



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

St John's News

Website: stjohnspb.org.uk Email: sjnews@stjohnspb.org.uk

Minister: Revd David Jebb: 01707 652978 / 07786 907634 minister@stjohnspb.org.uk

Senior Steward: David Carter: 07709 284852 seniorsteward@stjohnspb.org.uk

July and August 2025

From our Minister...

Mission Outreach Worker - confirmed

Dear Friends

We are excited to share with you an important and hopeful development in the life and mission of St John's Methodist Church. After months and months of prayerful reflections and strategic planning, the Mission Outreach Team, Leadership Team, General Church Meeting and finally the Church Council has approved the appointment of a part-time Mission Outreach Worker to begin in January 2026.

This new role is designed to help our church grow in mission and outreach by providing dedicated time, energy, and expertise to build meaningful connections with our local community. It is not intended to replace the invaluable work of our volunteers but to partner with them, taking our shared calling to a new level.

The Mission Outreach Worker will focus on:

- Engaging with those who are unchurched, de-churched, or on the margins of church life
- Developing ministries and activities for children, young people and families
- Strengthening connections within our congregation and extending a warm welcome to newcomers
- Collaborating with our sister church in Shenley and the circuit, organisations to enrich our shared mission

This role will be part-time (20 hours per week) with flexible hours to align with the rhythms of church and community life, including Sunday worships, evenings and weekends.

Funding and Sustainability

The project is a five-year commitment, with the total cost being shared equally between three partners: St. John's Methodist Church, the St Albans & Welwyn Circuit, and the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District. Each will contribute one-third of the total cost.

For St. John's, this means we will need to raise approximately £8,844 per year over the five years. The remaining two-thirds will be covered by the Circuit and District respectively. A detailed financial projection has been attached separately for your reference. (please see page 3)

As a congregation, our annual contribution to this mission amounts to approximately one-third of the total cost. This means that your prayerful support and your generous giving are vital to making this vision a reality.

How You Can Help?

- Pray for God's guidance and blessing on this initiative, for the right person to be called, and for the fruitfulness of the work ahead
- Give financially as you are able, knowing that every gift helps us invest in growing God's kingdom in Potters Bar
- Get Involved by supporting the outreach activities and welcoming those who come through our doors

This appointment marks a bold step of faith and hope for our church's future. We believe that through this mission outreach, St. John's can become a stronger, more visible, and deeply connected community living out God's love in transformative ways.

If you are able to support this worthwhile mission outreach worker project, through prayer, financial contributions, or fundraising, please do speak to our Church Treasurer, Robert Ward, one of the Church Stewards, or myself. We would be more than happy to help you explore how you can be part of this exciting opportunity for our church to grow and flourish into the future.

Thank you for your continued prayers, generosity, and commitment to our shared mission. With every blessing,
Revd David Jebb



SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

more details on website - www.stjohnspb.org.uk

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	PREACHER
Sunday 6 July	11.15am	Outdoor Service - Morven Guide Centre (<i>see back page</i>)	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 13 July	10.30am	Morning Worship - Action For Children Sunday	Dr Paul Dakin
Sunday 13 July	7pm	Informal Café Worship with refreshments	Mrs Wendy Webb
Sunday 20 July	10.30am	Morning Worship	Dr George Woods
Sunday 27 July	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 3 August	10.30am	Morning Worship	Jenet Jebb
Sunday 10 August	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd David Jebb
Sunday 17 August	10.30am	Morning Worship	Wendy Webb
Sunday 24 August	10.30am	Morning Worship	Revd Dr David Mullins
Sunday 31 August	10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Rosemary Mutopo

All ages are welcome to our 10.30am services. Under 3s are welcome in church and in the adjoining crèche area at the back. Other children are invited to Junior Johns in the Garden Room. More information from a Steward or Jackie Hart 07825 211657

St John's seeks to nurture, pray and support those who are seeking God and starting their faith journey, and to equip members of St John's to reach out to all those that seek fellowship in our church family.

Revd David Jebb is our Minister at St John's and also Superintendent for 10 churches in the St Albans & Welwyn Circuit. David likes leading our monthly Holy Communion service where all children and adults are invited if they would like, to eat bread and drink some non-alcoholic wine as a reminder of the last meal Jesus ate with his disciples.

