

MAY 2023



All Saints' Church
*Loving Jesus,
Loving Our Communities*

OUR VISION FOR GROWTH



There have been lots of brilliant things that have developed at and through All Saints during 2022, and if you want to hear more you can watch the APCM online where we celebrated (<https://youtu.be/n4-d7eUUvJc>).

For this year there are four things we want to work on:-



Firstly, developing a culture of ***invitation***.

We want to be a church where we know all people are invited, whether that be to a service, or a social event, a men's or women's night or whatever. Between us all we know a lot of people who would benefit from the community here and from knowing Jesus for themselves.

So we want to have a culture where we automatically think; I am going to X, I wonder who else might like to come. We are about to launch a Parenting Course and the Marriage course which are great things to invite friends along to as well as our other events. When I first arrived here someone described All Saints as the best kept secret in the area. Let's ensure instead of it being a secret, that everyone knows they are invited. All are welcome.



Secondly, for many of us we feel we have some area in life where we have the **tools** we need, and others where we feel we don't. For me gardening, art, dancing, and wearing hats are all areas outside of my skills; but ask me to reverse park and I am in my element.

For many of us having conversations about our faith is in the 'not my skill set' box, but it needn't be. So this year we are running at least 6; 2 week courses on how to talk about faith and not feel awkward. It is easier than we might think, and many of our friends love talking about spirituality and would be interested in the difference knowing God can make in your life.



Thirdly, as many of us know, there are lots of times in life when we need someone a little further on from us to help us grow. You might have found that in a skill you are trying to learn, and certainly all of us found that at school or college. For many people coming to church or starting in their journey of faith is one of those times where a **slightly more experienced person** can help.

And so in preparation for the growth of our church that God keeps talking about, we want to train up some people who can walk alongside those new to faith. If you would like to be one of those people, please get in touch with me and I can add you to the list of people we are wanting to train. If you could do with someone to walk alongside you yourself then again, do get in touch. It is an absolute privilege to encourage someone as they get to know the God who loves us all.



Finally, we need to work out the **route forwards** in knowing which things might grow. As I mentioned at the APCM there is already work going on amongst the 9am congregation to think about how that service might become more all age and a great place to come with children. The 10.30 service is not at capacity and so we hope that the increase of an invitational culture helps that to grow more. We continue to invest in Life Groups, and Mentoring, Welcome Lunches, and socials to help people connect.

But alongside these things, we want to start to dream bigger. To help with this we are teaming up with Myriad which is a national church planting network led by John McGinley and Bishop Rick Thorpe. <https://ccx.org.uk/myriad/>

As part of this we will be running a course for anyone interested in planting (something small like a life group, or outreach coffee shop gathering; or big like St Pauls or a brand new church) called 'Exploring Church Planting' in the autumn. This is just an opportunity to find out more. Alongside this you might like to read *Send Me* which is a book written by non-ordained Myriad planters across the UK.

The logo for MYRIAD, featuring the word in a stylized, outlined font.

We are in exciting times. God continues to talk to us about growth and about how He is doing a new thing. Isaiah 54 says *"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes"*. God is doing a new thing and as we make space we pray for more people across Teesside to encounter Jesus who has changed my life and can change yours. He promises fullness of life and we long for that for every person across this area.

God bless you and do be in touch with how you want to be involved, tapping into the training we are putting on, and having fun seeing what God will do.

Blessings , Matt



Church Camp



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CAMP
FRI 7 - SUN 9 JULY

HOLLYBUSH CHRISTIAN CAMPSITE
THIRSK

We are really looking forward to our Church Camp!

You can come and stay all weekend or you can come along as a day visitor.

You can find out more information and book your places on **ChurchSuite** or via this link:

<https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/ybn4zoxm> scan this QR code, or email the office:





Support. Hope. Belonging.

Facing life alone is hard, and when you feel there is no one there to support you it is a scary place to be.

Safe Families is a charity working with 35+ local authorities that endeavour to offer support, hope and belonging to improve the lives of those in our communities, often through local churches. Volunteers are linked with children, young people and families.

