

4 O'CLOCK SERVICE

As we look back on the last twelve months there are lots of reasons to rejoice and be thankful to God over the 4pm service. On a personal note, it has been brilliant that we now share the vision of the 4pm service with Tom Robson and Peter & Rosemary Cunliffe. This has meant that this responsibility is now shared within a team. Thank you to everyone who serves to enable the 4pm service to happen and function well. Thank you all so much.

Below are some of the highlights of 2023: Nick being confirmed on June 21st at Chichester Cathedral.



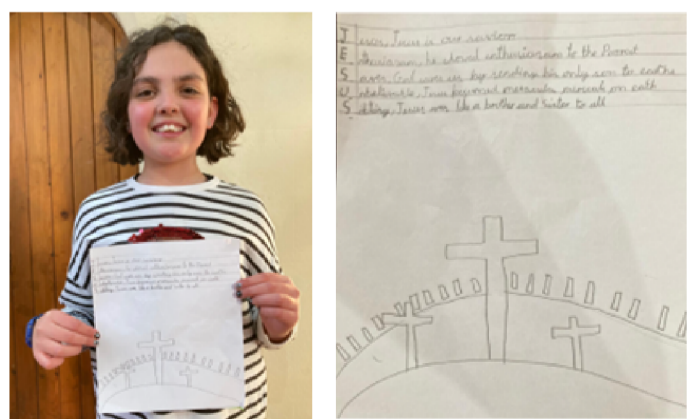
This was followed by Nick & Cara's two youngest children being baptised at St. John's on the 3rd September 2023.



The easiest way to show that we are still experiencing growth within the 4pm service is to show a graph of the children & young people 'sign in's' that we generate at each service. You will notice that the amount of children & young people attending has steadily increased.



Finally, we'd like to share with you an illustration that Valentina aged 10 made and brought into the 4pm service:



Valentina wrote:

- J - Jesus is our Saviour.
- E - Jesus showed enthusiasm for the poor.
- S - God saves us by sending His Son to earth.
- U - Unbelievable, Jesus performed miracles on earth.
- S - Siblings, Jesus is like a brother & sister to all.



4YG stands for 4pm Youth Group. 4YG is a discipleship youth group within the 4pm service. Up until recently 4YG had been led by Rachel & Dylan Dalli but with the arrival of their first baby it is now being led by Tina Thompson, Sue McNeill, Karen Mears, Stuart Sivieri, Mark Johnston, Michelle O'Mahoney and Richard Carter.

A purposeful change to 4YG is that the group theme now mirrors the 4pm service theme. This is so that families have heard the same message, albeit in an age specific way, and so can talk about it together at home.

"4YG is a great place to discuss questions & to learn about God. I like the games we play together & the snacks."

Martha aged 13.

"4YG is good because we leave the main church service & play fun games. I've made new friends & the food at the café is really nice."

Sonny aged 11.



The latest addition to the 4pm service has been 4pm Tots. Like 4YG, 4pm Tots is a group for pre-school to Reception aged children and is held within the 4pm service.

This group delights our hearts for a number of reasons:

- (1): Because it demonstrates our love and commitment to the spiritual and social development of pre-school children.
- (2): The Team consists of parents within the 4pm service. We are so delighted to have Lucie Aldridge, Lauren Judge & Sophie Sivieri on Team.
- (3): We are so grateful to Susanna Shaw for taking the lead & organisation of 4pm Tots. Not only is Susanna a Team member but she liaises with the team, making sure they are all informed, equipped and happy to facilitate their session. Thank you all so much.

Below is a photo of one of the Tots crafts:



"Friday Fellowship is amazing. We have special groups for different ages to learn about God & at the end have a yummy dinner."

Mollie aged 10.

Friday Fellowship is a provision for all the family! The aim of Friday Fellowship is to deepen the relationships between the families who attend the 4pm service as well as being a 'stepping stone' from groups like Thursday Tots into the wider life of the church. We regularly see between 40 - 50 people attend on a bi-weekly rotation.

A fairly recent addition to Friday Fellowship has been the inclusion of focus groups for all age groups. These include:

- (1): Pre-school to School year 3
- (2): School year 4 - 6
- (3): Secondary school provision called the LOFT.