Dr Paul Dakin is a retired medical doctor who dedicates a significant time to local preaching. He comes from the Cuffley area so is fairly local. He has always been close to the Methodist denomination. Paul has preached here before and his style and message is always thought provoking.

Wendy Webb is no stranger to St Johns as she was employed as our Community Worker in 2012. Wendy became a local preacher in her twenties and says she learnt a lot about prayer from the Taizé community. She finds contemplation the deepest form of communion with the Lord, but enjoys leading worship in many different styles. Welcome back Wendy!

Dr George Woods started as a local preacher in South Africa. He returned to the UK three years ago and attends Marlborough Methodist Church but has visited St John's in the past. He works for St John's Ambulance leading their commercial and charitable work in conjunction with the NHS.

Jenet Jebb is married to our minister, David, and with their two daughters moved from Sri Lanka to the UK 33 years ago. Before joining us Jenet attended Methodist Churches in Romford and Amersham and has been a worship leader for 14 years. Jenet has built her career in the finance field. When not leading worship, Jenet enjoys singing with our worship band here at St John's.

Revd Dr David Mullins is a retired supernumerary (minister) living in the St Alban's area, and a member of Hatfield Road Methodist Church. David enjoys leading our worship and has preached at St John's a number of times in the past.

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.

CARE HOME SERVICES

more details from Revd David Jebb - 01707 652978

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday 2 July	No service this month	Cooperscroft Care Home
Wednesday 16 July	3pm	Cuffley Manor Care Home

Please Note - there are no services in August, but they will resume in September

We lead services at 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 with time to talk over tea and coffee afterwards.

Mission Outreach Worker - the cost

Proposed Terms and Financial Projection *(continued from page 1)*



1 Proposed Terms of the Role

Job Title	Mission Outreach Worker
Hours	20 hours per week
Rate of Pay	£20 per hour
Initial Annual Salary	£20,800 per annum
Per Year Cost per Body	£8,608.40 (each: Church, Circuit, District)

3 Funding Breakdown

Funding Source	Contribution	Notes
Church	£44,222	One-third of total cost
Circuit	£44,222	One-third of total cost
District	£44,222	One-third of total cost

2 Projected Five-Year Financial Summary

Year	Base Salary	Inflation Adjusted (3%)	Adjusted Salary	NI	Pension	Regular Expenses	Initial Expenses	Total Annual Cost
Year 1	£20,800	-	£20,800	£2,370	£624	£1,000	£800	£25,594
Year 2	£20,800	£624	£21,424	£2,464	£643	£1,000	-	£25,560
Year 3	£21,424	£643	£22,067	£2,560	£662	£1,000	-	£26,350
Year 4	£22,067	£662	£22,729	£2,659	£682	£1,000	-	£27,163
Year 5	£22,729	£682	£23,411	£2,762	£702	£1,000	-	£28,000

Total Five-Year Cost (Rounded): £132,667

Annual contribution per body: £8,844 (Church, Circuit, District)

**Saturday Morning
'Let's Pray together' -Leaders
Join us via Zoom**

5th July at 9am – Jean Owen
12th July at 9am – Nigel Perrott
19th July at 9am – Calina Reus
26th July at 9am – Jenet Jebb



August Break

Both the Saturday Morning 'Let's Pray Together' sessions and our Care Home services will pause for the month of August. We will resume both in September.

Website and Minister's Blog

Have you seen Revd David Jebb's blog on our website? If you are online why not have a look on:
www.stjohnspb.org.uk/ministers-blog

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98382699249?pwd=OThXWEc5WnZ0Tm piajNhS3E3NGYvQT09>
 Meeting ID: 983 8269 9249 Passcode: 178314

We will continue to meet on Zoom using the same link as before (see above). It has been very encouraging to see up to 24 people joining us each Saturday morning. It's a real blessing to be able to gather in prayer together in this way.

St John's Prayer Chain

For a number of years St John's has operated a prayer chain. At present the coordinator receives urgent prayer requests which are then cascaded through the chain by telephone. The requests may be urgent either because a need has arisen in-between Sunday services, or are personal. Before a request is released to the chain permission must be obtained from the relevant person. This is to ensure confidentiality of the system.

