look forward to them sharing their wisdom as we move forward through the year. Details of the elections are below. As a church I encourage us all to :

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

love and prayers

Jane

Worship

Sunday 3rd May 2026

Parish Communion

Three week vision series:

Our response - Faith, Hope and Mission

Acts 7: 55-end

Mark 12: 41-44 The widows offering

9.30am Informal Service

Leader Revd Jane Mitchell & Speaker Taiwo Ogunjimi

11am Parish Communion

Leader Revd Jane Mitchell & Speaker Taiwo Ogunjimi

10.30am Coffee in the Church - thank you to our coffee team this week Jane G, Hazel, Ken and Lesley.

Thursday morning online prayers

A reflection on the bible passage for the coming Sunday and prayers using the church monthly prayer guide for the Parish - copies available at the back of church.

Paper copies for all services, including preaching themes are available at the back of church.

Please note that all Friday morning services at 10am are postponed until further notice.

Prayers

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

This week from our monthly prayer diary (copies available in church)

Lord we thank you for the joy of marriage and we pray for the couples preparing for their wedding day. Draw them close to you and bless them.

Sad News Barry Durrant

It is with great sadness that we learnt this week that Barry Durrant passed away on 24th April. Barry was part of the Thursday online prayer group for the last 6 yrs since COVID. The family have taken comfort that he is now reunited with Jenny his wife, and our prayers and thoughts are with the family at this time. Funeral details to follow.

Please pray for;

*Family of Barry Durrant
Rev Kevin,
Family of Michelle Petty
Gillian Colsell
Lydia and family
Anne Johnson*

Church News

Results Of The APCM 28th April 2026

Thank you to everyone who attended the APCM this year.

We are pleased to share the results from the meeting and are grateful to all those who have taken on roles and responsibilities for the coming year. Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

St Luke's now has a PCC of 18 members giving healthy representation across many different areas of church life. We look ahead, with hope and a shared commitment to our church and community, using the skills and valuable experience of everyone.

At the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and APCM the following were elected;
Church Wardens

Janet Kirk and Russell Fry

Lay Members Of The Deanery Synod

Hazel Gillet and Jonathan Elliott-Jones

Lay Members Of The PCC

Peter Backhurst, Barry Cornwell, Sandra Clarke, Colin Denman, Warren Breach

Licenced Lay Minister onto the PCC

Merilyn Christian-Edwards

Existing members of the PCC: Ellie John, Lesley Willey, Taiwo Ogunjimi, Ken Naylor, Geraldine Hawkes PCC Sec, Peter Blick, Lizzy Smith.

At the PCC meeting immediately following the APCM the following were elected to roles:

Treasurer: Peter Blick

Safeguarding Officer: Sara Willis

Electoral Roll Officer Sara Willis

Standing Committee:

Jane Mitchell , Janet Kirk, Russell Fry, Geraldine Hawkes- PCC Sec, Peter Blick - Treasurer, Sandra Clarke, Hazel Gillet.

The next PCC meeting is on May 17th at 7pm in church.

Thursday 7th May - Local Election Day

We are looking for volunteers on **Thursday 7th May between 10am and 2pm** to help man a refreshments table outside the church, (weather permitting!) to welcome parishioners as they come to vote in the local elections. If you can spare some time, please sign up on the table at the back of church or let Sara know in the office.

A Message from Phillip -The Bishop of Winchester



Dear Friends,

For this year's Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative, which marks the days from Ascension to Pentecost, we're hosting a service of worship and prayer on 16 May, 6:30pm, at Winchester Cathedral.

We'd love to see as many people there as possible, praying for the renewal of the Holy Spirit for ourselves as well as for our churches and wider diocese, and for others to come to faith in Christ.

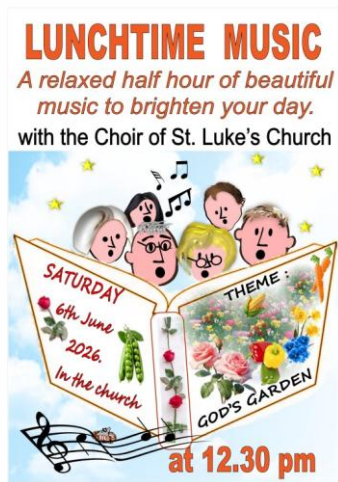
Worship will be led by young people from around our diocese, Bishop Philip will be preaching, sung worship will be wonderfully varied and ranging from the cathedral organ to Taizé, to time led by a worship band. There will also be prayer stations set up for creative personal prayer in the chapels.

We hope to see you there!

