



September 2024



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What Is The Point Of A Church?

I have recently joined the Orchard Eagles Running Club (other clubs are available). If you are a member, I am the one who still can't run and speak so apologies for not having said hello. If not, they are a running club made up of lots of local people. And if you turned up to the running club and asked 'what is the purpose of the club?' you might get funny looks as it's pretty obvious- running. Similarly, if you rocked up at the golf club, the answer is pretty obvious; we are about golf. But for lots of people the purpose of the church is a bit of a mystery, so let me give you a little bit of food for thought:



Purpose 1: To do good in the community



This is right at the heart of what we are about at All Saints. Trying to do good, and in doing so for people to know they are valued and loved whether they come to church or not. Therefore, All Saints for example, supports over 30 children in developing countries to get an education, we run toddlers provision where we want to go further than providing space and toys but for those who come to know they are valued and loved. We run a lunch club for retired people (new members welcome), we run a café for those new to the country, we run a friendship group, mental health and wellbeing groups, and visit people in the community. Churches run most of the food banks across the UK. Because people matter to God and matter to the church.

Purpose 2: To point to the God who made us all.

One of the poems in the Bible says 'We are all wonderfully made'. Some days I don't feel like that. But the God who made me gave me value that is not dependent on me. And then He came as Jesus, to live and die, to open the door so I could be forgiven my mistakes and mess ups and be in relationship with Him. The church exists to point to God and to extend that invitation of friendship with Him that He meant for all people. To point to the fact that none of us are mistakes and that God is amazing and cares about each of us.



Purpose 3: Prayer.



I don't know if you love our bell that rings every Sunday at 9am. I hear back in the day it rang at 8am so there is something to be grateful for that it isn't so early any more! The reason for the bell is not to give people who are not at church a guilt trip. But instead, to remind the surrounding community that they are being prayed for, and that God answers prayer. I can tell you now that our prayers do not aim to be eloquent or use thee's and thou's. Like any request, it isn't the words that are important, but the person you are making it to. And our God loves all people, wants to be involved in our lives and invites all of us to talk to Him in prayer.

The final thing church is meant to be is family. Somewhere all people can be welcomed; can discover the gifts and abilities God gave them; and to be encouraged and supported with all God has led them to be involved with, in whatever is happening in the rest of life. Church then is hopefully the best of families, where we cheer each other on, and all know they are welcome. There is no membership test, and the only criteria for coming along is an awareness we all make mistakes. All are welcome.

So have a wonderful term ahead. If you see me running please don't take offence if I can't speak to you. And if you would like to find out more about our church family, just come along to any of the things going on. Everything is open to all.

All the very best.

Matt Levinsohn



Meet Cat - our new Children's and Families' Ministry Leader

We are excited to welcome Cat Wakefield and her family to All Saints'. Cat is our new Children's and Families' Ministry Leader and is starting her new job with us at the beginning of September

Hi, I'm Cat and I'm looking forward to joining in with what God is doing in and around All Saints' and getting to know you all. I will be moving with my husband and three children to Eaglescliffe at the end of August. We currently live in Stoke-on-Trent so this is a big adventure for us and we have had to trust God in all the ups and downs of the house move, our prayer has been "Let go and Let God."

I was at All Saints' as a teenager and enjoyed serving on the scramblers (now Gems) team, helping at holiday clubs and it's where we got married. Rich and I moved to Birmingham where I was a primary school teacher and then we felt called by God to move to Stoke-on-Trent where we have been part of a church reaching out to our diverse, deprived community with the hope of Jesus. This has involved running community events and toddler groups and most recently I've been teaching music in schools, nurseries and parent/child sessions.

I love playing games, being outdoors, chatting and can't wait to be nearer to the beach which is my favourite place to be!

I felt a real prompting from God to apply for this job and have a passion for engaging children's work where all feel welcomed, safe, happy and come closer to God. I also love it when young and old come together to learn from each other and worship Jesus.

As a family we pray that God will lead and guide us to the places he wants us to be. I always feel like I'm coming home when we come to the North East and am excited to be part of the team at All Saints', connecting children and families to Jesus and working with others across the wider area.

Thank you for all your prayers for us during this time.

Do continue to pray for us as we settle here and as our children start new schools.

We're looking forward to meeting you soon!

Cat Wakefield





Tees Valley
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

Hello to Ruby

We are very much looking forward to having Ruby Watson with us this year, as our Youth Team Intern! She will be doing a Serve Year with Tees Valley Youth for Christ and will be placed at All Saints'. Many of you may know Ruby, but we wanted to introduce you to her as she begins her year!

Tell us a little bit about yourself:

I'm Ruby, I'm 18 and I was born and raised here in Teesside! When I'm not at church, you will often find me having fun with friends.

How long have you been worshipping at All Saints'?

I have been at All Saints' for just over 3 years. I joined a Youth Life Group here in May 2021, and have been involved in lots of areas of church life ever since.

Why Youth Ministry?

