

News from St John the Evangelist Church
6 Burford Road, Carterton
August 2021
Welcome to worship!



This month's thoughts are from Rev Stephen

Christianity Explored

Who is Jesus? Why did he come? What does it mean to be his follower? This autumn, we will be holding a series of meetings to take a closer look at the Christian faith. Christianity Explored is a sequence of eight weekly sessions based on the Gospel of Mark, including a short talk followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion. No-one has to say anything in the group if they prefer not to - you can just listen to what's going on. If group members do want to contribute to the discussion, that's fine too - and people can ask any question they like - there's no such thing as a wrong or daft question!

Who is Christianity Explored for? If you're a newcomer to the Christian faith, it's a great way to find out what it's all about. If you have a friend who might be interested in discovering what Christians believe about Jesus, you could invite them to come along with you. In addition, many long-standing Christians have also found it a very useful refresher course, to help them brush up on the basics. We are also offering it to anyone who is thinking about being confirmed as a preparation for their confirmation.

When and where will it happen? We'll be meeting in St John's Church on Saturday mornings, from 10.30am - 12.30pm, starting on September 25th. We'll begin each session with tea, coffee and cake, and for families with young children, we aim to offer a creche, to enable parents to join in.

I have used Christianity Explored many times in parish ministry, and it's always been a great blessing. I well remember hearing people who had become committed church members speaking about the time they attended Christianity Explored, and how for them it made sense of Christianity for the first time. Would you like to join in? Do look out for more information in due course; this will include a reply slip, so that you can let us know you're coming.

In the meantime, have a great summer!



Keeping in Touch

Websites: www.stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk / www.achurchnearyou.com (search for Carterton)

Church Office: office@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk / **Phone Number:** 01993 846996 (answerphone only)

Team Rector: Rev Andrew (Drew) Tweedy "rector@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk" / 01993 845216 or 07393 182093 (Day off on Friday)

Team Vicar: Rev Ian Howard "teamvicar@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk" 07867 784693 (Day off on Saturday)

Lay Ministers: Mrs Billie Tweedy "billie@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk" 01993 845216 (Day off on Friday) /

Mrs Lyndsay Baker "layminister@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk" 07783 650793 (Day off on Tuesday)

Churchwardens: Alison Brown (tel: 01993 844815); Allister Holt (tel: 01993 209227)

"wardens@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk"

Home Group Leaders: Drew & Billie; Stephen Bessent (01993 844762); Sue & David Edgar (01993 845801)

Meetings on Zoom: Home Groups are meeting regularly. If you would like to join one, contact Lyndsay who will put you in touch with a group leader. The PCC continue to hold their monthly meetings via Zoom. The Clergy Team meet each Monday.

Let's Worship Together

8.00 am Sunday BCP services on the second Sunday of the month.

10.30am Thursday morning Holy Communion

No need to book for any of our services except the Informal Worship Service on the second Sunday of the month. Please book this service with Gary.

Sunday Services @ 10.30am

1 August: Family Communion

8 August: Informal Worship

15 August: Holy Communion

22 August: Morning Worship

29 August: Morning Worship



Let's Pray

Monthly Wednesday Prayer Sessions at 1.30pm in the Church

18 August (provisional),
15 September, 20 October,
17 November, 15 December



We are a church that believes in the power of prayer. The bible states "*And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.*" 1 John, chapter 5, verses 14-15.

We have a regular prayer letter that is available at the church and on the website which we encourage everyone to use in praying for others. Also, any of the ministry team would be delighted to prayer for you at any time. If you would like to be added to the prayer list please contact Lyndsay Baker 07783 650 993, layminister@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk

Let's celebrate!



Many people will have had birthdays with limited or no opportunity to celebrate with others over the past year. Let's celebrate some upcoming birthdays we know about, but I am sure there are others we don't. If you would like to be included in the birthday list, please contact the office:

Karen Holt (7th); Carol Hadgraft (11th); Hilda Goodson (15th); Doreen Trezise (17th)

Events for Children & Families

Tuesday Children's Worship @ 4.00-5.00pm in the Church Hall. Please contact Gary if you would like your primary school aged child to attend.

Sunday Youth Group for years 7-13 @ 4.00 -5.30pm in the Church Hall. Please contact Gary if you would like your child to attend.

Family Fun Day: 1 August with outside activities, weather permitting!, food and refreshments (4-6pm).

Holiday Club We are planning to run this 9.30am-12 noon on Monday 16 through to Friday 20 August for ages 5-11 (school year 1-6). Places are limited. A booking form can be obtained from Gary.

For information on other summer events, contact Gary Long

Call 07799 968408 or email

gary@stjohnschurchcarterton.org.uk

What Else is Happening?

Monthly Film Night – 6 August 7.00pm: 'SOUL SURFER (102 mins)- the true story of Bethany Hamilton. A remarkable young lady decides to 'fight back' after losing her arm in a shark attack ...All are welcome! Contact Rev Ian for the Zoom link

A chance to socialise and meet other families and have fun (hopefully in the sun!) Bring a picnic and join in at various locations. All times 11.00 -1.00 apart from 20th August which is 12.15 – 2.15.

Tuesday 3 August: Brize Norton Rec. Gary will organise a football match for anyone interested. Station Road, Brize Norton, OX18 3PL

Thursday 5 August: Minster Lovel Ruins. Ruins of a large 15th century manor set around a courtyard. Situated in attractive settings on the banks of the River Windrush. OX29 ORR

Tuesday 10 August: Kilkenny Country Park OX18 1EY

Thursday 12 August: Abbey Meadows Splash Park provides a safe environment for youngsters to enjoy a high-quality play area. In the Summer holidays there is water fun on a hot day Meet at the car park. It's a pay and display. OX14 3JE

Friday 20 August 12.15:(after holiday club) Carterton Rec. Gary will organise a football match for anyone interested.

Tuesday 24 August: Wychwood Forest. OX7 3DG. Park in layby just past the church opposite side of the road (Left coming from Carterton.)

Thursday 26 August: Buscot Weir This large weir pool is quite deep and surrounded by well- maintained lawns with trees and rope swings. The water quality here is considered to be well above average and suitable for swimming. It is a popular place for families to swim. Car parking facilities close by with a café providing refreshments and toilet facilities. SN7 8DA
For more information contact Gary Long on 07799968408

INSPIRE: Our hope is to restart on **Wednesday, 8 September** at 2pm, then every 2nd and 4th Wednesday.

Fellowship Breakfasts: From September, we are planning to restart our ladies (11th) and men's (18th) breakfasts. Look out for further details and a sign-up sheet for the ladies.