
Your monthly update from Earley St Peter's church: September 2025

1 message

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1 September 2025 at 08:19



Your Monthly Update from Earley St Peter's – September 2025



Thought for the month *from the Revd Kate Wakeman-Toogood*

Season of Creation at Earley St Peter's

The Season of Creation is the period in the Church calendar from 1 September to 4 October (which is St Francis' Day). The season is dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.

The concept of this season, also called Creationtide, was first introduced by the late Ecumenical Patriarch, Demetrios I, in 1989,



and 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland' adopted the concept in 2008.

For Season of Creation 2025, the Church has chosen the theme 'peace with creation', inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18. Given the situation in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and other parts of the world, the effects of climate change, and the need for an energy transition, remembering God's amazing gift and our role within it is very timely.

Creationtide at Earley St Peter's will be reflected in worship, through various events, and an Art Exhibition featuring creation-inspired works by our very own curate Revd Kajsa. Kajsa will preach at both services on 14 September about two large pieces of art, one of which is being 'created' specifically for this exhibition, and we will include a few other of her pieces in church for the duration of Creationtide (including the one shown below). She will also develop a brochure for her artwork that can be picked up at the back of the church.



"Shepherded" by Kajsa-Stina Longuere. 2025. Acrylic on canvas

To give people more opportunity to visit this exhibition, from Monday 8 September to Saturday 4 October, church will be open every day from 9am-12.30pm (with the exception of 10-11am on Wednesdays when Tots & Teddies is taking place, and 25 September and 2 October).

Further to this, Julia Jones will be helping us to explore the theme of Creation through Godly Play on Sunday 7 September in the homily at the 6.30pm Evening Worship service. Julia has previously visited our PCC to

explore the Lord's Prayer through Godly Play and it was both thought-provoking and well received.

There are also some new features in our churchyard which have been set up to coincide with the arrival of Creation Season and will continue to develop. Sarah Godwin has worked hard to develop a strategy for encouraging and protecting the natural wildlife in our churchyard, and so far we have seen the construction of the Children's Church area, with bug hotels and log piles. There are also new bird baths and bird houses to be installed, as well as some guides to which birds you may be able to see in our local area. In the near future, Sarah will be sharing more of the plans for the churchyard and how people can get involved.

Finally, we are hoping to have Morning Prayer outdoors on Wednesdays in September, from 10 September onwards (although this will be weather permitting!). Seating will be available for these services.

We are all part of God's wonderful creation, each made in his image and loved beyond measure. We are also all part of God's wider creation, and not only do we have a responsibility to care for our world, but we are also to celebrate its beauty and complexity. Our hope is that this season will be an opportunity to renew a sense of awe and wonder for all God has created, and to inspire us all to find new ways to help preserve and protect our world.

Services and Events in September

(the information below is also available via My ChurchSuite and our web site)

We meet every weekday morning at 8.45am (Fridays at 8.30am) in the church for Morning Prayer. All welcome.

Art Exhibition: from Monday 8 September to Saturday 4 October, church will be open to view our art exhibition every day from 9am-12.30pm (with the exception of 10-11am on Wednesdays when Tots & Teddies is taking place, and 25 September and 2 October).



Monday 1 September	9am	Church open
Tuesday 2 September	9am	Church drop-in
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 3 September	9am	Church open
Thursday 4 September	8.50- 10am	Pop-up Cafe for first day of term. Join us for a coffee and cake after school drop-off on the first day of term.
Sunday 7 September	8am	Holy Communion <i>Readings: Philemon 1-21; Luke 14.25-33</i>
	10am	Bread & Wine with Backpack Blessing (see below) <i>Reading: Genesis 1.1-25</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>Readings: Isaiah 43.14-44.5; John 5.30-end</i> Questions and Cake
Monday 8 September	9am	Church open
Tuesday 9 September	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 10 September	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
	7.30pm	PCC

Thursday 11 September	10am	Thursday@10: Coffee and Chat
Friday 12 September	9.30am	Church cleaning
Saturday 13 September	10am	Ride and Stride (see below)
	2pm	Training: Safeguarding (Basic level) (see below)
Sunday 14 September	10am	Parish Communion <i>Readings: Psalm 104.14-23; 1 Corinthians 1.10-23</i> Children's Church Inspiration Group
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong <i>Readings: Isaiah 63.1-16; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25</i>
Monday 15 September	9am	Church open
Tuesday 16 September	9am	Church drop-in
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 17 September	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
Sunday 21 September	10am	Parish Communion followed by Macmillan Coffee Morning