About 2 years ago, I really felt a pull towards working with young people in some capacity. For me, it just seemed to make sense to invest in young Christians in Teesside, because without those who have previously/ continue to invest in me, my faith would not be as developed and firm as it is. I love the fact that I get the chance to help young people get to know Jesus for themselves, and help those who are already there navigate what that looks like for them.

What are you most looking forward to this year?

I think I am most looking forward to being able to get alongside young people. I feel immensely privileged to have the chance to simply be there, to celebrate the highs and comfort during the lows, all whilst keeping Jesus as the focus.

What can we be praying for you?

I would appreciate prayer for peace as I settle into this next chapter, and for wisdom as I begin to navigate the practicalities of what the coming year will look like.



Ruby Watson

Our Mission Partners

We have four main Mission partners at All Saints, each of whom we have been supporting for a number of years and who are also linked to Life Groups who support them with prayer and encouragement.



Carolyn Kemp was for many years the Director of the Diaspora Mission of OMF.

This involves discipling people from East Asia who are studying or working in other countries so that they take the gospel with them when they return home. She has stepped down from that role and is now involved in training those working with and discipling those who come to Jesus, for example in UK, Kenya, Australia, USA and Korea. The emphasis of Mission has indeed become “Everywhere to Everywhere”



Mark and Gill Newham, worked in Mongolia for 30 years and saw tremendous growth in the church there.

Mongolian missionaries are now going to other countries in Asia to spread the gospel. Mark and Gill have now returned to England and Mark has been asked to develop a team who will support missionaries working from many countries. For instance Africans who are reaching into the Muslim world. They say that Mission is no longer based on people going from England to other countries, but, from Everywhere to Everywhere.



Dave Stedman is the CEO of the African Pastors Fellowship.

Their main project over the last few years has been the launch and distribution of a digital resource for Pastors working in Africa called eVitabu. This mobile Library app has allowed access to a great many theological books and training aids to those working even in remote areas. It is currently being used in over 20 nations



Mark and Anna Burgess and their sons, Daniel, Joel and Kaleb, are living and working in Lima Peru.

They started a church there and another in the jungle. They have Children’s projects ongoing and this year have appointed local pastors to lead the church in Lima. Mark is currently studying for an MA in Leadership, Mission and Ministry.



Sue Levan



Most of you I'm sure will be aware of the Church of England's pledge to be Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

This is a significant challenge for all churches and will be a challenge for us at All Saints'. In 2023 as a church we emitted 21.7 Tonnes CO₂e which is a slight reduction on 2022 when we emitted 22.6 Tonnes CO₂e. Our carbon output puts us in the top 20% of emitters in the diocese, this is not unexpected as we use our church buildings 7 days most weeks and presents us with the challenge of how we can reduce our carbon output.

We have however already made lots of changes to our buildings over many years to help reduce our energy use and these include.

- Modern insulated church centre and narthex
- Double glazing to many of our windows
- Insulated the roof of the church building
- Modern efficient zoned heating system.
- Smart thermostats throughout the building
- Solar panels on the church centre roof.
- LED lighting in many areas

Our environment group and the PCC have already spent some time discussing how we can reduce our carbon output further and have produced an initial action plan which includes.

- Replacing main hall and foyer lights with LED fittings.
- Double glazing the remaining church windows.
- Increasing the number of solar panels, possibly with battery storage.
- Investigating low carbon heating options for the main hall heating.

How can you get involved?

We are planning to run a Carbon Literacy Course to help individuals understand their own carbon footprint, so look out for details in the coming months. You could perhaps join our environment or property teams as they look at making our buildings more energy efficient. Plus, everyone can help by turning lights off when they leave rooms and thinking about how they travel to church each week.

If you would like to know more or have ideas about how we can reduce our carbon output, then please get in touch.



Martin Howard



Youth Alpha starts on
Weds 18 Sept, 6pm-8pm

For more details, please contact Kathryn Belmont:
kathrynbelmont.allsaints@gmail.com

DISCOVERY CHURCH

FUN FOR FAMILIES



Sunday 15 Sept,
3.15pm-4.45pm



Come along for games, food & the chance to
get to know Cat, our new Children and
Families Worker.



Please book your free tickets on the link below:
<https://allsaints.churchsuite.com/events/vd54b2um>
via our website: <https://allsaints-church.net/>
or scan this QR code



wellbeing groups

Discovering treasure in life's scars

Join

This is a ten session group aimed at taking care of our wellbeing

Learn

Together we will learn tools to increase confidence, self-esteem and wellbeing

Explore

Explore Mental wellbeing in a safe and supportive environment

When & Where

Weds 25 Sept - Weds 4 Dec
7pm- 8.30pm

Meeting Room,
All Saints' Church TS16 0AB



To find out more or book your free place, please scan this QR code, or contact us on:

email: office.allsaints@gmail.com
Church Office: 01642 783814
Elaine Eley: 07948 089 093



Sign up to a Sharing Faith course



Designed to help us feel like we can talk to our friends about Jesus without it being awkward and difficult.

