

'The Church on the Hill'

What's On in September 2022

Follow the link from our web site for live streamed services: http://www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk/



Sunday 4th September – 12th Sunday after Trinity

- 8:30 am BCP Communion in-person only
- 10.00 am Service of the Word in-person and live-stream on Facebook Leader: Travers Harpur Preacher: Jane Harpur– "Counting the Cost" Readings: Philemon 1 - 21; Luke 14:25 – 33

Sunday 11th September – 13th Sunday after Trinity

- 10:00 am Service of Holy Communion in-person and live-stream on Facebook Leader: Barbara Webb Communion President: Rev David Cattle Preacher: Chris Selden "Lost and Found" Readings: 1 Timothy 1:12 17; Luke 15:1 10
 4:30 pm Joint MMU Service at Church of the Holy Spirit (Taizo)
- 4:30 pm Joint MMU Service at Church of the Holy Spirit (Taize)

Sunday 18th September – 14th Sunday after Trinity

- 8:30 am BCP Communion in-person only
- 10:00 am Service of the Word in-person and live-stream on Facebook Leader: Fiona Selden Preacher: Rev David Cattle – "The Shrewd Manager"
 - Readings: 1 Timothy 2:1 7; Luke 16:1 13

Sunday 25th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity

- 8:30 am BCP Communion in-person only
- 10:00 am Service of the Word in-person and live-stream on Facebook Leader: Rev David Cattle Preacher: Geoff Windus – "The Rich Man and Lazarus" Readings: 1 Timothy 6:6 – 19; Luke 16:19 – 31

Services During the Week

Weekly Morning Prayer on Tuesdays via Zoom at 9:30 am.

Important dates in September:

Sat 3rd Sep 10:00 am – 12:00. Coffee morning in Church. Everyone welcome. Sat 10th Sep 1:00 pm – Wedding of Louisa and Nathan 7:00 pm – Quiz Night (fundraising event) in Church (see below for details) Sun 11th Sep 1:00 pm – Baptism of Ruby Allen 4:30 pm – Joint MMU afternoon service, Taize at Church of the Holy Spirit Mon 12th Sep 2:00 pm – MLT (Fiona's house) 8:00 pm – Missions team meeting (venue tbc) Tues 13th Sep 7.30pm – PCC meeting (in Church) Wed 14th Sep 9:00 am – Informal prayer in church Mon 19th Sep 8:30 pm – Worship Planning Team meeting, via Zoom Tue 20th Sep 7:00 pm – Website development meeting, via Zoom Sun 25th Sep 3:30 pm – Baptism of Joshua Merrill Wed 28th Sep 9:00 am – Informal prayer in Church 10:00 am – Churchyard Care Team Meeting (in Church) **Future Dates:** Sat 1st Oct 1:30 pm – Wedding of Elise and Carl Sun 2nd Oct 10:00 am – Michaelmas Service and party 5:00 pm – Service of Farewell to Archdeacon Elizabeth, who is retiring (Chelmsford Cathedral) Sun 9th Oct 4:00 pm – Joint MMU service, St Luke's Moulsham (harvest theme) Mon 10th Oct 7:30 pm – Lynchpins meeting, St Luke's Moulsham Sun 16th Oct 10:00 am – Harvest Festival Sun 30th Oct 10:00 am – Joint MMU Service, St Mary's Widford Sat 5th Nov 11:00 am – Artisan Market (fundraising events) in Church

Tue 8th Nov 8:00 pm – Stondon Singers Concert celebrating the work of Ralph Vaughan Williams. Tickets £10, (01227 886769) or <u>stondonsingers@gmail.com</u>.

NOTICES

Prayer Chain

If anyone has an urgent need, please be aware the Church has a small group of committed members ready and willing to support you in prayer. Please contact Jane Windus, the Prayer Chain Coordinator (<u>janewindus@gmail.com</u>), who will circulate your request amongst the team. Furthermore, if you would be willing to join the team and commit to supporting others in this important and privileged ministry, again please contact Jane.

Treasurer Vacancy

We give our thanks to Colin Dawson, who officially stepped down as Treasurer at the Annual Meeting on 22nd May after many years' service. We are still looking for a new Treasurer. Please do pray that we will fill this important role very soon. If anyone is interested to learn more about the role, please speak to Colin, Gavin or David.

Quiz Night. Our next big event is a quiz night, which will be held on 10th September in the Church at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Teams will consist of 6 - 8 per table, at £5 per person. Bring own drink and nibbles!

Michaelmas service and party

On Sunday 2nd October, we shall celebrate our patronal festival, as we reflect on St Michael and All Angels! After our service at 10am, there will be a party – details to follow.

Foundation Governor Vacancies at St. Michael's Church of England Voluntary Aided Junior School.

