



St John's Methodist Church  
Baker Street  
Potters Bar  
Herts EN6 2DZ  
Registered Charity No 1130633

# St John's News

Website: [stjohnspb.org.uk](http://stjohnspb.org.uk) Email: [sjnews@stjohnspb.org.uk](mailto:sjnews@stjohnspb.org.uk)

Minister: Revd David Jebb: 01707 652978 / 07786 907634 [djebb2003@gmail.com](mailto:djebb2003@gmail.com)

Senior Steward: David Carter: 07709 284852 [seniorsteward@stjohnspb.org.uk](mailto:seniorsteward@stjohnspb.org.uk)

June 2025

## From our Minister – Revd David Jebb

### Expanding God's Kingdom at St John's

As we prepare to celebrate Pentecost this June, we are reminded of that extraordinary moment when the Church was born not in silence or stillness, but in fire, wind, and bold proclamation.

The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and sent out into the world to bear witness to the risen Christ. Pentecost is not just a moment in history, it is a living call to the Church today.

Here at St John's, we take this calling seriously. As members of Christ's body - we are invited not only to gather but to go to reach out in love, to share the good news, and to live as people transformed by the Spirit of God. Pentecost invites us to reflect on what it truly means to be Church: Spirit-filled, outward looking, and deeply committed to the mission of Jesus.



At the heart of our life together is this sacred purpose:

***To make God's love known not only within our walls, but throughout our community in Potters Bar.***

We believe that true growth lies not just in numbers, but in deepening discipleship in lives that reflect Christ's light and compassion. That is why outreach is so vital. It's not just about publicity or programmes, it's about presence. It's about showing up in people's lives with kindness, welcome and faith. Outreach

opens the door, but what follows - worship, fellowship, discipleship and service - forms the rhythm of real church life.

As we look to the future, we're excited by the vision of appointing a Mission and Outreach Worker to help us deepen this work in our community. We are actively exploring grant opportunities and seeking support, with the hope of having someone in post by January 2026. But this is not a one-person job. This is our shared calling. We invite every member and friend of St John's to be part of this holy work, not as spectators, but as Spirit-led participants in God's mission. This is not just about hiring someone to "do outreach" for us, it's about reimagining Church as a community that is open, courageous, and present in the world.

Together, let's build this vision on a foundation of prayer and purpose, so that we may see lives renewed and God's love made visible among us. We believe the Spirit is already at work leading, prompting, preparing. Let us now step forward together, in faith and courage.

With every blessing,

***David Jebb***

Revd David Jebb, Minister of St John's Methodist Church

You can also see David's monthly blog on our website at [www.stjohnspb.org.uk/ministers-blog](http://www.stjohnspb.org.uk/ministers-blog).

***Copy deadline for next issue is Friday 20 June 2025***

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# Services

Date	Time	Service	Preacher
Sunday 1 June	10.30am	Morning Worship	Peter Wallace
Sunday 8 June	10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev David Jebb
	7pm	Café Worship	Genevieve Musey
Sunday 15 June	10.30am	Creative Church	Revd Rosemary Mutopo
Sunday 22 June	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev David Jebb
Sunday 29 June	10.30am	Morning Worship	Genevieve Musey
All ages are welcome to our 10.30am services. Under 3s are welcome in church and in the adjoining crèche area at the back of the church. Other children are invited to Junior Johns in the Garden Room. More information from a Steward or Jackie Hart 07825 211657.			

**Revd David Jebb** is our very own minister here at St John's and Superintendent of the 10 Methodist churches in the St Albans & Welwyn area (circuit). David leads our monthly Holy Communion services and this month he is looking forward to welcoming his very own family to St John's for his grandson's baptism service on 8 June.

**Peter Wallace** has been a local preacher for nearly 40 years and during the last few years has been a familiar face at St John's as he regularly comes to lead our worship.

**Revd Rosemary Mutopo** has Pastoral and Worship responsibility for 4 of our circuit churches in the Hatfield and Welwyn area. She has visited St John's before and led some very thought provoking Café Church evening services.