At All Saints' we presently have 13 individuals involved with Safe Families in a variety of ways: hosting children regularly overnight giving a regular break and space for families dealing with issues or challenges; being family friends coming alongside parents and/or children to offer support; praying for the ministry; and donating financially or practically with resources or time, e.g., gardening, decorating, etc. The chart below shows the impact we have had in our community.

| Host Homes | Family Friends | Families Supported | Children Benefiting | Church Giving |
|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 2 | 11 | 50 | 146 | £300 |

Clare Warren writes: "I am currently supporting a teenager and we meet fortnightly, usually for a couple of hours. She has been bullied at school and doesn't have close friends, so school is a challenge for her. We began by going out for a coffee and in her case a mocha latte. She likes animals so I introduced her to the calves, but it has been chilly so we have found an indoor activity. She likes baking and so do I. We have had fun together. I listen to highs and lows of her week. The plan is to continue for another 12 weeks, as she has enjoyed meeting up, and so have I. This is just one way to support through safe families. I like the way I can choose which match will suit me, and my abilities. Volunteers and families are individuals."

Anneliese Myers shares: *"For me Safe Families gives us a really practical way as a family to love others. I'm reminded of the parable of the sheep and goats. Volunteering for Safe Families involves seeing the needs of the hungry and the poor and the lonely and the marginalised, and playing a small part in meeting those needs. It's not always easy or convenient, but it's what we're called to do. "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'" Matthew 25:40 NIV."*

Katelyn and Austin Laidler write: *"We started volunteering at the start of the pandemic by providing virtual support to a 12-year-old girl with learning disabilities. We have since helped 5 additional children of various ages and circumstances. The current kiddos we support have endured a lot of trauma in their past, and rarely get out of their house. We take them to the park, the beach, out for meals, to our house to play with the cats, and endless other adventures. Jesus said, "What you do for the least of these, you do for me..." (Matthew 25:40). For us, showing love and kindness to these families has been a pinnacle to our faith and allows us to feel closer to Jesus."*

Interesting that both Anneliese and Katelyn have quoted the same bible verse describing their experiences of being involved with Safe Families.

I (Diane Backhouse) have been involved since 2014. I am, at present, Church Champion and have just completed my first volunteering role as a family friend with a family needing support with their autistic 4-year-old. I learnt so much myself and in the final review mum shared: "I have made a friend for life in Diane." Even though support has officially ended we still text and meet up for a coffee and chat. My Safe Families mum has been as much a support to me over the past few months as I have to her.

Volunteering for Safe Families can follow three paths:

If you are interested in the work of Safe Families and want further information talk to Diane, one of the other volunteers or get in touch at

www.safefamilies.uk



Mission week with First Baptist Church Opelika, Alabama

As part of my role with Tees Valley Youth for Christ, I have the privilege of working with various churches across the USA who send over small teams of young people for a week of mission. All Saints Church have partnered with these teams in the past and we are delighted that at the end of May, we will be welcoming a team of 30 from FBC Opelika to join us for a week of a mission.

Spencer Helm is the student pastor and he and his team will be bringing 24 students to come and serve us here at All Saints from Sunday 28th May and will be leaving on the morning of Friday 2nd June. Sadly, this means they won't be joining us for a Sunday service, but they will be with us during that week and there will be opportunities for you to meet them.

A small team of us are currently fine tuning the program for the week, and more details will be released soon.

Something we pray regularly at Tees Valley Youth for Christ, are the words of Luke 10:2 "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So, pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."

We long to see more people join us both in the short term, through weeklong missions, as well as for the long term. You will remember Abby and Caroline who both recently served with us at All Saints for at least a year. Both of them originally came on a short-term mission week, and then returned for longer to serve with us after they felt the Lord calling back to serve in Teesside.

Please will you be praying for Spencer and his team:

