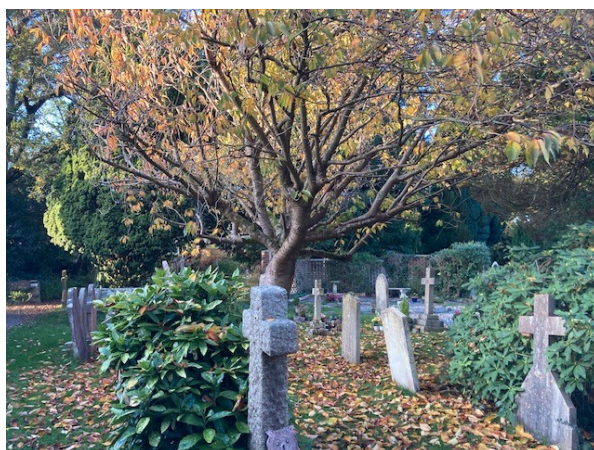




st luke's church, sway



Photo of



Autumn leaves in the churchyard.

WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH, SWAY SUNDAY 17th November 2024

Please find our live-streamed or recorded services on YouTube:

[Youtube.com/@StLukesSway](https://www.youtube.com/@StLukesSway)

Time for Institutional change

In light of the shocking news this week it seems most appropriate to be reminded of the need for us to work and pray for three things:-

- 1. That the suffering and the voice of those who have been abused are at the heart of any process set up to guard against abuse within the church*
- 2. That there is a reformation in the institute of the Church of England (especially at it's more senior levels) with regards to Safeguarding and in particular with reference to the introduction of a truly independent process.*
- 3. That we remember to willingly support, encourage and work with those who lead the Safeguarding work we do within the Church of England.*

We can all play our part. We can pray and we can lament. We can all complete safeguarding training to the required level and complete DBS forms for our volunteer

roles in the church. Please make this a priority so church can be a safe place and we can Live the mission of Jesus and make a difference.

Love and prayers

Jane



WORSHIP

SUNDAY 17th November

Sermon Series. Early Christian Letters.

2 John and 3 John

Mark 13: 1-8

9.30am Informal Service

Leader - Jane Mitchell speaker Rev Canon Michael Christian- Edwards

10.30am Coffee time

11am Family Communion

Leader -Sue Cornwell and Revd Jane Mitchell. Speaker -Michael Christians - Edwards

4pm Evensong

Leader - Jonathan Elliott-Jones and the St Luke's Choir

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

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

Printed copies can also be found in church.

Occasional changes may arise due to unforeseen circumstances in the rotas of who is speaking and leading. Thank you for your your understanding in these situations. .

Prayer

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

This week please pray for -

- Victims of abuse
- Safeguarding
- Family of Debbie Mantle
- Advent and Christmas preparations for worship

CHURCH NEWS



Give to Go Green Campaign.

Approximately £27,000 has been raised! Thank you for your wonderful generosity that means this work can go ahead in the new year!! It is anticipated that the figure will be just over £30k once gift aid is received. We reached the target for match funding and the figure of £27k includes £10k from National Church funds set aside for eco projects like this one. St Luke's Church will have super new rainwater goods to keep the church dry and comfortable for the next 100 years or so. Praise God for his provision and for the generosity of church members and the community. Donations are still gratefully received but the match funding campaign has now closed and any further donations will be allocated to ongoing maintenance for the church.

CHURCHSUITE

Want to see what is coming up?

Check what rotas you are on?

Check your data held by St Luke's?

Churchsuite helps with all this - take a look at the short training videos about how to get going or enhance your experience of keeping in touch with what is going on at St Luke's..

<https://support.churchsuite.com/article/385-my-churchsuite-user-guide>

Please ask if you would like some help.

Children & Family News

Cubs and Beavers

Cubs and Beavers

It was wonderful to welcome so many Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Scouts and Brownies on Remembrance Sunday - it is heartening to see how these groups are growing again since the effect of covid and lockdowns. It has taken time. St Luke's are enjoying seeing and building relationships with the cubs and beavers as they have been hiring the church rooms all this term on Tuesday and Thursday evenings due to problems with their scout hut that is their normal venue.

Messy Church

Here is the Christmas Tree Festival entry for Messy church...



Bump, Baby and Toddler Group

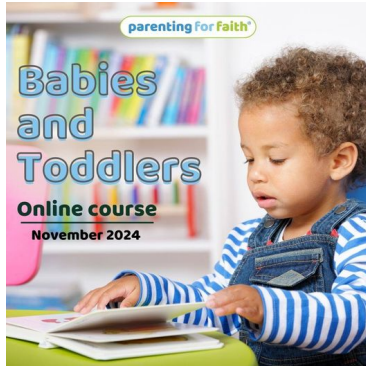
The rotas for tea/coffee and supporting for bump baby and toddler group are now on churchsuite. If you can offer a couple of hours to support in the kitchen occasionally on a Monday or Friday to meet families and serve tea/coffee - this would really support this growing ministry it would be most welcome and make a difference. Ministering here is outreach to families and pre school children as part of our church family. Any help can be regular - weekly, monthly or just one off. Please let the office know office@swaychurch.com or have a chat with Jane or Sophie.

Store/meeting room. Some of the parents of young families have taken measurements of the room formally known as the donkey room with a view to coming up with improved design for its use. It is time for a clear out and to redesign that space that supports children and families and offers space for others to meet as well Watch this space.....

