

**WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH
SUNDAY 8th March 2026**



Dear Friends,

A recent conversation about Kisiizi with one of our church community members set me off to find out more about how Kisiizi Hospital began.

What I discovered was a remarkable story. Kisiizi Hospital began with very humble beginnings and has grown over many decades into a place of healing, service, and Christian witness. Its story is closely linked with the work of the Church and with the dedication of those who felt called to serve their neighbours through healthcare.

Learning about its past reminded me how often meaningful things begin with small steps: a conversation, an idea, or a response to a need. It also reminded me of the many ways in which faith communities have sought to serve others far beyond their own immediate surroundings.

We thank the skills and commitment of those who have gone before us, turning an abandoned factory into a complex hospital, and the Hand of God that guided them.

Love and Prayers,

Sara

[CLICK HERE to read more about Kisiizi Hospital](#)

Worship

Sunday 8th March 2026

Lent Morning Worship

Mission Sunday

Preacher Ian Spillman, Kisiizi Hospital.

Gospel: John 4 : 5-42

8am Holy Communion

Leader Revd. Chris Guinness

9.30am Informal Service

Leader Taiwo Ogunjimi, Speaker Dr Ian Spillman, Kisiizi Hospital

11am Lent Morning Worship

Leader Ian Burnham, Speaker Dr Ian Spillman, Kisiizi Hospital

10.30am Coffee in the Church - thank you to our coffee team this week Sheila, Jennie and Steve

Collections at the 9.30am and 11am services will be in aid of Kisiizi Hospital

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.

[*CLICK HERE to join online prayers*](#)

[CLICK HERE to see all of March 2026 Worship](#)

Paper copies for all services are available at the back of church.

Please note that the 11am service on the 15th March, Mothers Day, is a Lent Morning Worship Service.



Prayers

The Third Sunday of Lent

*Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

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

Kisiizi Hospital : For all the medical staff and carers in the hospital. For the patients and their families at times of stress and need. We pray that the physical needs of equipment and supplies are met and for those in medical training.

Please pray for;

*Family of Alan Haynes
Family of Noreen Pettit
Gillian Colsell
Lydia and family
Anne Johnson
Kibiritzi Parish
Kisiizi Hospital*

Church News

Visiting Preacher Dr Ian Spillman from Kisiizi Hospital – Sunday 8th March



This Sunday, 8th March, our spotlight turns to Kisiizi Hospital in Uganda.

We're thrilled that **Dr Ian Spillman**, who served for many years as Medical Superintendent, will be with us to share first-hand stories of hope, resilience, and Christian service from the Kisiizi community. Expect vivid glimpses into a hospital that is changing lives every day.

During our services we'll be holding a collection to support Kisiizi's vital work. Afterwards, join us for **coffee, cakes, and conversation** with Ian, an ideal chance to explore the inspiring things happening in this very special place.

A leaflet with more information is attached. Please take a look to learn more, and keep Kisiizi in your prayers.

Collections at both services will be in aid of Kisiizi Hospital

[Click HERE to see the Kisiizi Hospital Brochure](#)

Ukraine Donations - new drop off at Church Office



**You can drop off
donations
for Ukraine at
the church
office**

**Monday to Friday
between 10:00
AM – 12:00 PM
term time only**

**Thank you for your
support and generosity.**

Church Land/Youth Centre

PCC meeting

The PCC met on Tuesday 17th Feb as an extra meeting to discuss the church land/youth centre site. They welcomed Rev Simon Butler - a rural enabler from Winchester Diocese to support in church land matters. The PCC discussed and expressed a wish for clear governance that protected the Christian charitable objectives in our mission alongside considering a new lease and took these conversations to the first joint working group detailed below. Any questions regarding the church land - please contact any member of the church working group: Peter Blick, Janet Kirk, Jane Mitchell, Simon Butler and Russell Fry via the church office who will be pleased to help.

Joint Working Group update

The joint working group (with representatives of the PCC, SPC, Diocese and residents) met on Wednesday 25 February to review the current position and consider next steps for the future of the Youth Centre. Members toured the building and discussed user needs alongside the associated compliance challenges.

Following a productive discussion, the group agreed to explore a new governance model through the establishment of a new, separate entity. The aim of this entity would be to ensure that the Church's Christian charitable objectives, and the needs of community groups and residents are all appropriately incorporated.

The group is now reviewing governance models that have successfully supported community buildings in other parishes. Reaching agreement on a preferred model will enable progress towards negotiating a long lease and developing a renewed vision for the Youth Centre.

The next meeting of the joint working group will take place on Thursday 12th March.

