

Responding to human need

Being a generous church is part of the St Peter's culture. Members offer time, talents and raise money to support all kinds of good causes across each year, and enjoy the social aspect which draws in other community members too.

Charitable Enterprise Committee coordinates and arranges our charitable fundraising, including the popular Lent Lunches, as well as other lunch events, carol singing and two appeals each year.

Weston Favell Foodbank is part of our DNA, with a number of members volunteering and representing us on the management committee. A donation point is available in the north porch.

We also collect donations for Baby Basics in the north porch.

The Welcome Hub opened in November 2022, in partnership with Welcome Churches Northampton, which we have joined, and supported especially by Living Grace church. Meeting weekly, we offer refreshments and company, crafts, music activities and the chance to work on English, and offer specific support when requested.

How you can contribute

All of this activity benefits you and your community. But having a church, a hall, Peter's Patch and the team and resources needed to do all this costs money. Money from people like you. You can help by giving as generously as you can to St Peter's on a regular basis. Your gifts are essential. Ideally, join the Parish Giving Scheme - there is a link on our website page.

Time and Talents

There are plenty of opportunities to contribute in other ways too, joining in with any of the groups or activities you've seen in this leaflet, and praying for our church to grow in numbers and in knowledge and love of God. But please, don't allow your other volunteering to rule out the need to also give financially!

To find out more, contact the Parish Office on 01604 787117
or stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk

This is St Peter's 2023

At St Peter's, we welcome everyone and seek to build a diverse, intergenerational family of God.



St Peter's, Weston Favell
Following Jesus, together.

Worshipping Together

Weekdays

Morning prayer is at 9am on Facebook most weekdays, We use a mix of Common Worship, Northumbria Community and other styles, and if you can't pray with us live you can catch up later.

Holy Communion 10am Wednesdays

This is a peaceful and friendly service, followed by coffee in the church hall.

Sundays

8am Holy Communion

This is a reflective said service with a traditional feel.

10am Holy communion (also available live on YouTube).

Opportunities for people of all ages includes church choir, servers team, reading and prayers, and AV team and welcome team. The service is a welcoming service with some formality, but seeking to engage everyone who is present. We'd love to have particular activities for primary age children and to add creche facilities if there are people willing to take responsibility.

4pm Informal worship including Seekers on 1st and 3rd Sundays, Celtic Communion on 2nd Sundays, and Wild Worship on 4th Sundays

6pm We offer occasional special services for significant occasions, in a programme that includes BCP choral evensong, Songs of Praise, Taize style worship and other reflective approaches.

Prayer Partners

Members are encouraged to meet in groups of 2 or 3 as prayer partners. Those who join the scheme receive regular emails with prayer requests, and pray for each other and the needs of the world.

Prayer diary

All church members who have agreed to receive church emails get the monthly prayer diary, prepared by Jackie Topp. This offers a prayer focus for every day, and includes contributions from a number of church members.

The South Porch prayer station

The South Porch is opened daily whenever possible so that people can see the Memorial Book, use the prayer station and leave prayer requests, and take a prayer card. All are welcome to visit during the day.



Creation Care

There are many ways that we must approach the topic of creation care. Our Fabric and Environment Committee, which is one of the working groups of the PCC, leads us as a church and as individuals in seeking manageable ways to reduce our impact on the environment and to live more sustainably.

Among the work led by the team recently are

- planting the Psalm 23 garden, a rewilded area in the churchyard
- helping make changes such as use of LED bulbs to win a bronze Eco-Church Award. Now the team is helping the PCC to work towards a higher standard and the silver award
- organising advice from the local wildlife trust to help us improve the environment in the churchyard and Peter's Patch, and supporting shared work with our church school to draw in wildlife
- the LOAF directory, which helps members access traders for our everyday goods which are Local, organic, animal-friendly and fairly traded. We added another category - plastic free.
- declaring a climate emergency, and helping every church member to access the tools online to consider how to improve our everyday effect on the world.
- ensuring that St Peter's has a workable Environment Policy.
- contributing to Wild Worship, which creatively enables people to think about our partnership with all of creation, and which draws new people to the church family.



Pastoral Care

Lay Pastors

Pastoral care really matters. We have a team of Lay Pastors who each look out for a number of church members, keeping in contact and visiting if you are unwell. The Lay Pastors are also charged with notifying the Rector if there is a need for a clergy visit or home communion.

We have a team of people who take communion to members who are housebound or unwell. Some have particular people that they visit regularly, and all will do a one off communion on request from the Rector.