Our heart felt gratitude must go to the Team that enables Friday Fellowship to happen. They are: Sandy Barton, Susie & Duncan Bartlett, Gillian Cruickshank, Julie Fair, Carol Jones, Kate L'Amie, Karen Mears, Kylee Pearce, Emily Robson, Belinda Thomas, Eric & Tina Thompson, Tatiana Tsiamis, Katie Selves, Laura Spencer & Richard & Kim Carter. A special thank you to Liam Davis who has been helping Richard to set up FF since September 2023. Thank you so much mate.

"I enjoy the loft because I get to spend time with my friends & learn more about God."

Autumn-Rae aged 12.

Below are some photo's of Friday Fellowship children making Mother's Day Posies for the services on Mothering Sunday 2024.



"I love High Tide because I get to meet new people my own age and we play fun games. The best thing is the time we get to worship God all together. It makes me feel more connected to God which makes me feel at peace."

Lilly aged 13.

High Tide is an Ecumenical, monthly youth worship event for churches in and around Portsmouth. St. John's has been attending High Tide for a year now. The first time we went as a youth group was in February 2023 and we took two young people. A year on, High Tide has become a staple part of St. John's youth where we take anything from three to seven young people each month.

Another massive thank you to Karen Mears who accompanies me to High Tide. Thank you for your dedication and passion for this group of young people.





We've really built on the already established schools work in 2023-2024. We are now having monthly assemblies at Southbourne Infant school, Southbourne Junior School & Thorney Island Primary school. On top of this Kim, Richard & Tom support RE lessons in the schools and Southbourne Junior school visited the Harvest exhibition in October. Both Southbourne Infants and Southbourne Juniors had their harvest festival at St. John's in September and Southbourne Junior school visited the 'Final Showdown' exhibition in March and so much more. Richard is now turning his attention to the Bourne Community College. Please pray that we will be able to create a positive relationship between the school and the church. Amen.

Men's Socials

Open to all, join us for relaxed meet ups, including BBQ, drinks at the pub, and sports activities.

For info contact Richard
families@stjohnssouthbourne.com
 07966409173
 or scan the code for events



Richard has continued to organise men's socials under the umbrella of MensNet. Richard is really happy to report that he is now sharing the organisation of MensNet with Roger Adams and Martin Fair, which is brilliant. Look out for more Men's socials in 2024.

JOIN US

Joining with hundreds of young people across West Sussex in worship, teaching, discipleship, sports, games, music & much more. See you there.

Maycamp

Friday 26th May - Monday 29th May
 Plumpton Racecourse
 School Year 6+



I feel like MayCamp 23 went slightly under the radar. It was so exciting to be able to take four young people to MayCamp for the first time last year. MayCamp is a diocese wide annual youth event which takes place over the last bank holiday weekend in May. Richard & Kim have wanted to go ever since they started at St. John's.

We were able to go in 2023 because Richard & Kim created a MayCamp collaboration between Immanuel Church in Chichester, St Paul's church in Chichester, St Nicholas & St Mary's church in Lavant and St. John's. This meant that we had an excellent number of young people and a great team grafted together from these churches. It was so much fun! The young people had a blast and from Richard & Kim's perspective it was great to share the responsibility of the event with other youth workers and volunteers.

We are looking forward to taking six young people from St. John's this year.



Summer Let's Go CAMPING

NEW WINE
 Wed 26 July - Sun 30 July 2023
 Kent Event Centre,
 Maidstone, Kent,
 ME14 3JF

OAK HALL
 Family and Friends Week
 19 - 25 August & 25 - 28 August
 Otford Manor Sevenoaks TN15 6XF

2023 was the summer of camping for St. John's! As well as MayCamp Richard & Kim were so pleased that so many people from St. John's went to New Wine in the Summer. Thank you so much to Tom for sending us on our way by praying for us. We all had a fantastic time albeit a bit squashed. This year, New Wine is going back to its roots for one mega week only at Shepton Mallet. Why not find that tent, dust it off, pack a sleeping bag and join us!