**Genevieve Musey** is currently studying at The Queen's Foundation theological college in Birmingham and is spending her one-month student placement with us at St John's. We look forward to meeting Genevieve as she assists David and Rosemary leading services, as well as leading worship herself during June.

## Care Homes Services

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday 4 June	3pm	Cooperscroft Care Home
Wednesday 18 June	3pm	Cuffley Manor Care Home
We lead services at both Cuffley Manor and Cooperscroft Care Homes. All are welcome to come and join the small team as we worship with and talk to the residents. The service lasts about half an hour with time to talk over tea and coffee afterwards.		

# Saturday Morning Prayers



We would like to warmly invite you to a brief prayer time on Saturday mornings.

9 am to 9.45 am.

During this time, we will focus on prayer for our churches, the circuit, global needs, and other concerns.

Zoom link below. We hope you will be able to spend 45 minutes with us in this meaningful ministry.

<https://zoom.us/j/98382699249?pwd=OThXWEc5WnZ0Tm piajNhS3E3NGYvQT09>

**Meeting ID: 983 8269 9249, Passcode: 178314**

## Churches Together in Potters Bar (CTPB)

**Prayer Breakfast** - CTPB would like to invite you to join them at 8.30am on the 1st Saturday of each month as they pray for the churches and community of Potters Bar. Meetings last for approximately 45 minutes followed by breakfast.



DATE	LOCATION
Saturday 7 June	St Giles Church Blanche Lane, South Mymms EN6 3PE
Saturday 5 July	Christ Church Little Heath Great North Road EN6 1JN

## Circuit Events



### Thinking Lunch

**Thursday 5 June** - 12.30pm - 1.30pm - at Marlborough Road Methodist Church AL1 3XG

**Speaker: Tim Wood, Chief Executive, Through the Roof**

**"How a Christian charity changes the lives of disabled people around the world"**

Half an hour talk, followed by a discussion. Donations will be gratefully received to cover expenses and any profits will be given to the speaker for a charity of their choice. You are very welcome to bring friends and guests.

# Coffee with the Pastor



Have you recently started worshipping with us?  
We'd love to get to know you better!  
Join us for a relaxed and friendly:

**Afternoon Get-Together : Coffee with the Pastor  
Saturday 21 June at 4pm in the Clifton Room.**

This is a special time for new worshippers to:

- Meet the Pastor and a lead church steward plus other members of the church family
- Enjoy coffee, tea, and delicious refreshments
- Ask any questions you may have about the church, Methodist life, Theology or our church community ministries
- Feel truly welcomed into the life of the church

Whether you've just started attending or have been coming for a little while, this is for you! To reserve your place, please email [djebb2003@gmail.com](mailto:djebb2003@gmail.com).

**We're looking forward to meeting you and sharing this lovely afternoon together!**

## Family News

- Sandra and David Bowler have been celebrating the arrival of their second granddaughter. Congratulations!
- On 8 June we welcome the Thomas family for the baptism of David and Jenet Jebb's grandson Theo Benjamin Blake Thomas. A very special day for the whole family as David will be baptising Theo and introducing him to the St John's family ❤️
- Jackie White is leaving Potters Bar and moving to the South Coast to be nearer to one of her daughters. We wish her every happiness in her new home.



***Please pray for the family and friends of -***



- Barbara Wright has been discharged from hospital and is at home.
- Belinda Havercroft who is in Barnet hospital.
- Marianne's son Michael has just had emergency surgery to remove part of his small bowel and is now recovering in Watford hospital.
- We think of Sue Chard whose aunt died in May.
- Phil and Maggie Day would like to thank everyone for their prayers for Phil's mum Jean who passed away peacefully in hospital with her family by her side.
- David and Margaret Rhodes wish to thank everyone for their help and kind wishes while caring for David's father who died aged 103.