Home Communion

Anna Chaplaincy

Sue Plington is our Anna Chaplain - a trained chaplain with a specific care for elderly people, and she leads the work of St Peter's at St John's Residential Home, and oversees pastoral work with older people. A team of people work with Sue to provide a weekly communion service at St John's.

Activities for maturer people

Held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Church Hall, Tea at 2 offers an open invitation to any older member in our local communities to enjoy good company, a quiz, a raffle and plenty of cake!

Tea at 2

Mothers Union

While not technically a group for older people, Mothers' Union at St Peter's meets on 3rd Tuesdays in the afternoon, and its members are mostly over retirement age. A programme of talks, prayer station events and communion services is offered, and despite the name, men are welcome to, along with women who have not become mothers themselves.

Deepening Discipleship

Life Groups

Life groups, sometimes called Home Groups, are about friendship, prayer and learning about God together. Currently there are two life groups, and our hope is to build up more daytime and evening opportunities to be part of a Life group family.

A course for new or exploring Christians, or those wanting to know more, is offered every year, usually beginning in September. In 2023 we will be offering 'Jesus the Game-Changer'. When appropriate, members can continue into a confirmation course, or join a life group.

Courses for beginners

Whole church teaching

Whole church courses are offered every Lent, and occasionally at other times. In 2023 we did 'Everybody Welcome', while in 2022 we did the LLF course.



Members of the Ministry Team: Rachel (parish ordinand); Evie (assistant curate); Beverley (Rector); Michael (assistant priest) Hilary, Rosie, Sue and Clare (Lay Readers)
Not pictured: Ginny (Lay Pastoral Minister); Doug (assistant priest)

0-18 Pathway

Tiny Tots

Wednesdays in term time, 1.30pm at the Church Hall, with summer activities on Peter's Patch. We offer singing, crafts, toys and good company. On some Wednesdays we are joined by children from the pre-school.

Activities and teaching for children in reception, year 1 and 2 are part of our 4pm service. Children meet in the Crispin chapel for activities and a chance to learn together, led by a wonderful team of experienced children's leaders.

Young Disciples

Our teaching activity for Years 3-6 is currently focussed only in the 4pm service, but with increasing numbers of children attending the 10am service, this is under review. An annual fun learning morning is held to support children in communion and to prepare children for admission to communion or for baptism.

Young people of secondary age are invited to the Hervey Room in the Church Hall on 1st and 3rd Sundays from 6.30-8pm. Games and Bible Studies, topical discussions and pizza are all on the menu, along with anything else the members might request!

We hope also to offer a Youth Life Group to older teens when there is a group ready for this.

St Peter's Young Voices



Angel prayer station from an event for our church school. Opposite page: Palm Sunday station from Good Friday family event, and games ready for a summer games afternoon.

Younger members of the church choir, sometimes joined by other children from the wider congregation, sing together occasionally for services. Young choristers have the opportunity to take part in the RSCM Voice for Life scheme, with sessions starting in September 2023

Seekers

Youth Café



Weston Favell CE Primary School

Our relationship with our church school is of vital importance to us. Some church members serve as Foundation Governors, or offer volunteer help - currently more help is needed from people who can listen to the youngest children read. Our schools team offers collective worship every Tuesday. We sometimes also offer lessons or special events such as the 'Reception Wedding', visits to the church building or environmental activities. We host several school services each year, which are also attended by the children's parents or other carers.

In a school led approach, we developed work around the annual Shakespeare project, which happened in school and at the 4pm service, and will grow next year to include prayer stations. We are also creating prayer stations requested by school on special themes - currently, Walter Tull.

St Peter's has led the way for the deanery in prayer stations for Year 6 transitions, and we now partner with Lighthouse Trust and support prayer stations in schools across a wide area, and also support the transitions workshops that now go alongside them. WE hope to develop schoolwork further in partnership with neighbouring parishes in the coming years. This is a significant part of our outreach.

Family Fun

Family Fun days



A team led by Peter Halstead offers a morning of prayer stations, crafts, gentle teaching and a lot of fun on Good Friday and on the first Saturday in December. Some of the items made become part of our worship or seasonal decoration in church. Publicised through the school, these mornings are a significant part of our outreach and draw families from a wide area.

Games afternoon and church family picnic

When there is a fifth Sunday in the month, we offer an alternative to the 4 o'clock service which is aimed at being a fellowship opportunity for people from across the whole church family and beyond. In the summer this is a bring-your-own picnic with outdoor games on Peter's Patch, and in cooler weather a games afternoon in the church hall.