Leave

Vicar Jane will be taking a planned period of leave for some rest and renewal, and looks forward to being back with you for worship on Palm Sunday, Holy week and all the celebrations at Easter.

During this time, all services and parish life will continue as normal. If you need anything, please contact the churchwardens in the first instance, or Sara in the church office, who will be very happy to help.

Pastoral Support

If you require pastoral support, in the first instance please contact Sandra Clarke or Janet Kirk via Sara in the church office, who will be happy to assist you. 01590 682358.

Death and Life course

Continues on Tuesday 10th March, 2pm-3.30pm

Departing in peace - spiritual preparation for death with Revd Chris Guinness.

A Church's Guide to Exploring Mortality
DEATH AND LIFE



Continues on Tuesday 10th March
2pm-3.30pm at St Luke's Church, Sway
All Welcome

Departing in peace - spiritual preparation for death
with the Revd Chris Guinness

This 6 week course is open to ALL people
whether you have faith or not. We will look at the
practical and spiritual aspects of death.
Refreshments included

st luke's
church, sway



If you enjoy baking, we'd be grateful for volunteers to make cakes for refreshments at the Death and Life course. If you can help on any of the following Tuesdays please let Sara in the office know; 10th Mar 17th Mar

Interested in Will Writing?

<p>WHY EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD HAVE A WILL</p>	<p>battbroadbent <small>SOLICITORS</small></p>
<p>Will writing is a way to take care of the practical aspects of your estate after you're gone. It's an important act of stewardship enabling you to support those you love.</p> <p>YOUR ESTATE IS PROTECTED. FOR PEACE OF MIND.</p> <p>TO CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONES. TO INCLUDE A CHARITABLE GIFT.</p>	<p>"Wherever you are, whatever your requirements."</p> <p>Batt Broadbent are expert lawyers ready to offer personal service and support when it comes to helping you complete your will.</p> <p>Batt Broadbent have been working in partnership with the Diocese of Winchester for many years, and act as Diocesan Registry.</p>
<p>INTERESTED IN WILL WRITING?</p>	<p>The Diocese of Winchester is delighted to widen its relationship with Batt Broadbent, by partnering together to offer free wills to individuals across our parishes and communities.</p>
<p>See the reverse for the Diocesan recommended will writing partners.</p> <p>Both will offer you the opportunity to consider leaving a legacy to your parish, should you wish too.</p> <p>It's often a job that seems like it's for tomorrow but why not write your will today? Put it off not no longer, get a free will today!</p>	<p>Based in Salisbury, representatives from Batt Broadbent are there to support you personally and in a one-to-one capacity, whether in person or over the phone, in the office or at a convenient place and time for you.</p> <p>Get in touch with the Diocesan Stewardship Team so that they can point you in the right direction to start you on your free will writing process.</p>
<p>GET IN TOUCH...</p>	<p>Farewill <i>The UK's #1 Online will writing service</i></p> <p>Farewill offers you the chance to write a will online in as little as 15 minutes, to take care of what really matters.</p>
<p>If you have questions around the topic of will writing please get in touch:</p> <p>stewardship@winchester.anglican.org</p>  	<p>For many people in the UK, the processes around death are tough. Farewill is there to make things easier and friendlier – by enabling you to write a will from the comfort of your home.</p> <p>Their specialist team has been voted best-rated on Trustpilot, and they have come out on top at the British Wills & Probate Awards for two years running.</p> <p>Off the back of a successful pilot in 2021, the Diocese of Winchester is delighted to be partnering with Farewill to offer free wills across our Diocesan Community.</p> <p>Get in touch with the Stewardship Team to find out more.</p>

Following on from our Death and Life course week 1

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.

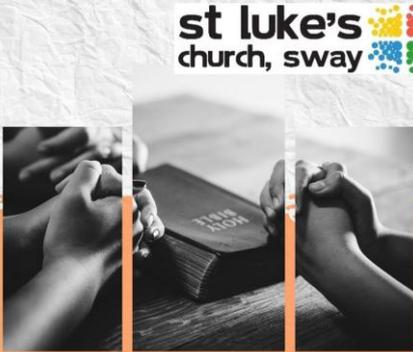
There is no obligation to leave a legacy gift through this scheme however, both providers will give you the opportunity to leave a legacy to your chosen parish if you would like to do so. All free wills are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. If you require further support, do not hesitate to get in touch with stewardship@winchester.anglican.org

Why is having a Will important?

