

# ST JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS

# SUNDAY 31ST JULY

## THANK YOU AND GOOD BYE



It has been nearly six dizzying years since we came here. We had experienced some major disappointments and difficulties in Worthing and we were both wondering if I had it in me to lead a parish. We want to say thank you, for giving me a chance and for your welcome, for being people it was easy to fall in step with and for being willing to step out of your comfort zones in a way perhaps none of us had before. We were pleased to be part of and deliver the vision that was Love Southbourne and all it has become since, even Church Suite

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Nobody could have predicted the challenges that lay ahead in the next few years, but you never gave up, on us, or on the importance of living out the gospel. You knuckled down, stood up and made yourselves available in a way the village really needed. We have lived and loved one another during some truly challenging times, collectively for all, exceptional for a particular few and we have all experienced the loving kindnesses of God in both simple and dramatic ways.

We would like to thank you for your generosity and kindness in so many ways for us and our children, a little note, being prayed for, listening, supporting us, Christmas hampers, a walk in the fresh air, your good humour and laughter, but most of all your willing company as partners in the gospel.

Southbourne and West Thorney has been a special place and healing experience for us. It has been a privilege to lead, preach and teach here. A teacher at heart, I am always interested in what you will do with what you understand. I look forward to hearing how you grow from here as the next minister leads you forward.

It was my teaching mentor, Ivan, himself ordained, who said, 'You should be ordained. Schools need ordained teachers.' I believe now is the time for that to be fulfilled. Had I gone into school chaplaincy after ordination, I would not have learned the important things I have and have been constrained by expectations rather excited by possibilities.

A lot of people have asked how it feels to be going back to teaching, and I simply feel it is like the turning of the page and the closing of a circle. I think I needed to do it, I am glad I did it, and I will not forget it. But I have other things to do, and one shouldn't delay. There's a kingdom to see grow, and a new generation to prepare to build it.

So it is goodbye. Goodbye comes from the Olde English for God be with Ye. My most important verse, (and you know I have several), was given me by three Rwandan priests who stayed with us during the gencoide when I was a teenager. Before they returned to their people, they wanted me to learn to walk in God's ways....

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths . Prov 3:

Matt, Kathryn and family

## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

To find out what is going on this week in the life of St. John's, please **[click this link here](#)** and it will take you through to the calender on St. John's Website.

## NEW ZOOM CODES

From Monday, there will be **new Zoom Codes** for regular meetings, morning prayer and iWonder. It is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83278937113?pwd=ZkJPVFllMDdZNkg3bTJlVbkZKWXczUT09>

**Meeting ID: 832 7893 7113**

**Passcode: 141540**

## LIFT NEWS



There will be a new lift fitted during the first two weeks in August and for this reason the Centre will be closed. Susie will be on holiday the first week, so please contact Gill Prosser and for the second week Susie will be working at home. You will be able to contact them by office email or phone.

## COFFEE CONNECT



Coffee Connect will be closed from Thursday, 28th July and reopen on Tuesday, 30th August.

## STREET PRAYERS



Tuesday 2nd August (9.30 to 10.15 am). Please feel free to join us, contact Anne Marsden for the link. We will be focused on the Hermitage West which will include Woodfield Road, Ward Court, Thistledown Gardens, Orchard Lane, Mill End, Sadlers Walk, Nelson Close, Pagham Close, Lumley Road & The Rookery. We will also be praying for our Parish, District & County Councils and Water Authorities.





COME HEAR  
**SIMON  
EWING**  
EI MISSIONARY

FEEDBACK ON  
KWETU HUBS  
AND OTHER  
PROJECTS IN  
TANZANIA

**THU 4  
AUG  
2022  
19:30**

RSVP BY 2 AUG  
[INFO@EIUK.ORG.UK](mailto:INFO@EIUK.ORG.UK)

ST JOHN'S  
CHURCH,  
SOUTHBOURNE  
PO10 8LB



**Speak with Elaine Ware if you would like more information**

# ACORN HEALING HUB CONFERENCE



**INSPIRE**



**RESOURCE**



**GROW**

**Be taken deeper into the  
ministry of the Holy Spirit**

**19th & 20th August 2022**  
**St Alban's Church, GU26**  
**6RD**

**Keynote Speakers:** Mark Aldridge, Dr Elizabeth Slinn, Dr Mary Sutton, and Caroline Hutchings

Whether you are on team at an Acorn Healing Hub, on a ministry team at your church community, or just have a passion for the Christian Healing Ministry; we invite you to join us for an enriching opportunity to be resourced, inspired, and taken deeper in to the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Book at [www.acornchristian.org](http://www.acornchristian.org)

# 4 O'clock Church INFO

## ACCESSIBLE

We use pictures alongside words in our liturgy and worship to help everyone feel included. There is plenty of activity at this service so if you need to move around that's ok.

## TODDLER ZONE

There is a dedicated zone for pre-schoolers with colourful, easy to clean and fun but quiet toys so parents can relax and engage with the service. We're glad you're here, don't worry about noise.

## WORSHIP

You can expect contemporary worship, working towards some free space to experience and enjoy God's presence.

## COMMUNION

We have communion twice a month You can choose bread only, or intincted (dipped in wine), or simply come forward for a blessing. We're working towards admitting children to communion before confirmation. We will keep you posted.

## CREATIVE BIBLE READING

We often use tactile objects to explore a bible story or topic.

We aim to make the story come to life for the listener!

Congregation participation!

## ACTIVITIES

Children are provided with engaging activities for use during the sermon to give parents a chance to go deeper into God's word.

## PRAYERS

We use creative ways to engage with God in prayer, sometimes moving around the room or using objects to guide us.

## CHURCH NEWS / YOUR NEWS

We use this news sheet to communicate all things church news, but tell us your achievements and celebrations. Also, we welcome testimony of what God has been doing in your life

## GET INVOLVED

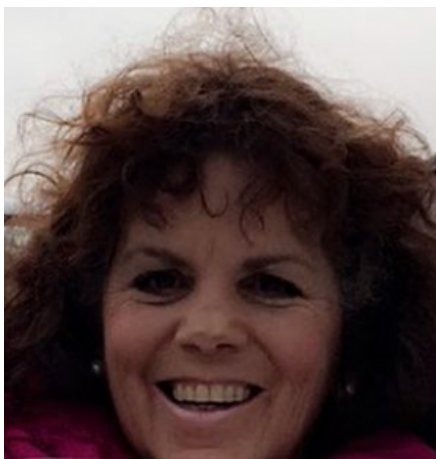
Could you prep the drinks trolley before the service? Do you play an instrument and could help facilitate worship? Can you pray with others? Could you rota in to help facilitate kids groups? [Click Here](#)







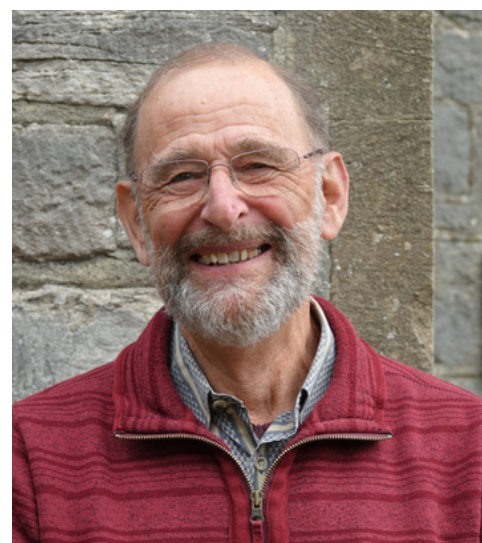
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