Due to various circumstances, a number of Foundation/Church Governor vacancies are available at St. Michael's Junior School.

Volunteering for this role, you would join a team of Foundation Governors whose role is to:

- be a link between the Church, school and diocese.
- ensure the Christian ethos of the school is maintained and developed.
- play an active role in the school community.
- support the school in its journey of providing an excellent education for all children in an environment that enables them to flourish

The governing body is seeking people with any of the following qualities:

- financial expertise.
- knowledge of health and/or safety.
- experience of working in the construction industry.
- an interest in education or would like to see the education system from a different perspective

If becoming a Foundation Governor is something you would be interested in, please contact Revd David Cattle (<u>revdcattle@gmail.com</u>) or Jane Cregan-Bird (<u>admin@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk</u>) Chair of Governors. Thank-you.

Thought for the month by Revd David Cattle

This is who we are ... and who we want to be

I think St Michael's is a great Church to belong to! I know, I would say that. I'm biased – I'm the vicar! But all I can say is what I see – I have been made to feel very welcome since I arrived in the parish nearly 4 years ago (yes, that's right – 4 years!), and I have felt really encouraged by how supportive the Church has been to me. I enjoy coming into Church on Sunday mornings to be with you all.

Recently, the PCC (Parochial Church Council) and MLT (Ministry Leadership Team) have been thinking about the future. Now that we are emerging from the worst of the Covid-19 pandemic, what kind of Church do we want to be? Where do we want to focus our time, energy and resources? How can we best know and serve God?

So, we sat down and did some thinking and talking and praying about things, and I want to share the results of that with you now.

Firstly, we decided that we wanted to come up with a new statement that sums up who we are, as St Michael's Church family. We thought that our current vision prayer "Jesus, teach us all to love" had run its course, and we wanted something new. So, we came up with the phrase "The Church on the Hill". It's a good phrase because it reflects our physical location (up on top of the hill, with a spire that is visible for miles around) and it also reflects our mission (being a visible beacon of hope for everyone, especially in the hard times we find ourselves living through, and proclaiming the Gospel to others).

Secondly, we decided not to write a vision statement, as such, but instead to write a "We are..." paragraph, which can go on our website and our publicity. After a few drafts, the final "We are..." paragraph is here:

"We are a friendly, joyful and relaxed Church where anyone can find a home, worshipping on the hill in the beautiful setting of Galleywood Common. Just as our spire is visible for miles around, we seek to be a sign of hope for all people by proclaiming God's love, sharing the good news about Jesus Christ, and drawing people to faith in him. As disciples of Jesus, we learn from the Bible, and we recognise the need for God's Holy Spirit to transform our lives. Following the example of Jesus, and strengthened by God, we serve our village and the wider world through love, prayer and action."

It's not so much a vision for the future, as a statement which tries to capture who we are now. But it also reminds us that we are not the finished article, so it is also a statement of what we want to be. In this sense, it helps to us plan for the future – everything we do must agree with it.

Thirdly, we are also hoping to have a new logo which reflects all of this, and which highlights our link with St Michael's Junior School. At the moment, we are just checking out potential copyright implications for the logo we want to use, so I can't show it to you just yet. Watch this space...

Lastly, we set a list of priorities for the coming year, up until the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May 2023. The list is here, together with a note on the progress made so far:

- 1. Re-start Sunday prayer ministry, and promote prayer at other times. (Sunday prayer ministry is due to begin in September.)
- 2. Set up a Churchyard Care Team to oversee the churchyard and care for those who remember loved ones there. (The team has been set up and has started work.)
- 3. Celebrate our 150th anniversary in 2023. (Some events have already been planned, and Anne Pepper will soon convene a meeting of the planning team.)
- 4. Open the Church building more. (This has started.)
- 5. Prioritise ministry to children, young people and families, including appointing a new Children and Youth Worker and a new leader for the Make Lunch team. (Meetings due in September.)
- 6. Develop opportunities for discipleship, including homegroups, seekers' courses, Lent courses, confirmation courses, baptism preparation. (Homegroup leaders will meet in September to talk about how to promote, support and resource homegroups.)
- 7. Develop better communications on the website and noticeboards. (The website is under development, and noticeboards are being worked on.)
- 8. Fundraising and possible building work. (Beryl and the fundraising team are doing a great job, and quotes are being obtained for building work.)
- 9. Making the most of the area of land we call "the copse". (Some events have already been held there, and more things are planned.)

We move into the future in obedience to God, trusting that he will lead us and make our paths straight. And we pray that our Church may grow and flourish – in faith, in love and in number.

The deadline for articles for October is Sunday 18th September. Please send them to Geoff Windus (<u>geoffwindus@gmail.com</u>).

Church contact details:

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