



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: Robin Burns: 07956 879451 [seniorsteward@stjohnspb.org.uk](mailto:seniorsteward@stjohnspb.org.uk)

## April 2024

Date	Time	Service	Preacher
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am	Morning Worship	Stuart Johnson
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am	Creative Church and Celebration	Jenet Jebb
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00pm	Informal Café Worship	Joanne Mead
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	3.00pm	St George's Day Service for Rainbows, Brownies, Beavers and Cubs	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00pm	Holy Communion	Revd David Jebb

*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.*



We believe that Jesus died and rose again  
1 Thessalonians 4 v.14

## Praying Together

Let's join together in prayer! Whether you are in need of prayer or you simply want to join in praying and interceding for others, these are times when the prayers of God's people are essential. Join us on Zoom or in Person – or both!

### In Person

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April. The prayer meeting will be in the vestibule (you can go through the Clifton Room) at 10.00am and end at 10.30am so we can join the Friday Coffee Morning.

### On Zoom

We invite you to join us on Saturday morning from 9.00 to 9:45am, accessible via ZOOM. Prayer requests can be submitted via email at [djebb2003@gmail.com](mailto:djebb2003@gmail.com).

Use the Zoom link

<https://zoom.us/j/99737525318?pwd=R1hHNTE2Z2l0RndvaU1idWpVYktndz09>

Meeting ID: 997 3752 5318 Passcode: 251590



Prayer Leaders:

6<sup>th</sup> April – Jacqi Guy

13<sup>th</sup> April – Jenet Jebb

20<sup>th</sup> April – George Woods

27<sup>th</sup> April – David Jebb

**Copy deadline for next issue is Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

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# From our minister – Revd David Jebb

## 'Beyond Chocolate Bunnies and Eggs: Rediscovering the True Essence of Easter'

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, we celebrated Easter, a day when we commemorate the most powerful event in human history: the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Despite efforts by those in power to hide, cover up, and discredit this event, they did not succeed because the resurrection power was undeniably real. Jesus truly rose from the dead, marking a pivotal moment in history that continues to resonate with believers around the world.



Easter, a time synonymous with chocolate bunnies, colourful eggs, and sweet treats, often obscures its deeper significance. While these symbols add a delightful charm to the holiday, they only scratch the surface of Easter's profound meaning. Beyond the chocolate-coated festivities lies a rich tapestry of traditions, beliefs, and values that deserve exploration.

At its core, Easter is a Christian holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It marks the culmination of Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday

and culminating in Easter Sunday. For Christians worldwide, Easter is a time of profound spiritual reflection, renewal, and rejoicing in the triumph of life over death.

The Easter Bunny and eggs, while enjoyable, have origins far removed from the religious significance of the holiday. The Easter Bunny, a symbol of fertility and new life, likely originated from pagan spring festivals celebrating the arrival of spring and the renewal of nature. Similarly, the tradition of colouring and hunting for eggs has ancient roots, symbolizing fertility, rebirth, and the emergence of new life in various cultures.

However, over time, these symbols have become intertwined with Easter celebrations, often overshadowing its religious significance. While there's nothing inherently wrong with enjoying chocolate bunnies and egg hunts, it's essential to remember their symbolic origins and the deeper meaning they represent.

For Christians, Easter is a time to reflect on the profound sacrifice and victory of Jesus Christ. It's a reminder of the transformative power of faith, hope, and love. The resurrection of Jesus offers believers a message of redemption, forgiveness, and eternal life—a message that transcends cultural traditions and sweet indulgences.

Moreover, Easter serves as a time of community and togetherness, as families and friends gather to celebrate and share in the joy of the holiday. Whether attending church services, enjoying a festive meal, or simply spending time with loved ones, Easter provides an opportunity for connection and reflection.

In a world often consumed by materialism and superficiality, Easter invites us to pause and consider the deeper truths and values that underpin our lives. It challenges us to look beyond the surface and embrace the profound mysteries of faith, hope, and love.

So, as we indulge in chocolate eggs and whimsical bunnies this Easter, let's also take a moment to reflect on the true essence of the holiday. Let's remember the timeless message of hope and renewal that Easter represents—a message that transcends chocolate and embraces the eternal significance of faith and love.

