
**Together to make
Christ known.**

FAMILY AND YOUTH WORK

ST JOHN'S SOUTHBOURNE

**Your church in the
heart of Southbourne**

Areas of work and the future.

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to read the
full report.**



Pre school children can take their first steps of faith at home using our weekly Tots packs including a Bible Story, songs, prayer and craft activities. We are aiming to be able to reopen our Thursday Morning Tots Group as soon as we can and as restrictions lift.

FAMILY SERVICE @ 4PM

Families with 0-11s come together for an hour of church including worship, Bible teaching, prayer, craft and games every week. While kids are crafting, parents can pause to go deeper with the passage, as we journey together in following Jesus.



Young People gather together to explore faith in their culture and context where all questions are welcome. This group is delving into Scripture at home, building their foundations of faith as they navigate high school. Sharing resources with other churches and accessing the Diocese May Camp.

EVENTS!

Taking every opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with the community of Southbourne, the families and youth ministry hosts events throughout the year. The message of Christmas was shared with 119 children in December and 148 participants completed the Easter Trail. Other Community projects have included Free Gifts at the Gate, Sharing the Church Garden, Family Exercise Circuit and a Community Book Corner.



Opportunities come in all shapes and sizes, so when the pandemic hit, we launched a Love Your Neighbour Scheme to serve Southbourne. The team completed prescription runs, grocery shopping and delivered free food to those most in need every week. There were also Home Education resources available at the church as well as a daily prayer guide to stir hope and seek God's presence and help.

LOVE YOUR SOUTHBOURNE NEIGHBOUR



With connections with local food rescue organisations and generous donations from the congregation of St John's, Free Shop was launched and has been providing free weekly groceries to local families in need.

It has been a privilege to be invited to Southbourne Infant and Junior School to contribute to RE Lessons, Assemblies and wider school involvement. Working together builds community and this past year we've learnt how to better achieve it.



We are looking forward to two new initiatives within the Families and Youth Ministry. The first is to develop music and worship with the young people to enable them to lead worship at the Family Service. It's been such a long time since we've been able to sing together in person so we're really excited at the prospect of this.



We have a vision for Fridays from September to have the centre open after school through til the early evening for families to come and enjoy an end of the week, relaxed meal together. Children and youth can build their friendships through play and social time and parents can relax and take time to navigate life together. We can be encouraged in our walks with Christ and take a breather before heading into another week.



We are open to hearing about what you and your family need to continue your journey of faith. Some of us are longing to be renewed by God's presence in worship, others of us thrive on Bible Studies that go deep. It's been a long time since we shared communion and a prayer meeting where God speaks can be a real blessing. Sometimes, our deepest need is a decent coffee and quick chat, or a curry and a beer with a mate. Get in touch and tell us, what you'd like to see from the families ministry at St John's.
families@stjohnssouthboune.com



Contact Details.

Vicar

Matt Luff

minister@stjohnssouthbourne.com

Families and Youth

Richard and Kim Carter

families@stjohnssouthbourne.com



Administrator

Susie Bartlett

admin@stjohnssouthbourne.com

Wardens

Jon Robinson and Sue McNeil

wardens@stjohnssouthbourne.com