Online parenting course for pre school parents for St Luke's.

This is a new way of connecting with parents/carers and grandparents. What happens? Instead of inviting parents to a physical church - we meet online. This 4 week course online hosted nationally but facilitated by church leaders locally in breakout rooms. Great content and questions to ponder and it creates space to reflect on faith. Last week the theme was Connection and Communication: Helping your child grow in their own faith

your child grow in their own faith.



Mission News

RWANDA APPEAL - from Jonathan Elliott-Jones

Attached is an appeal for funds for the pastor in Kibirizi. His situation, like 90% of other pastors in Rwanda is that the church has been shut and his income reduced to a small fraction of its previous amount. He can only afford just one meagre meal a day – it is a crisis!

[Appeal Nov2024.docx](#)

Children's Society Coffee Morning Many thanks to everyone who attended this event. It was a very busy morning with lots of people meeting and chatting. It was standing room only for much of the time. I am really delighted to tell you that the collecting boxes raised £1,422.59 and the coffee morning raised £589 which is more than double that raised last year. Thank you so much. This money will all go to help the disadvantaged children, especially teenagers, in this country.

Janet Lealan

There will be Christmas cards to buy or order for the next few Sundays between the services and after the 11am service in aid of the Children's Society.

Church Land - Youth Centre summary from meeting this week

Around 30 church members gathered to share ideas and updates about the Church Land - Youth Centre last week.

The meeting started with information about the land so everyone knew what the land was, what the lease was, and what are the covenants on the land meant as far known affecting the use of the land.

We then shared some options acknowledging this was the beginning of exploring options and reimagining the future. Church members shared their experience and knowledge about the site and particularly about youth work in the past.

The overriding theme that was shared by many at the meeting was a heart for the youth and children of the village and to reach out to them.

Church members thought it would be good

to meet again in late Jan/Feb to continue the conversation as a church

to keep working to find out more legal information about the covenants.

to work with the Parish Council and join in whole public meetings to find out what the village would like for the site.

The PCC meet later this month to consider carefully all these points and the way forward.

Other News

Creative Space – Friday 29th November 2024 From 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm in Church Preparing to celebrate Christmas!

This month's session is the final one of 2024 - our end-of-year / pre-Christmas celebration. It will be an opportunity to spend a peaceful couple of hours together, making Christmas gifts / cards /decorations / etc. Some materials will be available for you to use; or you are welcome to bring along your own creative project to work on. Towards the end of the session, festive refreshments will be offered. We look forward to seeing you. **Please sign up** via Church Suite, **or call / leave a note in the church office**, 01590 682358 **by Wednesday 27th November.**

Christmas Tree Festival: Calling all volunteers needed for serving refreshments in church and stewarding for 3 days! Please contact Janet Kirk to offer help if you can and cover an hour or so or bake a cake. Thank you!

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK?

Monday 18th Nov	9.30am	Bump, Baby & Toddler Group
Tuesday 19th Nov	10am - 11.30am	Community Gardening
	10.30am - 11.30am	Swag Community Cafe
	7pm - 9pm	PCC Meeting
Wednesday 20th Nov	9am - 9.30am	Parish Prayers (in Church)
	12pm -1.30pm	SWAG Lunch Club
	2.30pm - 4pm	Christian Meditation
	2.45pm	Open the Book
Thursday 21st Nov	9am	Online Morning Prayer

	6pm	Band Practice
	8pm - 9pm	Pre-School Parenting in Faith Online Course
Friday 22nd Nov	9.30am - 11am	Bump, Baby & Toddler Group
	11.30am	Birchy Hill Communion
	7pm	Christmas Choir Practice

check out www.stlukeschurchsway.org.uk to see the church diary with all the services and events and church room booking availability

Here is the link for Thursday online parish prayers -

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY..

NOVEMBER

Thursday 21st November 10:00 - Christmas card bundle preparation in church rooms

Tuesday 26th November 19:00 - Bible Study (drop-in)

Wednesday 27th November Debbie Mantle's Thanksgiving Service 12 noon

Thursday 28th November 20:00 - Pre-school parenting in faith online course

Friday 29th November 9:00 - Church led School Assembly

Friday 29th November 14:00 - Creative Space

DECEMBER

Friday 6th December 10:00 - 16:00 - **Christmas Tree Festival**

Friday 6th December 19:00 - Christmas Choir Practice

Saturday 7th December 10:00 - 16:00 - **Christmas Tree Festival**

Sunday 8th December 13:00 - 16:00 - **Christmas Tree Festival**

Tuesday 10th December 19:00 - Drop in Bible Study

Wednesday 11th December 12:30 - 15:00 - School Christmas Service Rehearsal

Friday 13th December 9:00 - Church led School Assembly

Friday 13th December 19:00 - Christmas Choir Practice

Sunday 15th December 09:30 - **Messy Christingle**

Sunday 15th December 11am Advent Communion Service

Sunday 15th December 18:30 - **Carols by Candlelight**

Sunday 22nd December 8am Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd December 10am **Carols and Cake**

Christmas Eve 4pm **Family Nativity Service**

Christmas Eve 11.15pm **Midnight Holy Communion**

**Christmas Day 10am Christmas Day Service followed by 10.45am
Short service of Holy Communion**

Contact Information

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505532

REVD KEVIN SMITH (Fri) kevin.smith891@gmail.com | 01590 682358

OFFICE: office@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358.

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



St Luke's Church

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