It is recognised that the present arrangements are not perfect. Messages may be delayed within the chain, and there is also the potential for a "Chinese whisper" effect distorting the original request.

The Pastoral Co-ordinator and the Leadership Team have been reviewing the working of the prayer chain and how it can become more effective in the light of modern technology. We are investigating creating a new WhatsApp group and operating two parallel systems with members able to choose between WhatsApp or the telephone chain or both.

Assuming the WhatsApp group arrangement is feasible and safeguards are in place to ensure confidentiality of requests it is hoped a changed system can be operational by September and details will be announced in the September edition of St John's News.

Helen Strand, Pastoral Co-ordinator (hstrand@aol.com Tel 07821 786170)



St John's welcomes the Thomas family as church celebrates 20 years of the Clifton Room - lots of cake for everyone!

Photos: Don Hart



Coffee with the Pastor - 21 June

On Saturday, 21st June 2025, our minister Revd David Jebb hosted a warm and welcoming afternoon gathering titled "Coffee with the Pastor" - a special opportunity for new worshippers who joined us recently at St John's to meet the Pastor and connect with members of the wider church family in a relaxed and informal setting.

The heart behind this initiative was to help new worshippers feel at home, while also offering a chance to hear their thoughts on how the church might grow particularly in Christ-centred outreach and engagement with younger age groups. The gathering highlighted the importance of building a vibrant, inclusive church community that looks confidently toward the future.

The event was attended by six adults (plus three children) who are new to St John's and had been personally invited by Revd Jebb. Genevieve - placement student from Queens College in Birmingham, David R - church steward and myself made up the numbers to 10.



Revd Jebb opened the afternoon with a warm welcome and a word of thanks to all who came. The session began with a time of sharing: each person briefly introduced themselves and spoke about their life journey and

Christian experience. Newcomers were invited to reflect on their experience of St John's so far, what had drawn them in, what they appreciated and any suggestions they had for the future.

A delicious buffet followed featuring sandwiches, wraps, cakes, and biscuits. Given the hot summer weather, ginger beer and cold water were served in place of the usual tea and coffee - a refreshing change much appreciated by all!

The rest of the afternoon was spent in relaxed conversation, with guests chatting one-on-one and in small groups, deepening connections and beginning to build friendships. Several newcomers expressed their gratitude to Revd Jebb for organising the event, saying it made them feel more welcomed, relaxed and included in the life of the church.

The gathering also served as a platform to share the church's broader vision including plans to employ a Mission Outreach Worker to help strengthen outreach, build community connections, and draw more people into the life and fellowship of the church.

"Coffee with the Pastor" was widely considered a success a simple yet meaningful step toward creating a more connected, Christ-centred, and welcoming church community. Plans are already being considered to host another Coffee with the Pastor event to bring more new people together in the autumn. **Helen Strand**



Church family Baptisms



Sunday 11th May we welcomed the family and friends of Frankie Charley Prime. The family have links with St John's going back several generations and it was great to welcome them.

Sunday 8th June Revd David Jebb baptised his grandson Theo Benjamin Blake Thomas (pictured right, and left with Jenet Jebb holding Theo's older sister Talitha). It was great to welcome Derrina, Simon, Ethan and Talitha to St John's for the baptism. They were supported by a large number of family and friends.

There were plenty of activities in Junior Johns for the children at both Baptisms and delicious cakes in the Clifton Room afterwards.

Jackie Hart, Baptism Secretary



Clifton Room - 20 Years!

What a happy occasion it was to celebrate 20 years of the Clifton Room after the Sunday service on June 8th as we enjoyed our drinks and cake. Our usual numbers were swelled by the baptismal party and the Clifton Room certainly fulfilled its purpose as a bright, welcoming space.

Margaret Rhodes had assembled a wonderful collection of photos and memorabilia, which showed in great detail all the stages of the refurbishment (also using this opportunity to include a Nursery Playgroup - 60 years since opening display, and a belated tribute to VE day - 80 years ago).

A big thank you to all who helped, in any way, to mark the Clifton Room occasion. A thank you, also, to the refreshment team, who were far busier than usual serving the drinks and cake and then all the clearing up afterwards.

