

T: 01753 841710 W: allsaintschurchdedworth.co.uk

17th July 2020

John 14 1-3: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you I will come again and will take you to myself so that where I am, there you may be also. "

These verses are often used at funerals. The power and implication they carry can be blunted by their familiarity. The favourite room in your house in heaven is lovingly prepared by the Master of the Universe, just for you, as if there were no-one else. Jesus meets us in our distress and uncertainty and takes us there, as if he had only time for us. We are forever his and he will look after us as we would look after a favourite child.

All Saints, Dedworth opens its doors for 9:30 am services on Sunday, 2nd August 2020



- On August 2nd, 16th and 30th there will be a service of Morning Prayer at 9-30am (**No** singing or Communion)
- On August 9th and 23rd there will be a Communion service (Wafers only and no singing).

The size of the congregation that can be accommodated will be limited. Seating will be spaced to maintain 2m social distancing measures. We do not want to turn anyone away, but we must abide by the rules! For this reason, Sue Morgan needs to know who to expect. Please leave a message on Sue's land line answerphone 01753 851542 to let her know if you would like to attend one or more of these services, or phone her mobile 07752 479624 if you need to speak to her.

To reduce the risks of Covid contagion, please follow these precautions.

- Enter through the main front doors (**not** the fire door at the back).
- Sign in and give your contact details for 'track and trace' purposes.
- Use hand sanitizer which will be placed in the foyer.
- Use **only** the socially distanced chairs set out for you.
- Leave through the fire door at the back of the church.
- Use **only** the disabled toilet in the front foyer, if necessary.

Sunday Worship at 10:45am

YouTube Family Services will also be held on most Sundays during August and on Sunday August 23rd there will be a Zoom service.

The PCC are still in discussion about when and how best to re-introduce Family worship in the church building.

*

A grant of £3,000 from Windsor and Maidenhead Deanery

On 29th May it was mentioned that our church might be given a small grant from the deanery in recognition of all it has been doing during the Covid crisis. Well, the grant turned out not to be so small!!

On Tuesday, 14th August a letter arrived saying, "The committee was, naturally, pleased to be reminded of the parish's commitment to the local community, the more so during lockdown and your support for the West Windsor hub. It has resolved unanimously to make a grant to the PCC from the Deanery Mission Fund of £3,000, as a contribution towards the additional costs incurred this year"



Special thanks to Peter Norris for preparing the bid for this grant. Thank you to everyone for all you do and have done to win this special grant and recognition from our peers! Wonderful news!

*



Our Mission and Vision Conference Saturday, 11th July

We had a brilliant session with Rhodri Bowen, the Parish Development Advisor, last Saturday. About 36 of us attended and the feedback has been great! We started by discussing a Bible reading from Ezra 3:10-13 which talks about building afresh; appreciating the loss felt by some people and the joy at moving on. First, we discussed in pairs and then in groups of four.

We went on to discuss our Mission and our Vision in the same way. Zoom technology enabled us to speak to different sets of people. It was exciting and stimulating. Finally, we projected our thoughts forward to consider where we might be in 3 years' time. This helped us envisage what sort of church we might be then and the type of vicar who would be leading us! The meeting lasted 3 hours. It was a positive and uplifting experience. There will be a full report in the next newsletter.

Sue Morgan prepared a summary of the results of the 80 questionnaires received from you all which she read out during the conference. It is written below to share with you.

Summary of responses to 80 questionnaires about our mission and our values received from members of the congregation

This is a church with a difference! Our church is an extended family. There is an unconditional welcome at All Saints Dedworth, and it is very inclusive. Everyone treats each other like it is one big family. I have never been in a church before that feels so much like a family. It's good to be in the warm environment and enjoy such good fellowship there. What I like about ASD is the general feeling of belonging to something worthwhile. We arrived in the UK on Friday and were settled in the church on Sunday – we hadn't expected to find our spiritual home so quickly!

We have great joy in our Sunday worship. Some people enjoy the calm peacefulness of the 9.30am service. Some prefer the more energetic style of family worship that follows. It's good to have a range of services on offer to suit all the different kinds of people who make up our church family. There is also a communion before the Wednesday social lunch. This service is a favourite with many of the older people, who are longing to see each other again after the Lockdown.