- Ensures your assets are distributed as you wish
- Can appoint guardians for children
- Minimises the stress for family members
- Allows for effective estate planning
- Provides you with peace of mind
- Enables you to make charitable gifts

[CLICK HERE to learn more about writing wills.](#)

Urgent Prayer Requests



st luke's
church, sway

URGENT PRAYER CIRCLE

If you are in need of urgent prayer
please contact Revd. Jane on
07885505532 or the church office on
01590 682358 or email Jennie on
mcnaughthome@protonmail.com

We will arrange for our urgent prayer
circle to pray for those in need.

If you, or someone you know is in need of urgent prayer then please 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.

Church Rooms Available for Hire



Our church rooms are available to hire for parties, meetings, events and community gatherings of all kinds. The spaces are welcoming, well-maintained, and ideal for both one-off events and regular bookings. For rates, availability, and further details, please enquire at the Church Office on 01590 682358 or email office@swaychurch.com

Volunteers Needed!



Our church life thrives thanks to the generosity of those who give their time and gifts, and we would love to welcome more volunteers. If you would like to help with reading or leading prayers during services, serving on the Sunday coffee team, or assisting at the sound desk on Sundays, please do come forward. No experience is necessary just a willingness to be involved and support will be given. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact the Church Office on 01590 682358 or email office@swaychurch.com

Children and Families

The next Messy Church is this coming Monday 9th March at 3.30pm!

Easter events for the family....

Easter Egg Hunt!

Oasis is holding our first ever Easter Egg Hunt! Come in with your primary school aged children during the Easter school holidays, hunt for the eggs, learn about the true Easter story and win a prize!

Oasis Christian Centre
 25 Church Street
 Romsey
 Hampshire, SO51 8BT
 Telephone 01794 512194
 Email: shop@oasisromsey.co.uk
 www.oasisromsey.co.uk

The Real Easter Egg!

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story book in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and supports charitable projects. All our eggs are Palm Oil free and the Original and Dark eggs are plastic free.

Available now at Oasis. Please continue to support your local Christian Bookshop.

Oasis Christian Centre
 25 Church Street
 Romsey
 Hampshire, SO51 8BT
 Telephone 01794 512194
 Email: shop@oasisromsey.co.uk
 www.oasisromsey.co.uk

Bubble Church COMING SOON!



The PCC are delighted to support STARTING BUBBLE CHURCH and have given the go ahead for a trial period of 18 months. After appropriate training BUBBLE CHURCH is likely to start after Easter. Watch this space for more information!

Mission News

Kibirizi Church [CLICK HERE to WATCH](#)
So Near, Yet So Far...

Take a look at this video (click on the link above) taken by visiting friends, from our link parish in Kibirizi, Rwanda, you'll see something remarkable taking shape. Their new church building, dreamed of, prayed for, worked for is now tantalisingly close to completion. Walls stand firm, the roofline is clear, the vision is unmistakable. And yet... they wait.

Only **£15,000** now stands between the people of Kibirizi and a finished church they can finally call home. With that final amount, the building could be completed

quickly, giving their growing congregation a safe, spacious, joy-filled place to worship.

They have poured heart, labour, and faith into this project. Let's make their ambition our ambition. Let's see how, together, we might help bridge the final gap and bring this long-awaited home of worship to completion.

Jonathan

Collections at both services, this Sunday 8th March, will be in aid of Kisiizi Hospital

Dates for the Diary
Next Week:

Monday 9th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 3.30pm Messy Church
Tuesday 10th March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 2pm Death and Life Course
Wednesday 11th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 1.45pm Open the Book Rehearsal 2pm Christian Meditation
Thursday 12th March	9am Online Prayers 1.30pm SWAG Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 13th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler
Saturday 14th March	Sway Flower Show

Future Dates:

Mothers Day Sunday 15th March	Mothers Day 9.30am Informal Service 11am Lent Morning Worship 4pm Evensong
Monday 16th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler

Tuesday 17th March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 2pm Death and Life course - probate
Wednesday 18th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 1.45pm Open The Book 12pm SWAG Lunch Club
Thursday 19th March	9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 20th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 10am Friday Morning Service
Saturday 21st March	
Sunday 22nd March	9.30am Informal Service 11am Lent Morning Service
Monday 23rd March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 10.30am Funeral of the late Valerie May
Tuesday 24th March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 7pm PCC Meeting
Wednesday 25th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 9.30am St Luke's School Easter Service KS1 2pm St Luke's School Easter Service KS2
Thursday 26th March	9am Online Prayers 9.30am Easter Experience St Luke's School 1.30pm SWAG Thursday Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 27th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 2pm Creative Space
Saturday 28th March	
Palm Sunday Sunday 29th March	9.30m Informal Service 11am Palm Sunday 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