

28th April- 5th May 2024

ST JAMES, BREAM

Love that never fades: Jesus, our first love

Steve Harrison

I spend quite a bit of my brain power thinking about how the structures and ministries we have in the church are harnessed to achieve the glorious purpose of the church, to bring lost and broken people into a relationship with Jesus; and then to make disciples who are living and building God's Kingdom. Its a miraculous thing to see people healed and restored when they say 'YES' to Jesus, and when people find healing through an encounter with the Holy Spirit. There are remarkable stories all around St James of people who have given their lives to this, and of people who are doing just that in all sorts of places.

Structures and ministries and positional authority must always serve to build God's Kingdom, not exist for the sake of ticking a box. Where we are required to have certain roles, it's incumbent on us to ensure people are gifted for that role and that their heart is to build the church so that it will serve God's Kingdom.

In a few weeks time we will be holding our APCM, an opportunity for us as a church to check how we are doing and to elect office bearers. Read the reports so you have a sense of the broader life of St James, come along to the APCM and support the necessary task of ensuring things are done well. We have two vacancies for churchwarden and four vacancies on PCC. There are nomination forms in the Vestibule of the church and are welcome to nominate people for these positions or ask someone to nominate you if you are interested.

I am very grateful to all of you who serve and minister in so many different ways, it makes St James an interesting and exciting church to belong to.

Coming up:

Sunday 28th April

9:00 Communion - Church
10:30 Cafe Church - Church
18:00 Worship night - Church

Monday 29th April

9:30 Under 5's - Centre

Tuesday 30th April

13:00 Crafty Afternoon -Centre
18:15 Puppet practice - Centre
19:00 Deanery Synod - Centre

Wednesday 1st May

8:00 Prayers - Centre
12:00 Under 5's - Centre
18:30 Soaking - Sofa Room

Thursday 2nd May

19:30 Healing - Prayer Room

Friday 3rd May

12:30 Lunch Club - Centre

Sunday 5th May

10:30 Worship - Church

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WORSHIP NIGHT

Join us for a time of intimate worship on the 28th April at 18:00. In Psalm 105:4 we are exhorted to 'Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually'. Worship Night helps us do exactly that. If you've been before you'll want to come again, if you haven't been before give it a go.

APCM - 19th May

We will be holding our APCM (a CofE term for AGM) on Sunday the 19th May after the 10:30 service. We will have the reports available the week before the APCM on email and hard-copies in the church so that they don't need to be presented verbally.

CAFE CHURCH

Cafe Church is a wonderful place for us to mix generationally in worship in a way we can't in our other worship services. I love the freedom our children have at Cafe Church and the more informal setting for worship. It does have its challenges in that it can get a little wild and woolly at times. We want to keep the intention of Cafe Church and make it a space where we are able to engage with one another and enjoy this time of worship. One of the big changes is the cafe will open at the end of the service, and there will be discussion starters on the table to get some conversation going. We are also encouraging our younger people to take a more significant role, so the Sunday School have planned the service and they will be doing quite a bit, supported by some of us older ones. It would be helpful if suggestions and comments could be routed through Sergio and Cheri or myself. Sometimes well meant suggestions for improvement are directed at people who are simply trying their best and they can be easily discouraged. Open the Book will still be an anchor for the Cafe

COMMUNITY BUILDING

If anyone feels led to invest time and energy in organising events which will help build a sense of family and community at St James please get hold of Sergio or Cheri or Steve.



NEW WINE DAY TRIP

Andy Ewens is coordinating a day trip to New Wine United at Shepton Mallett. It will be between the 26th - 29th July, day determined by interest. The cost is £50 for the day and a decision will be taken as to the type of transport once numbers have been confirmed. Shepton Mallett is about 1.5 hours from Bream. Please email Andy on ew15enz@gmail.com or chat to him after church.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

Formal membership on St James is via the Electoral Roll, which we update annually in time for the APCM. If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll there are forms in the vestibule for you to complete. The requirements for joining the roll are that you need to be baptised and live in the village or have been attending St James for at least six months

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Officer Andy Ewens on 01594 564808 or safeguarding@breamchurch.org.uk We want you to feel safe and protected

