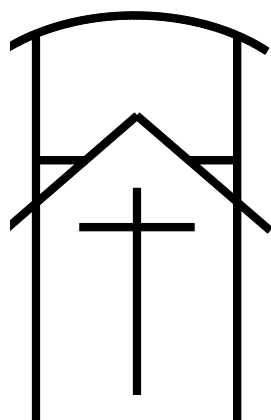


Church in the Westlands

February 2023



LINK

ST ANDREW'S

Vicar: Andrew Dawswell
01782 619594

www.churchinthewestlands.org.uk

Little Sparklers

Little Sparklers Toddler Group is a friendly and fun space for babies, toddlers (0-3 year olds) and their parents, grandparents or carers.



We meet together every Tuesday in term time from 10 to 11am in the Parish Room of St. Andrew's Church (Round the back near the car-park)



There are lots of toys, books, jigsaws, and often some craft activities like sticking or play-doh.

Then we have a little Bible Story, a prayer and some singing before tidying up together!

So if you have a little one at home and would appreciate a warm place to meet others for encouragement and a listening ear, then just turn up on any Tuesday or contact Naomi on 07864 127523

Facebook Page: [familiesatchurchinthewestlands](https://www.facebook.com/familiesatchurchinthewestlands)

We also have refreshments (with biscuits!)



Xcite Club

All 11 to 13 year olds (School Years 6 to 8) are

welcome to our Xcite Club in the Parish Room at St. Andrew's Church

We meet together every Monday in term time from 4 to 5pm

We have Wii games, table football, snacks, discussions about life and faith, cooking and crafts. There are also trips out to the cinema, day trips and other special events

All welcome.

For more info. contact Naomi on 07864 127523



Faith in the Future Project

Our church council's current thinking is that, instead of our original plan to extend the church, it may be possible to use the funds we had gathered to erect a replacement building on roughly the same site as our current church hall. We are negotiating with a local company who has considerable experience of erecting this kind of building, and may be applying for planning permission in the Spring.

February Message

Many welcome the way in which our great state occasions are marked with grand church services. As a Church of England minister I certainly do. But they can leave the rather false impression that the Christian faith is a decidedly British thing. Of course the link between the Christian church and the UK state goes back many centuries. But that should never be allowed to obscure the fact that Christianity has never exclusively 'belonged' to the British people. Rather, from its earliest beginnings, it has been a truly international faith.

In St Andrew's we hugely value the fact that our congregation includes people from quite a mix of ethnic and national backgrounds. We have also had longstanding links with specific individuals sharing the Christian faith in different parts of the world. For a number of years, we supported the Chorlton family in Egypt; then the McKnights in serving the Lord in the United Arab Emirates. Our current main link is with Katia Rocks, who has been involved in starting a new church in her home country of Brazil, in the city of Florianapolis. We are looking forward to hearing her share with us at our 10.45 service on 19th Feb.

In many ways this all serves as a foretaste of heaven—as it's described by the author of Revelation, the last book of the bible. For, describing the heavenly worship of Jesus, the lamb of God, he writes

... I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb...and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Revelation 7:9-10

For we believe that the good news of Jesus really is for everyone -- and that whatever your background, that includes you!

Andrew Dawswell

Sunday Services

Each week at

8.30am, 10.45am and 6.30pm

including Sunday Club for 3-11's at 10.45am. Activities, Games, Quizzes and Bible Stories to help children learn about the Christian faith. This meets initially at 10.45 in church, to enable children to join in with the first few minutes of our worship. On All Age Sundays (12th Feb & 19th March) we remain together for a 45 minute service.



**19 March 10.45
All Age service
for Mothering Sunday**

We also continue to offer a half hour online service each week, alternating between the St Giles Newcastle and Church in the Westlands Youtube channels.

If you don't have access to the internet you can instead listen on 01782 454883.

Afternoon Tea

All are welcome to come and join us for afternoon tea, which we are resuming on a monthly basis on Tuesdays (6 Feb, 14 Mar, 11 Apr)

3.00 pm in St Andrew's Hall

Cost £4 -pay on the day, please book by contacting Glenys on 01782 625924 mrsghenysgill@gmail.com .

Special diets can be catered for if you let us know in advance.

Forget me not Cafe

For all who are bereaved, whether recently or some time ago. An opportunity to meet with others in a similar position over coffee, tea and biscuits, in the parish room between 10.30-12noon on the 3rd Friday of the month.

Messy Church

Messy Church is a fun event for all the family especially children

It usually takes place on the first Saturday of every month 2.30 till 4pm

In St. Andrew's Church Hall



Every month has a different combination of games, crafty activities, science experiments, cooking, construction activities and outdoor challenges.

We also have a Bible Story, a time to connect with God in a prayer activity, and then we usually finish off with a taste of our cooking creations!



We also have Specials during the year. In 2022 we had a Treasure Trail, Pancake Party, Jubilee Picnic and a Bonfire Party. This year we're already planning an Easter Celebration (Apr 7th) and maybe even a Coronation Picnic! (May 6th)

If you think your family would enjoy these events then do come along, or contact Naomi for more information on 07864 127523

(Facebook Page: familiesatchurchinthewestlands)

Next dates

Sat Feb 4th 2.30-4

Sat Mar 4th 2.30-4

Good Friday, Apr 7th
9.45am to 11.15am