Yours in Christ,

Philip

St Luke's Church Choir - A Date For Your Diary! Saturday 6th June at 12.30pm



Creative Space at Potters Field

Creative Space met in Potters Field on Friday 24 April. 10 of us so enjoyed the peace and beauty of this wonderful wild flower meadow: relaxing, responding in words or sketches, and simply being, together, for a while. Thank you, Christine and Clive, for your warm welcome and hospitality. On 29th May, we look forward to hearing from Rae Reynolds (aka Gardener on a Bike!) about her textile artwork. You are welcome to join us - for any of the sessions.

Quinquennial Report 2025

Our 2025 Quinquennial Report has just been received. Anyone that would like a copy please contact Sara in the church office on office@swaychurch.com alternatively have a chat with Russell our Church Warden who can tell you more.

Open Gardens Parking on Sunday 7th June

Just a reminder that Sunday 7th June is a busy day for parking in and around the church, and so there will be a coned off area in the YC car park for the church congregation only to use. Please keep these spaces free for members of the congregation attending services that need to park near to the church.

Thank you.

Church Land/Youth Centre

NEW joint Working Group update

The joint working group has met and agreed recommended heads of terms for agreement by each council independently, and the intention is to have

this agreement from both parties in place before the end of May. At this point lawyers will be instructed to draw up the draft lease for review. The heads of terms will be published at the point they are agreed in full.

Basics Food Bank

We warmly encourage everyone to keep supporting the Basics Food Bank, (box at the back of church) which provides vital help to people in our local community who are facing hardship.

Donations of non-perishable food and essential household items are always greatly appreciated and make a real difference to those in need.

We are **also looking for a volunteer** who would be willing to take the donated items to the food bank in Lymington once a month. If you are able to help with this important task, please do get in touch with Sara in the church office on 01590 682358

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Urgent Prayer Requests

If you, or someone you know is in need of urgent prayer then please contact Jane on 0788550532 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.

Children and Families

Bubble Church COMING next Sunday on 10th May 2026 at 9.15am!
[CLICK HERE to sign up for Bubble Church](#)



Mission News

Food for Thought – A Thank You

Many thanks to everyone who helped make last Saturday's fundraising lunch such a wonderful success. The soups, the food, and the warm welcome created a lovely atmosphere, and David Moynagh's talk was deeply appreciated. There was a real sense of joy in the room.

With some late donations included, the total raised so far is **£1,750**, including around **£300** in Gift Aid. Together with an additional **£1,500** from PCC funds, we have sent **£3,250** to our link parish of **Kibirizi** to support their church building project.

£3,250 down - around **£14,000** to go.

Imagine worshipping every Sunday in a borrowed space, miles from your village, because your church building is deemed unsafe. Imagine trying to run youth groups, Bible studies, and community gatherings without a place to meet. That has been the reality for our brothers and sisters in Kibirizi since their church was closed.

And yet — they have not lost heart. They have begun rebuilding with extraordinary determination. The walls are up. The porch is complete. One rainwater tank is in place. What they need now is the final push to finish the work.

This is where we can stand with them. £10 buys bricks. £50 helps with windows. £1,000 provides another water tank. Every gift is a step towards a church that can once again ring with worship, laughter, and life.

We can help them open those doors again. If you can support the project, thank you — it truly matters

Jonathan

Dates for the Diary

Next Week:

Monday 4th May	May Day Bank Holiday Office Closed
Tuesday 5th May	10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 6th May	9am Parish Morning Prayers 12pm SWAG Lunch Club 1.45pm Open The Book
Thursday 7th May	HCC Elections all day in Church Rooms 9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 8th May	9.30am Bump Baby and Toddler Group

Future Dates:

Sunday 10th May	8am Holy Communion with Vicar Jane 9.15am Bubble Church 11am Morning Service
Monday 11th May	9.30am Bump Baby and Toddler Group 3.30pm Messy Church
Tuesday 12th May	10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 13th May	9am Parish Morning Prayers 2.30pm Christian Meditation 1.45pm Open The Book
Thursday 14th May	9am Online Prayers 1.30pm Thursday Afternoon Club 6.30pm Ascension Day Service
Friday 15th May	9.30am Bump Baby and Toddler Group 7.30pm Church Choir Rehearsals
Saturday 16th May	Service of Worship and Prayer at 6:30pm at Winchester Cathedral.
Sunday 17th May	9.30am Informal Service 11am Family Communion 4pm Evensong
Monday 18th May	9.30am Bump Baby and Toddler Group
Tuesday 19th May	10.30am SWAG Cafe 7pm PCC Meeting
Wednesday 20th May	9am Parish Morning Prayers 12pm Lunch Club 1.45pm Open The Book 7pm Worship Ministry Team Meeting

Thursday 21st May	9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 22nd May	9.30am Bump Baby and Toddler Group 7.30pm Church Choir Rehearsals
Saturday 23rd May	
Sunday 24th May	9.30am Informal Service 11am Morning Worship

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