We found new ways to communicate and did some outstanding community work at the onset of the pandemic. ASD responds well to a challenge. People appreciated being kept in contact during this time, which we did by dividing all of our members into zone groups, which helped to make communication and caring easier. There is a weekly newsletter to keep all the zones in touch, services were streamed by YouTube, meetings delivered by Zoom, some of our flock listened on their telephones, and we used as many other ways to get spiritual food to them as we could dream up. The adults and the young people had their own WhatsApp groups, which helped them to get through the worst parts of the Lockdown. Looking back from where we are now, you can begin to see that this was a turning point for us in Dedworth. This was the point when the residents of Dedworth seriously began to value their neighbours, and started to live as if Dedworth was more like a village than an anonymous town.

Church members have remarked on the fact that people are willing to give up their time to support our community, one way or another. At the start of Covid 19, our church hub, which was already doing good work, became the new super hub for our area, reaching out to the community at large. ASD is a very community minded church. We respond to those in genuine need. With a small dedicated team and an amazing army of volunteers, they are still delivering food, medicines, advice and general support to those in need. It is a huge operation, housed within our church, supported by us in prayer and in practical ways, and sponsored by the Royal Borough and others. Somebody remarked "We thought that you Christians just looked after each other. We didn't realise that you would reach out to us as well". One of our church members, working at home at present, was able to see the church car-park from his window and said that he was amazed to see all the activity going on in and around the church.

In recent times a great deal of time and effort has gone into the homeless project and the night shelter. The number of people from our church working on this, as volunteers, has been impressive. Over the Covid pandemic the homeless have been put into temporary accommodation by the Council, but some of them still come back to visit us, from time to time. It is good to see them. We like to catch up with their news.

Another church member said that she had been impressed by the effort we had made to provide a service every Sunday. Remembering that we are not just a church trying to feed our flock through the Covid crisis, but we are also in an interregnum as well, the leadership team have been have been working hard to find solutions to problems which inevitably crop up from time to time. Dividing our people into zones at the outset of Lockdown was one of those. Another was having community prayers, in the church garden, morning and evening, rain or shine, which we have been doing every day for some weeks now, in order to pray for God's blessings on our local community. More than 30 different people have taken part in this, in different permutations and combinations, all socially distanced, and a number of our church family have spoken about this. As part of this project we planted a new apple tree in the garden – as a sign of hope and to show that God is blessing us to provide fruit for him in the future. Also an olive tree arrived as a gift from a couple in our church family, as a sign of peace for Dedworth. Our apple tree was planted by two of our more recently arrived members of our congregation, working together. And one of them said," I helped to plant this tree – it made me feel part of the community."

When asked about favourite events in the church family's life, people spoke of services on the race-course, singing Christmas carols on top of a moving double-decker bus as it toured around the community, packed Christingle services at Christmas, singing for God in the Pirate Park, and marching from church to the war memorial for Remembrance Day services. Clearly people enjoy being the church outside its walls. And the fun events stick in people's minds. The animal service for Christmas was one such event. That day, all sorts of animals, like donkeys etc were around the church for a service just before Christmas, which brought in people we'd never seen in church before.

The School's team have put on some marvellously acted out Bible stories which have been very popular – these have been performed quite often in church. Their children have been welcomed into church and our teams have been welcomed into their schools. Parents have spoken warmly about the special arrangements made for their children both during the pandemic and also during "normal" times. God and Play (GAP) is very popular with parents and grandparents alike – the little children have a great time playing and the grown – ups, who brought them have the chance to watch them play and talk to each other as well! God is there too. Sunday school is very popular with the children of school age. We have some excellent teachers who work hard to bring the best to their groups, and the young people are also well provided for. The leaders in charge of the work with children and young people put on some fabulous events for them and some of the big events are done in collaboration with some of the other churches in our area. There are very many children and young

people in our church, which is great, as the young people of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. We are very blessed in the committed way in which our team leaders serve them.

