

We have been advised not to meet for public worship for the foreseeable future, so do please join us for a live stream of a service 10am on Sunday mornings

<https://www.stjohnswoking.org.uk/livestream>

This Week's Collect – Lent 4

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever

10 am service today via Livestream for St John's and Emmanuel

10.00 am Morning Worship

Reading: Genesis 2:4 - 17

Sermon Life in the Garden
Glyn Lucas

Service next week at via Livestream – First Love

10.00 am Morning Worship

Reading Genesis 2:18 - 25
Ezekiel 28:11-19

All mid-week meetings, Sunday worship services, choir rehearsals and the Family Event have been cancelled until further notice.

If you or anyone in the church family needs practical support, please contact us on: 07950 504514.

The office may be on reduced hours so please bear with us if you don't receive prompt replies to any requests.

Staff days off:

Glyn – Monday

Mary – from 1pm Friday & Saturday

Andy – Friday & Saturday

Office staff – Saturday & Sunday

Recordings:

Want to listen to a sermon again?

They are available on our website:

www.stjohnswoking.org.uk

Staying put for now

The world has changed. Life as we know it is on hold for the moment. For some of us that has meant working from home for the first time. For others it means doing schoolwork at home with our parents acting as our teachers. Others can't work at all because their businesses or employers have had to close temporarily.

For the Williamsons, plans changed dramatically just over ten days ago. I was preparing for our last Sunday here, at home packing was starting to pick up, and we were counting down the days to the move. I received a phone call from our chair of trustees at Gaines Manor explaining the impact of Covid-19: all bookings at Gaines had been postponed until the current situation changes, with no bookings the centre has no income which puts it under financial strain. This impacts the wage bill for the centre and we were asked if as a family we could pause our move.

Glyn, the church wardens and the PCC have agreed that I can remain at St John's for the moment. When the current situation changes, we'll move to Gaines and I'll start my new role. I remain in conversation with our team at Gaines and look forward to starting when I can.

Government help has now become available, but this is to furlough staff rather than keep them in employment. As I remain at St John's I'm looking to continue as much as I can to support the members of 1eighty and iNsight as well as parents and leaders.

With face-to-face communication on hold for the foreseeable future, youth ministry circles have got creative about how we continue our work whilst staying at home. It's so good to have the technology available which means we can see each other and 'meet' together even if we're not in the same room. On Tuesday we had our first virtual 1eighty and virtual iNsight sessions which went really well. Keep an eye on social media for updates on what we're getting up to!

Your prayers for us as a family would be appreciated for us at this time of uncertainty and wisdom about what to do going forward. Also pray for the members of 1eighty and iNsight to stay connected, especially those for whom Tuesday nights is their only contact with us.

Stay safe this week,

Andy

Here are a few more updates from our church family

Please uphold Ray McConnell, James, Matt and Joanna in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Caroline who died recently.

Associate Minister appointment

Following the interviews on 10 March, Peter Chamberlin has accepted our invitation to become the Associate Minister at St John's with Emmanuel. We hope we will have a short message from Peter in our livestream service on Sunday. The date when Peter, his wife Joanna and their 3 children will move here is yet to be confirmed but we hope it will be over the summer (subject to Covid19 restrictions). Please pray for the family as they prepare to move.

Change of House for the Associate Minister

The sale of Ashley Road is making progress and we hope to exchange contracts at the beginning of April.

Our offer on the house on the Hermitage estate has been accepted but, in line with government advice, all house purchases are in abeyance for the time being so we have no date for completion.

We are so grateful to those who have offered to contribute towards a bridging loan. It is looking as though we may not need to take up the offers but, until the sale of Ashley Road is complete, please continue to let Tony Graham know if there are any changes to what you are able and willing to lend should the need arise.

Easter services

We are assuming that we will not be able to meet in person over the Easter weekend but please join us for livestreams of the following:

9 th April Maundy Thursday	Early evening – time to be confirmed	Breaking of bread for you to share from your homes
10 th April Good Friday	10:00am	Family focussed service
10 th April Good Friday	2:00pm	A time of quiet reflection based on readings from Luke's Gospel
12 th April Easter Day	10:00am	Easter Day celebration

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Mary Kirkman, is available for advice or to talk through concerns relating to safeguarding.

07763 456015 or safeguarding@stjohnswoking.org.uk

St John the Baptist Church, Church Road, St John's, Woking, GU21 7QN
www.stjohnswoking.org.uk,

Office hours 9am -1pm Monday – Friday. 01483 726039, office@stjohnswoking.org.uk