

Tearfund & Christian Aid

Thank you to all in our local area who collectively donated £750 to Christian Aid by returning your gift via either of the designated houses stated on their envelope – as well as others who may have given directly online. With gift aid the total will exceed £850.

Online Worship



Since last March we have been producing a weekly online service. While we are continuing with this, it also gives an excellent opportunity for people to get a bit of a preview of our worship - before hopefully deciding to join us in-person. Either way, you are very welcome to give us a try.

www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk

or via our Youtube channel

or via a phone line - This weekly worship service can also be accessed by phone on (01782) 454883.

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Faith in the future



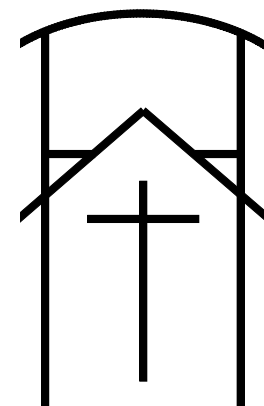
Westlands Church & Community Hub

In June, after many years of discussion and planning, we were able to launch an exciting new project to replace our ageing hall with a similarly sized facility attached to the church. This will also be available for community groups to use. All this will enable the original 1930's vision for church and community facilities at the centre of the Westlands to continue into the 21st century.

As well as providing attractive, up to date facilities, the new hub will be more accessible to all, and will have better environmental credentials too. We are energised by this project, and are delighted that we have now secured all the necessary permissions. More details are available on our website - including information about the financial challenge to enable our plans for the hub to be able to go ahead. Alternatively, do contact us if you would like to receive paper copies.

Church in the Westlands

Summer 2021



LINK

ST ANDREW'S

Anglican Church

Rev. Andrew Dawswell

Tel:- 01782 619594

www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk

Faith in the future

In their hearts humans plan their course,
but the Lord establishes their steps.

Proverbs 16v 9

For most people and organizations, planning for the future during a pandemic has been extremely hard. There are a few, its true convinced that life will have pretty much returned to normal in a couple of month's time. And there are also others who feel certain that things will be worse as winter approaches and beyond. Most of us are unsure either way.

Whatever the next months and years bring, at St Andrews we believe that our mission to share our faith in Christ with the local community is more important than ever. I've lost count of the number of people who have told me the way in which their faith has been an essential support to them amidst the difficulties that we have all experienced over the last year or so. And even in the good times, when life is relatively problem-free, faith in Christ brings a meaning and purpose to life – and a hope for the future - that can't be found in anything else.

Which is why we are seeking to press on with our long-conceived plans to make sure that we have appropriate buildings for the future - to welcome people to our own worship and other church activities . And also, to be able to provide a comfortable meeting space for other local community groups too.

And In the meantime... we invite you to join us in looking to God and trusting in him amidst life's continuing uncertainties

Andrew Dawswell

Sunday worship in St Andrew's church

There's a warm invitation to join us for either our 9am or 11am services. At the time of writing there are still some restrictions, with masks required unless you are exempt. Although we are currently still not allowed to sing indoors, we can enjoy listening to music instead, and so there are still many ways that we can worship the Lord, learn from his Word, and pray to him. It's also great to be able to engage with each other, and we are now able to chat freely around the church grounds after worship. We're also planning to continue to have some of our 11am services taking place outside to enable us to sing for all or part of the service, and to serve hot & cold drinks outdoors too

9 am service

As numbers are deliberately kept a little smaller at this service, it's very easy for us to have over 2m spacing between households. In addition our very airy building means that, for more COVID vulnerable people, the infection risk is able to be kept extremely low. All ages are welcome.

11.00am service

In line with the continuing lockdown easing, we are being a bit more flexible with seating for this service, although 1m+ distancing between households is maintained (or for those who prefer more, 2m in the side aisles).

Masks are currently required for all services unless you are exempt. You can book a place at either by ringing our churchwarden Margaret Hollins on 01782 612009, or via the links on the

front page of our website. This helps to collect the necessary contact details for Track & Trace; although fortunately with such a large building we've never had to turn people away

On Sunday 11th July, weather permitting, we are also encouraging people to bring a picnic to enjoy together.

Children & Families

Our Sunday Club for 3-11's has also re-started, currently taking place in St Andrews Hall from 11.00-11.45.



There are also some special events for families scheduled on the following Saturday afternoons :

3 July - Art & craft trail

31 July - Westlands Olympics

30 August - Superheroes/ teddy bears picnic

Our Little Sparklers Toddler group for babies and pre-schoolers has also re-started. It takes place on Tuesdays at 10-11am, currently meeting in St Andrew's hall in term-time (ie up to 13th July, re-starting 7th September. It includes Bible stories, toys and a chance to chat with other parents & carers

More details of all of the above activities (and our 9-12's Xcite group) are available from Naomi on 07864 127523 naomi.westlands@gmail.com or on our facebook page for Families at Church in the Westlands.