Asked why he liked ASD, a member said," I like the whole thing; the whole package that is on offer works well".

A couple said, "We feel God is here; we like the people and the services."

A lady said, "I feel that you are doing wonderful work in the Covid crisis keeping us in touch. Also I am delighted by the way you keep changing things, moving things to less frequently, cutting things out altogether and introducing new things—it's very refreshing to see a church doing this."

Another lady said," I feel ASD has responded magnificently to the Covid crisis. I spoke to a hub leader recently who said that over 100 families are being serviced by the church, which is really great. It's also great the way that you have organised the outside worship taking place every day." She also said that she was amazed at what we were doing with the homeless. When the community of the church people and the homeless are together you couldn't tell the difference between them. There's a great deal of laughter which is part of the healing process.

A couple of our church family wrote, "ASD have been a dedicated and hardworking team, particularly during this unprecedented difficult time for the church family and wider community. We have answered God's call and there are many, many people who are very thankful indeed for the team's commitment!

Our is indeed a church with a difference!

*

Bible Study 7:30pm - 8:30pm on Tuesday, 21st July by Zoom

Our next Bible Study will be led by Andrew Giles. It is entitled Jesus, the Good Shepherd and will focus particularly on John 10 v 1-10. Contact Andrew Giles for more details.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83108655692 Meeting ID: 831 0865 5692. No password required.



*

Vestibule Makeover

This is now finished and ready for you to admire! Many thanks to Mike Brooks and his team!

*

Activities for Children and Youth

Activities for 11-16-year olds: This Sunday Zoom group meets at 7:00 pm and is led by Michelle and Carolyn.

Activities for 9-10-year olds: Michelle, Matthew and Kerry's Zoom group now meet at 4:00pm on Thursdays.

Activities for 5-9-year olds. Look for the latest activities in the Sunday School link on our website. https://allsaintschurchdedworth.com/church-life/sunday-school/

Activities for Younger Children: GAP @ Home

GAP stands for both 'God and Play' and 'Grandparents and Parents'. Each Monday, a new session is published on the church website under https://allsaintschurchdedworth.com/church-life/gap-god-and-play These GAP sessions are for everyone, but especially those with younger children. Please share the link with anyone you know who may be interested. There is also a GAP WhatsApp group. Contact Ruth Norris for further details.

*

Church Finance Update

Thank you to all those who have donated to the church in recent weeks using electronic transfer methods. A special thank you to the few who have switched from envelope or cash giving to electronic transfers. This does make a difference to our income – and makes the Treasurer's job easier by removing the need to handle and bank cash or cheques. **Many thanks to you all.**

Our monthly income is still well down on normal levels as we are not receiving the weekly envelopes or cash in the collection plate gifts. We have also lost a lot of income from hall hire whilst the church building has been closed.

With the planned start of limited Church Services in August, we will once again be able to take cash or cheque donations. Members of the 'Envelope Scheme' might want to make payments for the period the church has been closed. If making a cash payment then please mark your envelope to say the number of weeks this payment covers. This is important as it enables me to claim a 'Small Cash Donations' tax refund from the Government which makes your donation worth 25% more. Please note that whilst cheques are most welcome, they are excluded from the Government Small Cash Donations tax refund scheme.

As well as cash, you can donate to the church via one of the following alternatives.

1. Our preferred method for one-off donations is via our JustGiving page.



Visit https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/allsaintsdedworth

Gift Aid will automatically be collected if you tick the box and enter your details.

2. Alternatively, you can make a **transfer from your bank account**. This could be a one-off or regular monthly payment.



Our Bank Details are - Metro Bank -

- A/c name = All Saints Dedworth.
- Sort code = 23-05-80
- Account number = 34016674

If you normally give to All Saints with Gift Aid then I will make sure any new money you give is Gift Aided. If you would like to Gift Aid your giving then please complete a new Gift Aid form on the **Donate Now** section of our website and email it to me. I do not need the form – just the details it asks for, in an email and I can complete the form for you (a signature is not required).

3. Our preferred method for regular giving to the church is to use the **Parish Giving Scheme**.



PGS have launched a phone-based method to sign up. There is also a new sign-up form you can download from our website and print. These are simpler joining methods than before.