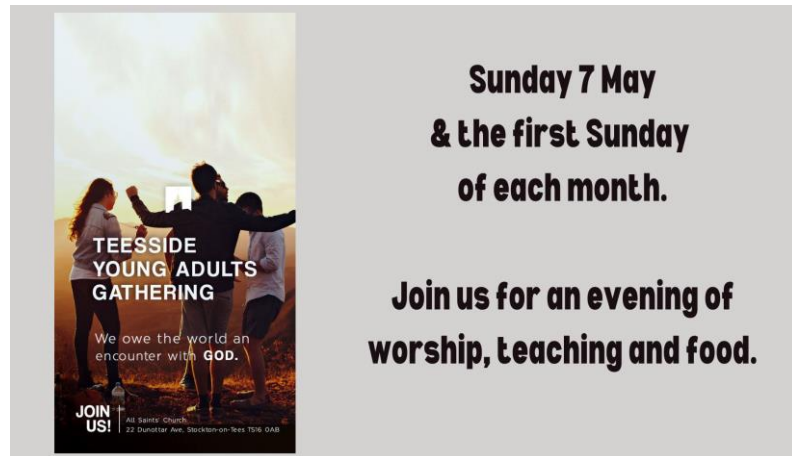
As they continue to prepare for their time with us.

For all the logistics still to work through. For safe travels, and for Spencer's wife Monica and daughter Charley who sadly won't be able to join us.

Also be praying for us as a church as we plan and prepare various activities for children and young people in our community, for great weather and also for opportunities to share the love of Jesus with people we encounter during the week.

Tim Wye-Williams





Sign up to a Sharing Faith course



There are lots of course dates to choose from.

You can sign up on ChurchSuite,
via our website or scan this QR code:



SUNDAY 7 MAY

Did God make the earth? How do we understand that and is it important?

Genesis 1:1-5, Job 38:4-21

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Clive Shergold

SUNDAY 14 MAY

What are things visible and invisible? Do they matter?

2 Kings 6:15-17, Ephesians 6:10-18

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Communion

Speaker Sola Adeboye

SUNDAY 21 MAY

Jesus the Son of God or Jesus the Lord? How do we understand who Jesus is?

Matthew 26:57-66, Hebrews 2:5-15

9am Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

SUNDAY 28 MAY - Pentecost

Who is the Holy Spirit: The Lord the giver of life?

Acts 2:1-8, John 14:15-21

9am Morning Worship

10.30am Morning Worship

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

You can watch our live-streamed 10.30am services on
<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>

| May 2023 Dates | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| Worship | Midweek | Youth | Children & Families | Other |
| Morning Prayer Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.10am Zoom: 862 4733 2301 Password 316316 | Informal Holy Communion Wed 9.30am - Centre | Youth Life Groups <i>term time</i> Wed, 6-8pm – everyone to start in the Youth Rooms | Toddlers Thurs <i>term time</i> 9.45am -11.30am - Centre | Choral Group Mon 22 May 6.30pm-7.30pm Church |
| Prayer & Worship Sat 13 May 9am-10am Meeting Room | Life Groups – various days/times see noticeboard in Centre | Youth Club <i>term time</i> Fri, 7-9pm – Centre | Play and Praise Fri <i>term time</i> 10am-11.15am – Centre | Walkers Group Sat 13 May – <i>more details on ChurchSuite or contact the office.</i> |
| Encounter Sun 23 May 6.30pm-8pm Church | Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room | Youth Church – during our Sunday 10.30am services – Youth Rooms | Discovery Church Sun 14 May 3.15pm-4.45pm Centre | Mens Meal Tues 2 May 7pm Teal Arms, Ingleby Barwick |
| Young Adults Gathering Sun 7 May 7.30pm-9pm Centre <i>more details above</i> | Connect Lunch, Tues 9 May 11.45am-2pm Centre | Refresh, <i>Back in July</i> | Gems (up to reception) and Trailblazers (Y1-Y6), during our Sunday 10.30am service - Centre & Meeting Room | Sharing Faith Tues 23 May & Tues 6 June 7.30pm-8.30pm Meeting Room |
| | Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Centre (not on Connect lunch club days) | Café Church, <i>Back in June</i> | God's Giants Group (Y5&6) Tues (dates to be confirmed) 4.15pm-5.15pm Youth Room | |
| | Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room | Youth Apprenticeships Sun 21 May during the 10.30am service | Puppet Practice Mon 7pm-9pm – Centre <i>term time</i> | |
| | Monday Night Social Mon 22 May 7.30pm-9pm Centre | Doulos Youth Leadership Training Mon 15 May 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms | | |
| | Ukraine Support Café Thurs 4 & 18 May 7pm-9pm Youth Room | | | |

Standing Committee Mon 1 May 7.30pm, The Vicarage, PCC Mon 22 May 7.30pm Meeting Room