The Book of Remembrance records the following past worshippers who died in June in years gone by;

***Theo Parry, Ron Vessey, Jean Sleep, Tony Havercroft, and Evan Evans.***

If they were known to you, take time to think of them and any experiences you may have shared.

**Helen Strand, Pastoral Coordinator ([hstrand@aol.com](mailto:hstrand@aol.com)) Tel: 07821 786170)**





## Please help!

We are looking for two more people to help at Friday coffee, which currently meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in the month.

It would involve being on the rota roughly every 6 weeks, starting in September. Our team of helpers has dwindled over these past few months. Unfortunately, if no further help is forthcoming, Friday Coffee will take place only on the first Friday in the month from September onwards.

Please speak to me if you are able to volunteer.

Thank you  
**Valerie Vessey**



## Coffee at St John's



I am pleased to update that following a shortfall in 2023 in the amount of money donated to cover for the cost of providing refreshments each week, last year we saw a surplus of £600. At the February Church Council meeting it was agreed that we would send that to our 2024 Christmas Charity, Noah's Ark. It costs more than £1,000 a year to purchase all of the various products; where relevant, these are Fairtrade, with the addition this year of gluten and dairy free biscuits and a dairy-alternative milk for those with these dietary needs. However, I am afraid to report that across some recent weeks, we have not seen donations on a Sunday anywhere close to the amount we need to cover the cost of providing the service, let alone work towards a surplus we can donate to charity at the end of the year. We might end up with a shortfall again, that would have to be covered from other church giving. Please do remember to put a donation into one of the money boxes, or make a donation with our card reader, when you pick up your drink and biscuit!

If you have any questions or comments about the Church Coffee, please speak to me.

Finally, can I thank all those that prepare and serve the refreshments each week.

**David Bowler**

# July Parade Service & Family BBQ - 6 July

Our July Parade Service will take place on:

**Sunday 6 July at 11.15am**

**At Morven Guide Centre Field, The Causeway,  
Potters Bar, Herts, EN6 5HA**

**Followed by a BBQ around midday.**

There will not be a service at Church that day, because we want to encourage as many as possible to support the Parade Service at Morven.



Our Scout Group plan to hold activities for Beavers and Cubs earlier in the morning and the Scouts will be camping there that weekend.

The Scouts are very kindly providing the BBQ so come prepared for a feast. There is no charge, and no need to buy tickets. To help with the costs there will be a voluntary donations box available.

There will be some informal activities / games afterwards for those that wish to take part, or you can just relax and chat.

The event will finish around 3pm.

Please see some further notes below regarding this event.

- **Arrival:** Please arrive around 11am onwards, so we are ready for an 11.15am start.
- **Parking:** Spaces at Morven are very limited, so please use the adjacent Stormont School Car Park.
- **Weather:** Hopefully the weather will be good and we can hold an open-air service. There is a large, covered area at Morven should we have light rain and an indoor hut if it pours down!
- **Seating:** You can help us by bringing your own foldable garden chairs or picnic blankets, if you have them. If not, some chairs will be available.



We hope everyone will enjoy the service and BBQ. It is encouraging that we can work in partnership with our Scout Group to put on this event.

Please contact me if you have any questions at this stage.

Thank you.

**David Rhodes**  
**07884 213199**

*'All the believers....shared their meals with unaffected joy as they praised God'  
(Acts 2, verses 44-47)*



# 20 Years Since the Official Opening of the Clifton Room



We have something to celebrate - this month - at St John's - it is 20 years since the official opening of the Clifton Room by the late John Motson on Saturday 4 June 2005. What a truly joyful occasion that was. The room is named after the Clifton family, who with a very generous bequest together with various grants from Methodist funds, enabled the project to get off the ground. Looking back over the last 20 years, the difference the Clifton Room and other alterations to the church have made to the life of the church is quite remarkable. Sadly, some of the members so closely involved with the whole rebuilding project, are no longer with us, but all those still around remember the pre and post years very clearly.