People at Café Worship, in the evening, were able to enjoy the spare cakes too! **Valerie Vessey**

FAMILY NEWS

Helen Strand - Telephone: 07821 786170 Email: hstrand@aol.com

Congratulations to **Ruth Lence and Colin Smale** who are both celebrating their 90th birthday in July. Ruth has only recently stepped down as a pastoral contact, and Colin is still working hard to keep the church gardens looking so splendid. Thank you to both of them for all you have done for St John's over the years.

Graham Phillips has also just had his 83rd birthday so... Birthday Wishes to all plus any we may have missed off our list!

Robert and Freda Ward have been busy celebrating the arrival of two grandchildren. Their granddaughter Otilie arrived in April, followed by grandson James 11 days later in May. Congratulations to all.

Best wishes to **Celia Mills** the Nursery Playgroup manager who is retiring after over 30 years in the role and good luck to Nikki Haylock who takes over in September.

We are very sad to announce that **Ann Walters** died peacefully on 16 June. Ann has been one of the longest serving members of our community - as recently as 2018 she was a pastoral contact.

Ann's funeral service will be at St John's on Thursday 3 July at 12 noon, followed by refreshments at Barnet Grange. In the meantime pray for Patrick, Peter and Lyn and other members of her family as they come to terms with the loss of their mother.

Please pray for the family and friends of the following people who are unwell

Revd Peter Hudson, Graham Phillips, Belinda Havercroft, Miranda Carter, Sybil Long, and Anne Croughton, together with their carers Christine, Dawn, Martin, Eric and Roger. Also all the other housebound members of our congregation who are unable to worship with us in church.

John Sloper was readmitted to hospital for further surgery and is now in the intensive care unit in Barnet hospital. Pray for John and Myra and all members of their family at this worrying time and the staff in Barnet who are caring for him.

From the **Book of Remembrance** we remember the following past worshippers who died in years gone by. In July...

Tom Strand, Fred Pearce, Iris Kearns, Reg Havercroft, Glyn Evans, Audrey Chatterton

and in August...

Glynn Parry, Margaret Smale, Brian Stewart, Malcolm Ellicott, Frances Gambrill, Isa Hutton, Peter C Hart

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

At this time of year many students are eagerly waiting exam results. We pray that they receive the required grades to enable them to continue with plans for further studies or to start their chosen career.

If you have any items to be included in future issues of Family News contact

Helen Strand, Pastoral Coordinator (hstrand@aol.com Tel 07821 786170)

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN POTTERS BAR

www.ctpb.org.uk

Morning Prayers - Saturday 5 July & Saturday 2 August

Churches Together in Potters Bar invite you to join them 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 minutes followed by breakfast. Saturday 5 July takes place at Christ Church Little Heath, Great North Road. EN6 1JN. Saturday 2 August takes place at Our Lady and St Vincent, 243 Mutton Lane, EN6 2AT.



Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 26th Sept 10.30am - 12 noon in the Clifton Room.

Come and join us for coffee and cakes and give your support to this national event. Donations of cakes, jams and items for the 'Bring and Buy' stall would be greatly appreciated by
Pat Griffith (01707 656344 / 07729 994052)

CIRCUIT NEWS - FROM SHENLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Messy Church - 1st Sunday afternoon in the month (Sept onwards)

So what's been happening at Messy Church.....

We've defeated a giant, made chocolate mud, carved soap, eaten Percy Pigs and generally had a whale of a time!

Jonah, David & Goliath and The Prodigal Son are just three Bible lessons we've covered so far this year.

Our next exciting event is our outdoor Messy Church and BBQ on 20 July 4-6:30pm. You are all very welcome to join in with sports, crafts, scavenger hunt and enjoy food around a camp fire.

From September Messy Church will take place on 1st Sunday of each month in the afternoon at Shenley Methodist Church. We'd love to see you there! **Heather Moir**



A willing volunteer dresses up as David... or is this Goliath?



Let's Play - Tuesday mornings

Under the Sea, VE Day, World Bee Day, Chinese New Year. It's a Bugs Life are just a few of the themes we've enjoyed as playtime each Tuesday morning at Let's Play Baby & Toddler Group

Along with our regulars we have welcomed a number of new babies over the last few months. Word is getting around that it is a friendly space where you'll receive a warm welcome and of course, tea & toast!