Details are on the church website.

https://allsaintschurchdedworth.com/about-all-saints/parish-giving-scheme/

If you have any questions about our Church Finance or how to work these donation methods, then please call me.

Your donations help us to do the amazing work that is going on in this difficult time. God Bless.

Peter Norris, Treasurer All Saints, Phone 01753-869787 Email peternorris.windsor@btinternet.co

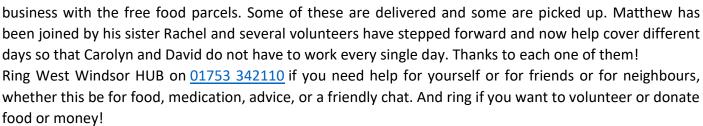


WEST WINDSOR HUB

We have moved, but not far! We are now located in the Chapel. In the picture Carolyn Carter and Matthew Kilner are

settling in their new surroundings! The Hub continues to be as productive as ever and people still pop in and out to get what they need and have a chat, but the back of the church can now be used for services.

Our volunteers are still working hard and are still doing brisk





Useful Contact Details

Name	Telephone	Email/Web site	Address
All Saints 'Church Dedworth	01753 841710	http://allsaintschurchdedworth.com	Dedworth Rd SL4 4JW
Andrew Giles Church Warden	07376 486023	j.andrewgiles58@gmail.com	33 Harcourt Road, SL4 5LZ
Sue Morgan Church Warden	07752 479624		
Barbara Carter Prayer Hub	07932 636854	the.carters1@btinternet.com	
Carolyn Carter Children's & Youth Ministry; WWH		carolynjcarter@yahoo.com	
John Sturgeon Webmaster, Streamed Sunday Service Internet Singing Group	07714 339995	john@sturg.co.uk	
Michelle Sturgeon Family News Children and Youth Ministry	07834 377312	tichymichy@yahoo.co.uk	
Peter Norris Treasurer	01753869787	peternorris.windsor@btinternet.com	
Ruth Norris GAP; New Daylight	01753869787	ruth-norris@yahoo.com	
Jackie Wiggins Safeguarding	07952807107		
West Windsor Hub	01753 342110		

Timetable of Events at All Saints' Dedworth 19th July - 2nd August 2020						
Date	Time	Title	Medium	Contact		
All dates	Anytime	Dial a Service	Telephone	Sue Morgan and John Sturgeon		
Every day	9:30am	Prayers in the Memorial Garden	Onsite	Sue Morgan		
Every day	5:00pm	Prayers in the Memorial Garden	Onsite	Sue Morgan		
Sunday 19 th July	10:45am (Provisional*)	Streamed Sunday service	YouTube	Andrew Giles and John Sturgeon		
Sunday 19 th July	7:00pm	Youth Meeting 11-16-year olds	Zoom	Michelle Sturgeon		
Monday 20 th July	10:00am	God and Play Activity	YouTube	Ruth Norris		
Monday 20 ^{th t} July	12:00pm	Prayer Warriors	Zoom	Barbara Carter		
Tuesday 21 st July	7:30pm	Bible Study	Zoom	Andrew Giles		
Thursday 23 rd July	4:00pm	Youth group for 9 /10 yrs.	Zoom	Michelle Sturgeon		
Sunday 26 th July	10:45am	Streamed Sunday service	YouTube	Andrew Giles and John Sturgeon		
Sunday 26 th July	7:00pm	Youth Meeting 11-16-year olds	Zoom	Michelle Sturgeon		
Monday 27 th July	10:00am	God and Play Activity	YouTube	Ruth Norris		
Monday 27 ^{th t} July	12:00am	Prayer Warriors	Zoom	Barbara Carter		
Thursday 30 th July	4:00pm	Youth group for 9 /10 yrs.	Zoom	Michelle Sturgeon		
Sunday 2 nd August	9:30am	Service of Morning Prayer	In Church	Sue Morgan		
Sunday 2 nd August	10:45am	Streamed Sunday service	YouTube	Andrew Giles and John Sturgeon		