Previously, steps into the church prevented anyone with mobility issues coming in through the main doors, meaning they had to enter at the back and then come through the doors at the front of the church. The ramp has made such a difference to accessibility for everyone and the Welcome Stewards can greet everyone equally. Various photos show very clearly how the work progressed.

We also remember how the tea and coffee was served after the service. The large trolley from the kitchen was wheeled into the front of the church and parked on a large plastic sheet. We queued up and then went back to our seats, sitting in rows where conversation was limited to those we were sitting next too. What a difference the Clifton Room has made – a warm welcoming space, where we can sit and chat with everyone, especially those new to our church. It is not only on a Sunday that it comes into its own – Friday Coffee, Women's Guild, Welcome Space, Church Council, Alpha courses, CTPB prayer meetings and many other meetings can take place in comfort, with the attractive coffee bar making hot drinks available directly in the room. Recently, we have started having Café Worship in there, which has been well received. I have to admit the Clifton Room, apart from all its other advantages, holds a very special place in my heart for family reasons.

A very special mention must be made to all those so closely involved, in months/years of hard work before it all came to fruition. There was a huge amount of planning and reorganisation, with Services continuing in the Main Hall, for some months, whilst the work in Worship Area was taking place. Whilst all the main building work was undertaken by the contracted builders, including redecorating the Worship area and Main Hall, a decision was made to renovate the rest of the church premises at the same time. This involved a team of voluntary workers, who spent many hours painting and decorating, putting new tiled ceilings in the Garden Room, Rainbow Room and back corridor, changing lighting and much more. In addition, though it hadn't been planned to renovate the kitchen at that time, as funds were so tight, a timely, generous bequest was received and the new kitchen was not long in following the rest of the renovations.



Various committees were set up, or enlarged, including Property and Finance, Décor and Colour Schemes and Fund raising. We held several fetes and other fund-raising events, with so many people involved in these. As well as fund raising for the church, our then Minister, Paul Beard, requested we adopt an overseas project, which led to us supporting a successful venture "High Schools in Mozambique."

On **Sunday 8 June** let us remember all that has been achieved by joining together in the Clifton Room for coffee or tea and cake.

**Valerie Vessey**

# Regular Activities

Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	10am – 11.45am	Jumping Johns Toddlers	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
	10am – 12pm	Can We Fix It Group	Roger Croughton 01707 650438
	10.30am – 11.30am	Vestry Hour	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978
	2.30pm – 4pm	Women's Guild (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday in the month)	Jo Hutton 01707 658436
	8pm – 10pm	Badminton	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Tuesdays	11am – 3pm	Welcome Space	Barbara Thompson 01707 665621
Wednesdays	6.30pm – 8pm	Cubs	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
	2.30pm – 4.30pm	Strafford Gate House Group (Usually 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in the month)	David Carter 07709 284852
	7.45pm – 9pm	Bible Study in Clifton Room (Fortnightly)	Lesley Humphreys 07961 347152
Thursdays	7pm – 8.30pm	Scouts	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
Fridays	10.30am – 12pm	Morning Coffee in Clifton Room (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays in the month)	
	10.30am	Byng Drive House Group (Fortnightly)	Dawn Fenner 07969 924346
	6.15pm – 7.15pm	Beavers	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
Saturdays	9am – 9.45am	Let's Pray Together (by Zoom)	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978

# Pentecost Celebration



St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit is pleased to announce that we will be hosting another Pentecost Celebration this year, building on the success of last year's event.

The celebration is scheduled for **Saturday 7 June**, beginning at 3pm. Following the service, everyone is warmly invited to join us for a gracious afternoon tea, which will be kindly provided by Oxlease Methodist Church.

To assist us with catering arrangements, we kindly ask you to confirm your attendance. Please email the Circuit Administrator, Autumn Leung, at [admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk)

Please respond by 4 June.

We look forward to celebrating Pentecost together with you!

**Revd David Jebb**

***Copies of next month's SJ News will be available in Church on Sunday 29 June 2025!***