To sign up go to ChurchSuite or our website

Bring & Share Lunch Sunday 29 September

Please join us, after our
10.30am service in the hall



All Age Quiz & Pizza Night

Everyone welcome

SAT
14
SEPT
5.30pm

£5 donation per adult

Please bring your own drinks

Book your tickets via our
website or scan QR code:

All Saints' Church, TS16 0AB



**We are supporting Ragworth
Community Grocery with
donations this year at Harvest.**

On Sunday 13 October, please bring along
non-perishable donations such as:

Tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, pasta sauce mix, tea bags, coffee, sugar,
pasta, rice, cereal and anything that can be put in a store cupboard.

What's On in 2024/2025

These are some of the
events planned, more details will be
added to our calendar during the year

Check ChurchSuite or
the calendar on our website
for details of our
regular weekly/monthly events

Youth

Sun 8 Sept	Doulos Graduation
Weds in Sept	Youth Alpha
Fridays in Sept	Four Weeks of Fun
Sun 1 Dec	Christmas Refresh

More events will be added
during the year

Socials

Sat 14 Sept	All Age Quiz & Pizza
Sun 29 Sept	Bring & Share Lunch
Sat 7 Dec	Christmas Party
Sat 25 Jan	Barn Dance
Sat 22 Mar	Murder Mystery Evening
Sun 6 Apr	Walk After Church
Thurs 17 Apr	Maundy Thursday Meal

Socials

Sun 18 May	Meal after church and Treasure Hunt
Sat 21 June	Walk in the Lake District
Sun 22 June	Picnic After Church
Sun 13 Jul	BBQ

Please invite friends/family to
join us at any of our events.

Courses

Thurs 5 Sept	Sharing Faith Course
& Thurs 19 Sept	by Zoom
Thurs 10 Oct	Sharing Faith Course
& Thurs 24 Oct	in person

Details of more courses will
added during the year

Children & Families

Thurs 31 Oct	Glow Party
Sun 8 Dec	Christmas Discovery Church
Thurs 6 Mar	World Book Day After School Event

More events will be added
during the year

Christmas

Sat 7 Dec	Christmas Party
Sun 15 Dec	Carol Service
Tues 24 Dec	4pm service
Tues 24 Dec	Midnight Communion
Weds 25 Dec	Christmas Day Celebration

Services September

Sunday 1 Sept

Yahweh- The God Who Reveals Himself
2 Samuel 7:18-24, Matthew 17:1-9

9am Morning Worship
1030am Morning Worship

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

Sunday 8 Sept

God restores
Psalm 47, Genesis 35:9-15

9am Communion
1030am Morning Worship

Speaker Sarah Hope

**Our 10.30am services are live-streamed and you can
watch them live or later on:**

<https://www.youtube.com/@AllSaintsVideo/streams>

Sunday 15 Sept

God notices
Genesis 16:7-16, Mark 2:13-17

9am Morning Worship
1030am Communion

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

Sunday 22 Sept

God above all
Luke 8:26-37, Romans 8:18-28

9am Communion
1030am Morning Worship

Speaker Andrew Killick

Sunday 29 Sept

God cleanses
Isaiah 6:1-8, 1 John 1:5-10

9am Morning Worship
1030am Morning Worship & Baptism

Speaker Matt Levinsohn

September

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 Youth Room	Youth Life Groups Term time Weds, 6pm-8pm everyone to start in the Youth Rooms	Toddlers Thurs term time 9.45am -11.30am Centre	Favourite Hymn Singing Mon 30 Sept 6.30pm-7.30pm Church
Young Adults Gathering Sun 1 Sept 6.30pm-8pm Church	Life Groups various days/times see noticeboard in Centre	Youth Club term time Fri, 7pm-9pm Centre	God's Giants Group (Y5&6) details to be confirmed	Sharing Faith Course by Zoom Thurs 5 & 19 Sept 7.30pm-8.30pm
Prayer & Worship Sat 14 Sept 9am-10am Meeting Room	Monday Morning Coffee Mondays 9.30am-11.30am Youth Room	Youth Church during our Sunday 10.30am services, Youth Rooms	Gems (up to reception) during our Sunday 10.30am service Meeting Room	All Age Quiz & Pizza Sat 14 Sept 5.50pm Centre see above for more details
	Ukraine Family Support Café Thurs 5 & 19 Sept 7pm-9pm Youth Room	Doulos Graduation Sun 8 Sept 6pm-8pm Church	Trailblazers (Y1-Y6) during our Sunday 10.30am service Centre	Bring & Share Lunch Sun 29 Sept 12.30pm Centre
	Joyful Craft Thursdays 1.30pm-3pm, Youth Room	Doulos Mon 16 Sept 7pm-9pm Youth Rooms	Discovery Church Sun 15 Sept 3.15pm -4.45pm Centre	Kintsugi Wellbeing Group Weds 25 Sept 7pm-8.30pm Meeting Room
	Connect Seated Exercise Tues 1pm - Youth Rooms (not on Connect lunch days)	Youth Apprenticeships Sun 15 Sept during the 10.30am service		PCC Mon 16 Sept 7.30pm-9.30pm Meeting Room
	Connect Lunch Tues 10 Sept 11.45am-2pm Centre	Refresh Back in October		Standing Committee Mon 2 Sept 7.30pm-9pm Vicarage