



APRIL 2024

Singleton Community Church News

WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR CHURCH

Growing Stronger Communities Through Faith



Headlines:

Budding & Blossoming

APCM

Voyagers Holiday Club

Discover Christianity

Baptism Sunday

Youth Catalyst Course



Singleton Community Church is part of Ashford Town Parish. For details of parish activities or for Giving details, contact the office at info@ashfordchurches.co.uk or 01233 620433. www.ashfordtownparish.co.uk.

Budding & Blossoming

At our recent LLT meeting, whilst praying, the Lord brought to mind the picture of the budding of Aaron's staff (*Numbers 17:8*). This was a sign of God's blessing and anointing on his ministry.

As we look back at just over a year of being SCC with our new logo of a tree with the cross at the centre I believe we can be encouraged that our "staff" is budding and blossoming. That God is graciously blessing us as we seek to be faithful in following Him.

To name just a few we have grown in numbers, seen baptisms and are looking forward to more; we have seen our youth work develop with some exciting initiatives in the pipeline; the Friendship group has thrived from day one and is deepening relationships with those in need. We have also just seen an amazingly blessed Easter weekend with so many through the doors - many from the local community.

All of this has been undergirded by a network of faithful prayer by both individuals and groups.

Aaron's staff didn't just bud, it brought forth buds, blossoms and fruit - abundantly more than was expected. Let us go forward believing that God has abundantly more than we can expect for us.

Andrew



Message from your Local Leadership Team:

Safeguarding: It is *everyone's* responsibility to protect children and vulnerable adults.

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Lis Webb
lis.webb@ashfordchurches.co.uk

Our Singleton Safeguarding Officer is Jill Harrison
jill.harrison@ashfordchurches.co.uk

If you have any concerns, please talk with one of us, or our Vicar - Rev Jo Purle jo.purle@ashfordchurches.co.uk





Annual Parochial Church Meeting



Saturday 27th April 10-Midday

Do join us to hear what has been happening around the Parish over the last year. We will also celebrate encouraging stories of God at work across our churches. Held at St. Mary's, Willesborough. All very welcome.

Voyagers Holiday Club



29th July - 1st August 10-1pm

Every summer, a Holiday Club is held at John Wesley School for primary school aged children, led by Tom Lewis (Methodist Church Youth Worker). Welcoming around 70 kids from the local area, including Singleton, it's a really exciting time of fun, friendship and faith for children.

"Voyagers' is a submarine themed week. We join a crew of underwater explorers to discover what lies beneath the ocean and their story ties into our Bible theme: the life of Joseph. The submarine crew will help the children understand the Christian themes of the story and how they apply to their lives today through games, music, crafts and teaching.

Volunteers from SCC have served on these teams each summer and Tom is welcoming us again. He writes, "We are looking for people who are enthusiastic and enjoy working with 5-11s. We have a few experienced leaders but would love to welcome new recruits. We will offer support and some training to make sure you are fully prepared for Voyagers. We also have space for some teenagers to come aboard as young leaders. If you'd like to volunteer as a leader for Voyagers Holiday Club please contact Tom Lewis: discoveryashford@hotmail.com. Please let us know by Sunday 14th April!"

Discover Christianity

We would like to offer a short course for adults (possibly on a Monday/Tuesday evening) which explores the core building blocks of the Christian faith. This would be a great opportunity for anyone wishing to explore or deepen their faith, plus a good preparation for Adult baptism. Do speak with Rev Jo if you would be interested to join in or help on the team.



Baptism Sunday



Sunday 2nd June

For anyone who has come to believe and trust in Christ, baptism is a public expression of an inner conviction to live for Him. Baptism is a Biblical command and we look forward to baptising adults, young people and children on our Baptism Sunday in June. For others, you may wish to Renew your Baptismal Vows if made a long time ago or by your parents on your behalf. Over the coming weeks, Jo will join our children and young people's group to prepare those who are interested. Please speak with Rev Jo to talk this through.

Youth Catalyst Course

"I recently had the opportunity to attend a Catalyst workshop in Rochester which was supported by the diocese. These monthly workshops are designed for those who are passionate about empowering and guiding young people, not only within the church but also in the broader community.

The workshop brought together attendees from a variety of age groups, including leaders who are keen to teach the foundational principles of the Christian faith to young people. My desire was to learn about innovative ways to teach. It was an enlightening experience, offering new perspectives on how to genuinely connect with the younger generation. One theme that ran through the workshop was the importance of teaching via interaction.

I'm excited to learn more about contemporary ways to engage with our youth in the next month's workshop and will keep you posted. "

Greg