		<i>Readings: Psalm 29; 1 Corinthians 1.21-31; Luke 8.22-25</i> Children's Church
	12pm	Baptism of Robin and Gwendoline Browning
	6.30pm	Reflective Communion <i>Reading: Matthew 9.9-13</i> Questions and Cake
Monday 22 September	9am	Church open
Tuesday 23 September	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 24 September	9am	Church open
	10.15am	Tots & Teddies
Thursday 25 September	10am	Thursday@10: Astrid Calway - 'Adventures in Sumatra'
Sunday 28 September	10am	Parish Communion <i>Readings: Psalm 148; Colossians 1.15-20</i> Children's Church Inspiration Group
	6.30pm	Evening Worship <i>Readings: 2 Kings 6.8-17; Matthew 18.1-6, 10</i>
Monday 29 September	9am	Church open

Tuesday 30 September	9am	Church open
	11am	Holy Communion

7 September, 10am: Bread & Wine with Backpack Blessing. At this service we invite all children and young people to bring their school backpack, old or new. Revd Kate will pray a special prayer for the start of the new academic year and give each child and young person a small gift.

13 September, 2-4pm: Safeguarding training (Basic level). This is open to everybody. It will take place in the hospitality area in church, and refreshments will be available.

13 September, 10am to 6pm: Ride and Stride.

This annual event raises funds for historic churches in Berkshire and for your nominated church through being sponsored to walk run, cycle, drive or ride to as many churches as you wish.

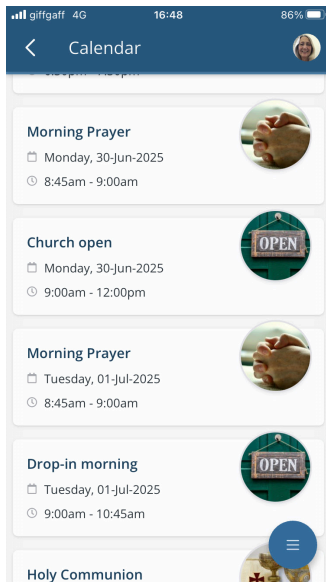
More information here: <https://www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride-2/>



21 September, 11am: Macmillan Coffee Morning cake sale in the church hall after the service. All donations very welcome.

Congratulations to our choir for their wonderful singing on their weekend of services at Chichester Cathedral. Thank you to everybody for their hard work in organising the trip and planning and practising the music.





My ChurchSuite: We now have a good number of regular users of My ChurchSuite, our one-stop app for church emails, calendar, contact details, rotas and event sign-ups. Several more people have begun using My ChurchSuite after receiving support at our series of drop-in advice sessions in July. If you were unable to attend a session but would still like assistance, do get in touch via admin@earleystpeters.org.uk

Records of burials in our churchyard: We have undertaken extensive work to update the records of burials in our churchyard. As part of this, we aimed to have the records in a format that can be accessed by the general public. We're pleased to report that these records are now available via our web site [here](#). We hope that this will be a great help to local historians and people researching their family history.



Parking in the church car park during the week: If you attend events in the church or church hall during the week, you may find that the entrance to the church car park is blocked with cones, especially in the early morning. This is to prevent people parking who are not visiting the church or church hall. If you are arriving for an event in the church or church hall during the week and find the car park entrance blocked, please feel free to move cones in order to gain access. It is helpful if you replace them after you have parked. If you are unable to move cones yourself, please phone ahead to the parish office to ask for assistance.

Pastoral support: Our pastoral team will be happy to hear if you, or anybody you know, would welcome a phone call or visit. Please contact

the parish of office (0118 966 8575) or Mary Brooke (0118 926 2153)

Food Bank donations: Thank you for all your support to our local food bank with donations of tins, cartons, dried goods with a long shelf life and also personal hygiene items. Please donate if you are able in the box at the back of church. Our continued support is still very much needed.



More information here: www.woodleyfoodbank.org

Friends of Amani Tanzania: Thank you for your continued support for this ministry. Bridget and Leslie Green recently visited a number of community-based relief projects in the Diocese of Shinyanga. You can read about their visit here:

FOAT-Shinyanga Visit Report - July 2025.pdf



Life in all its fullness

These are the most recent details of our upcoming study groups and training sessions. Check our notice boards, social media and website for more details and updates.

Eve in Art

The sessions due to take place on Tuesday 9 September have been postponed.





'Introduction to Matthew's Gospel'

In preparation for the new Church liturgical year (Year A).

Session 1: Saturday 15
November 2-4pm

Session 2: Saturday 22
November 2-4pm

Dates for your diary

2 November, 3pm: All Souls' service

15 November, 7pm: Quiz Night in the church hall in aid of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service and Earley St Peter's church. Tickets £10. Come as a team of eight people, a smaller group or join a team on the night. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. To reserve a place, email Julia Eversham on davidweversham@talktalk.net or speak to Helen Price or Mary Brooke.

Earley St Peter's



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<https://www.earleystpeters.org.uk/>

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