Sunny days have allowed us outside with water play being a favourite activity. Seeing the development of these little people never ceases to amaze as they enthusiastically participate in Messy Play, crafts, role play and enjoy the selection of toys.

'Animal Tea Party' is still a favourite at song time before everyone enjoys dancing at the sensory disco and bubbles.

At the end of July our first Let's Play Graduation is planned - a great celebration, but we will have plenty of tissues handy!

Pop in on a Tuesday morning 10:30-12pm, you'll be very welcome.



4th Potters Bar Scouts' Spring Market

I am pleased to report that the Scout Spring Market, held at St John's on Saturday 30th May, was a very happy and enjoyable event. An impressive balloon arch at the front door, and brightly coloured bunting throughout the whole building, set a festive tone, and our customers were able to browse a wide variety of stalls, as well as having a go at a number of games and other activities, and enjoying both light refreshments and hot food.

The initial amount raised by the Market was a very pleasing £1,418.51, which will help the Group to continue providing our young people with a positive experience of Scouting. Very many thanks to all the people who helped in any way with the preparation for, and running of, the Market, and everyone who came to support it, including in both cases many St John's people - very much appreciated! **Liz Bekooy**

St John's Methodist Church invite you to our **Outdoor Service & BBQ**

**Sunday 6th July at 11.15am
followed by BBQ at 12.15pm**

at Morven Guide Centre

The Causeway, Potters Bar EN6 5HA

Bring your own cold drinks if you wish.

Tables and chairs provided but feel free to

bring your own chairs or blanket for use on the field.

Morven has large enclosed grounds plus an indoor shelter.

Transport can be arranged - please ask David Rhodes 07884 213199

OR park your car next door at Stormont School

All are welcome - voluntary donation for food

*The service will have a Formula 1 theme (as will be the British Grand Prix)
PLUS the possibility of watching the race live on a big screen!*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE SHENLEY MESSY CHURCH

SUMMER BBQ

SUNDAY 20 JULY

4:00PM-6:30PM

Well End Activity Centre
Well End Rd Borehamwood WD6 5PR

**BASKETBALL - ROUNDEERS
FOOTBALL - NATURE TRAIL**

CRAFTS - MUSIC - GAMES

Please RSVP to messychurch.shenley@outlook.com
or your Methodist Minister/Youth Rep

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT ST JOHN'S

more details on website - www.stjohnspb.org.uk

Mondays	10am - 11.45am	Jumping Johns - Main Hall	<i>Margaret Bland 07887 532128</i>
	10am - 12.00pm	Can We Fix It Group	<i>Roger Croughton 01707 650438</i>
	10.30am - 11.30am	Vestry Hour	<i>Rev David Jebb 01707 652978</i>
	2.30pm - 4pm	Women's Guild - Clifton Room, 1st Monday in month	<i>Jo Hutton 01707 658436</i>
	8pm - 10pm	Badminton - Main Hall	<i>Margaret Bland 07887 532128</i>
Tuesdays	11am - 3pm	Welcome Space	<i>Barbara Thompson 01707 665621</i>
Wednesdays	6.30pm - 8pm	Cubs - Main Hall	<i>www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</i>
	2.30pm - 4.30pm	Strafford Gate House Group - 3rd Wednesday	<i>David Carter 07709 284852pm</i>
	7.45pm - 9pm	Bible Study in Clifton Room - fortnightly	<i>Lesley Humphreys 07961 347152</i>
Thursdays	7pm - 8.30pm	Scouts - Main Hall	<i>www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</i>
Fridays	10.30am - 12.00pm	Morning Coffee, Clifton Room - 1st and 3rd Fridays in month	
	10.30am	Byng Drive House Group - fortnightly	<i>Dawn Fenner 07969 924346</i>
	6.15pm - 7.15pm	Beavers - Rainbow Room	<i>www.4thpottersbar.scoutsonline.co.uk</i>
Saturdays	9am - 9.45am	Let's Pray Together (zoom)	<i>Revd David Jebb 01707 652978</i>

Copy deadline for next issue is Friday 22nd August 2025

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