

**CHURCH HEALTH CHECK:  
FACING THE COST OF CHANGE AND GROWTH**

We heard last week about the need to grow and broaden our membership—as our commission to make disciples and to welcome the generation that will take St Peter’s into the future. That adaptability and change comes at a cost. **Are we willing to face that cost? Or will we resist change and avoid failure?** Our own patron, St Peter, was not initially keen on change. Firstly, he was sure that the **food laws and rules about meeting with gentiles** that he had always known were important and he held them dear. Just before he is summoned to see the centurion, Cornelius, God shows him in a vision that he should change his mind about what is unclean (Acts 10). Such was his change of heart that by the Council of Jerusalem, where some were arguing for circumcision of gentiles as a requirement for salvation, Peter is the one that says that *“we will be saved through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, just as they will”* (Acts 15:11). **Peter found a new adaptability and willingness to change as he saw God doing a new thing.** As we seek God’s direction, can we be adaptable in the same way?

**Do we:**

- **Embrace the past**
- **Take risks** and dare to take on new ways of doing things
- **Learn from experience** and admit when things are not working
- **Respond creatively to challenges** that face the church and community
- **Affirm and build** on positive experiences of change: however small?

Prayer (Isaiah 43:19)

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

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*God is Spirit, and his  
worshippers must wor-  
ship in spirit and in  
truth”  
(John 4:24)*

# ST PETER’S NEWS



CELEBRATE, DISCOVER, SHARE life with God through Jesus Christ 8th July 2018

## WELCOME TO ST PETER’S

St Peter’s is the Anglican Parish Church for Woodmansterne. We are a worshipping community seeking the presence of God’s Holy Spirit. An evangelical church seeking to share the good news of the Kingdom with those who do not yet know Jesus.

## THIS SUNDAY

8 .00am Holy Communion  
Psalm 137:1-7, Mark 6:1-13

10.30am All age with Baptism  
Psalm 137:1-7

Theme: The Rivers of Babylon

6.30pm Holy Communion  
1 Corinthians 9:19-27, Luke 10:1-20

Theme: The prize

## THIS WEEK AT ST PETER’S

Monday 9th 9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 10th 9.15 am MP (pray for schools)

Wednesday 11th 9.15am MP

Thursday 12th Bus Stop Café 9.00am

Saturday 14th Messy Church at Whitethorn Baptist 3-5pm

Sunday 15th July :

8 .00am Holy Communion  
Ezra 7:11-28, Mark 6:14-29

10.30am All age with Holy Communion  
Ezra 7:11-28, Mark 6:12

Theme: Restoration

6.30pm Evening Worship

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Theme: Learn from the past

Find out more at [www.saintpeterschurch.org.uk](http://www.saintpeterschurch.org.uk)

## NEWS

### FOOD BANK

Tinned meat, Corned beef, ham etc and tinned spaghetti please.

### SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Thank you to you those who made the summer garden party so enjoyable. The array of cakes were delicious and everybody had a wonderful time.

### INTENTION TO THRIVE

St Peters' intention is to thrive for a healthy future **beyond this generation:**

- **Investing:** in our buildings for church and community use and in a paid post to enable Children and Families Ministry teams
- **Equipping:** many people to pray for Spiritual gifts that build up the church, especially sharing our story to bring others to Christ
- **Encouraging:** corporate prayer, fervent prayer for revival, listening to God's will not just our own opinion, innovation and leadership, bible study and discipleship
- **Developing:** varied worship services that nurture congregations—existing and future; for **all-ages**.

## Word at St Peters

### 2018 Sermon Series:

A Series on *The Law and the Prophets*. Spending a year looking through the Old Testament we will try to answer the question "what is the Law Jesus came to fulfil?"

### BIBLE READING

For JUNE :

Week 1: Amos, Hosea, Habakkuk

Week 2: Nehemiah

Week 3: Ezra

Week 4: Esther

### READING THE OLD TESTAMENT— DON'T PANIC!

If you have been following the series on the Old Testament we hope that it has been both enlightening as well as challenging. The idea came from more than one request when I first arrived to look at the Old Testament as well as the New. The above reading suggestions are a guideline for those who want to read around the themes of the Sunday services. If you have kept up so far—well done! **It is not essential to read everything; it depends on how much background reading interests you.** Any questions ask Doug or Susan.

### Evening services:

Life in step with the Spirit



### PRAYER

Street prayer -

This week we pray for the people of:

Hill side

COLLECT

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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, Amen

### PRAYERS FOR 2018

Pray for the flourishing of our **ministry to all-ages**, for our partner churches **WBC and Whitethorn** and for our **whole church care of the church family** and for the care team.

In 2018 please pray for **revival, submission and obedience**. Pray for **gifts** to be released and **confidence** built.

## WHAT'S ON AT ST PETER'S

17th July PCC

19th July Mid week Holy Communion

26th July Prayer Chain update meeting  
2.30pm

4th August Quiz night in aid of Church Steeple 7.00pm for 7.30pm BYO drinks Fish and chip supper. £10 per ticket.

2nd August Diamond Club This month Rhythm Revolution with Denny

4th-10th August United 18—New Wine Summer Conference

11th August Wedding John and Debbie

16th August Wave of Prayer

2nd September 3 O'clock Special

4th September Prayer and Praise

6th September Diamond Club - Woodcote Garden Centre

8th September Messy Church at Whitethorn Methodist

18th September PCC

20th September Mid week Holy Communion

30th September Harvest