Jesus breaks out of the tomb on Easter morning in order to break into our world with resurrection power. The resurrection was the ultimate miracle; the supreme example of the in-breaking of God's kingdom here on earth. We catch a glimpse of what the fullness of the kingdom will bring to the created order in which we live.

*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).

# Family News

We are delighted to announce the recent engagement of Bethany Fenner to Lewis Billington, and we share with Dawn, Guy and Belinda in sending our love and wishing them well as they plan their future lives together.

June and Maurice Beales have returned home and are making progress after a stay in Barnet hospital.

Pam Taylor has been to hospital for surgery but is now convalescing at her home. Pam very much welcomes 'phone calls.

Belinda is in hospital after a fall and is trying to regain her mobility so she can return home. Beth Wickens is still being cared for in Barnet hospital. Sybil remains in a nursing home in Watford but is waiting for a transfer nearer to home in Potters Bar.

Please pray for healing for all those we know in hospital, receiving treatment, attending appointments or waiting for results and diagnosis. It is such a worrying time for those receiving care as well as their families and friends.

Helen Barlow Email: [foodtech16@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:foodtech16@hotmail.co.uk) Tel: 01707 662254

## Come As You Are



*A course exploring Christian discipleship in the Methodist Church.*

*We are on a journey into faith – none of us has yet arrived!*

*Sharing the journey with others can be a great joy and privilege.*

Embark on a journey of faith with us in "COME AS YOU ARE", a course designed to explore Christian discipleship and Membership within the Methodist Church. As we navigate this path, it's important to remember that we are all pilgrims, continually growing and learning in our faith. Sharing this journey with others is not only a joy but also a privilege.

Led by the Reverend David Jebb, this six-session course explores the details of membership and discipleship within the Methodist Church. Whether you're considering membership or seeking to refresh your understanding, this course offers valuable insights. Drawing from resources such as the "Come as You Are" and "Explore the Big Story" materials, participants will engage in meaningful discussions and reflections.

We hope you will come to see membership as a way of expressing your commitment to Christ and discovering for yourself a greater sense of ownership and belonging together at St John's Methodist Church, Potters Bar.

For further details and registration, please contact David at 07786907634 or email [djebb2003@gmail.com](mailto:djebb2003@gmail.com). The course commences on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, from 7.30 to 8.30pm.

Come as you are, and let's embark on this journey together.



# Care Homes Services

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.

## Cooperscroft

1st Wednesday in each month at 3.00pm:

Next service – 3<sup>rd</sup> April

## Cuffley Manor

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in each month at 3.00pm:

Next service – 17<sup>th</sup> April



# Rotary Club Charity Swim

I am happy to report that at the Brookmans Park Rotary Club Charity Swim on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March the St John's Jonah's swimming team (Nico Bekooy, Sue Branch, Rob Branch, Chris Humphreys and Margaret Rhodes) swam in relay an impressive 30 lengths of the Furzefield pool in the 20 minutes allowed.

Thanks to the generosity of so many people they raised a total amount of £785 (plus gift aid) in sponsorship, half of which will go to this year's Rotary Club charities (Isabel Hospice, Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and Potters Bar Foodbank) and half to our linked Church, Shenley Methodist, to support the very valuable youth work, including Messy Church, they are doing in Shenley.

A big thank you to all the swimmers for their hard work, and to all the people whose sponsorship enabled them to produce such a magnificent financial result for their efforts!

Liz Bekooy

# Regular activities

Day	Time	Activity	Contact
Mondays	10.00 – 11.45am	Jumping Johns Toddlers	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Mondays	10.00am – 12.00pm	Can We Fix It Group	Roger Croughton 01707 650438
Mondays	10.30 – 11.30am	Vestry Hour	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978
Mondays	2.30 – 4.00pm	Women's Guild	Jo Hutton 01707 658436
Mondays	8.00 – 10.00pm	Badminton	Margaret Bland 07887 532128
Tuesdays	11.00am – 3.00pm	Welcome Space	Barbara Thompson 01707 665621
Wednesdays	6.30 – 8.00pm	Cubs	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
Wednesdays	2.30 – 4.30pm	Strafford Gate House Group (usually 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in the month)	David Carter 07709 284852
Wednesdays	7.45 – 9.00pm	Bible Study in Clifton Room (Fortnightly)	Lesley Humphreys 07961 347152
Thursdays	7.00 – 8.30pm	Scouts	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
Fridays	10.00 – 10.30am	Meet to Pray (usually 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday in the month)	Robin Burns 07956 879451
Fridays	10.30am – 12.00pm	Morning Coffee in Clifton Room	
Fridays	10.30am	Byng Drive House Group (Fortnightly)	Dawn Fenner 07969 924346
Fridays	6.15 – 7.15pm	Beavers	<a href="http://www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk">www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</a>
Saturdays	9.00 – 9.45am	Let's Pray Together (by Zoom)	Revd David Jebb 01707 652978

# Circuit

St John's Methodist Church is part of the St Albans and Welwyn Circuit. See [www.stalbansandwelwyncircuit.org.uk](http://www.stalbansandwelwyncircuit.org.uk) for more details. Our superintendent is Revd David Jebb. The circuit office can be contacted at [admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@midhertsmethodists.org.uk) or on 01727 854211.

## Pentecost Praise & BBQ

A poster for a Pentecost Praise & BBQ event. The background is a warm, textured orange-red with a string of white lights across the middle. At the top right is a small white cross icon. The text is as follows:

St Albans & Welwyn **Methodist** Circuit  
invite you to join them for a

# Pentecost Praise & BBQ

on **Saturday 18th May 3pm -4.30pm**  
at Oxlease Methodist Church, 36 Woods Avenue, Hatfield AL10 8NA

*sharing good news from around the Circuit*  
with Hymns & Songs of Praise followed by refreshments & BBQ

To help with catering, please RSVP by 10th May  
to Rev David Jebb on 07786 907634 or email [circuitastaandw@gmail.com](mailto:circuitastaandw@gmail.com)

## Thinking Lunches at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans

12.30 to 1.30pm. Please bring your own sandwiches and drinks. Half an hour talk, and then discussion.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April - Liz Needham from St Albans for Refugees will talk about 'The reality of a refugee's experience - How we can help'.

A poster for 'Thinking Lunch' featuring a collage of food items: a sandwich, a green apple, blueberries, and a glass of orange juice. The text is as follows:

# Thinking Lunch

Marlborough Road **Methodist** Church





# Churches Together in Potters Bar

For more information see [www.ctpb.org.uk](http://www.ctpb.org.uk).

## Prayer Meetings

Join us at 8.30am on the first Saturday of each month as we pray for the Churches and Community of Potters Bar. Meetings last about 45 mins followed by breakfast.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April

PB Baptist Church, Barnet Road, EN6 2RB

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May

St John's Methodist, Baker Street, EN6 2DZ



## Holiday Club

This year's Churches Together Holiday Club will run from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July inclusive at Pope Paul Primary School. We urgently need volunteers for arts and crafts, games, music and drama, registering children, catering and supporting the Teen Team with their group. Registration for volunteers can be done at <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/volunteer>. If this is your first time volunteering and you are not sure what to do, please contact Nicola Thrussell at Our Lady & St Vincent at [pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:pottersbar@rcdow.org.uk) or Nikki Edwards at King Charles the Martyr at [families@kcm-church.org.uk](mailto:families@kcm-church.org.uk) and they can arrange a time to meet with you and complete the registration process with you. All volunteers will be required to complete a full DBS check and some safeguarding training.

Potters Bar Churches' Holiday Club

Scripture Union

# Deep Sea Divers

## POTTERS BAR CHURCHES' HOLIDAY CLUB 2024

24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30am – 1.00pm  
Pope Paul School, Baker Street,  
Potters Bar

Children (School Years 1-6) £15  
Teen Team (School Years 7-11) Free

Book now using the QR code or at  
<https://www.pottersbarchurchesholidayclub.co.uk>