

# ST LUKE'S CHURCH. MONTHLY MATTERS.



## St Luke's Church Dates and News January 2026

### Services in January

|                            |         |                        |
|----------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>     | 10.00am | Holy Communion         |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.30am | Midweek Communion      |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>    | 8.45am  | Holy Communion         |
|                            | 10.30am | Morning Worship        |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Midweek Communion      |
| Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>    | 8.45am  | Holy Communion         |
|                            | 10.30am | AT Morning Worship     |
|                            | 7.00pm  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> | 10.30am | Midweek Communion      |
| Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>    | 8.45am  | Holy Communion         |
|                            | 10.30am | Worship Block          |
| Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Midweek Communion      |

### Vicar's Message

A **big thank you to everyone** who played a part in, or prayed for, our Christmas services! I have so many happy memories from this year, and it was wonderful to see so many people take on new roles and to lead in new areas. A particular highlight for me was the family nativity service for lots of reasons, not least of which was seeing the coming together of so many teams and elements. With the Handbells, the drama led by the Thirst children, the sign language with the Explore children and lots more. Well done to everyone! **We had so very many guests across our services and at our events** and it has truly been a team effort! Well done everyone and thank you!

All that's left to do now is to **clear down the church of all our Christmas decorations**. Please come along and give us a hand with this on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January between 9:30am and 12pm**.

Now that January is here I'd like to again invite you to **join with me and others from our church family to read the bible together in 2026**. By spending less than 20 minutes each day reading or listening to the bible you can get through the whole book this year. If you've never tried it before, what's stopping you from giving it a go now?

I have made a habit of reading the bible through at least once every year, and this year my children will be joining me. This year we will be using **The Bible Recap**, one of the most popular bible reading plans. All the info you need to get started can be found on this webpage: <https://www.thebiblerecap.com/start>

This features a bible in a year reading plan, accompanied by a daily *Recap* on the reading which can be accessed through YouTube, Podcast or in an app. My family will be using the Bible App to listen to bible being read, and will watch the *Recap* videos directly in the app.

### Aneal

### Little Fishes Mondays, 10-11:30am

Our Toddler Group runs weekly at St Luke's with space and activities for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

£2 per child

### Lunch Matters 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

A homemade 2-course meal with an activity.  
£5 suggested donation  
11.30am – 2pm in the **St Peter's Room**

### Craft Matters & Hearing Clinic 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

Bring along your craft, and some lunch.  
11.30am – 2pm in the **St Peter's Room**

### Winter Night Shelter 2025/26

Winter Night Shelter has been up and running since the middle of December. St Luke's has been one of the venues since the annexe was built 10 years ago. We will be hosting for the last 5 weeks of the shelter (Feb/March) so if anyone is interested in volunteering, please visit [renewedhope.org.uk](http://renewedhope.org.uk) and follow the link for Winter Night Shelter, where you can register as a volunteer. You will need to attend a training session which is scheduled for mid-January.

Any questions, speak to Pearl or Simon Smith who joint Venue Co-ordinators for our church.

### Holy Communion Service from Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Jan, 8.45-9.30am

Join us for a simple and traditional service of holy communion each Sunday morning except the first Sunday of the month (when we usually have Holy Communion during our 10:30am service).

The service incorporates a song (without accompaniment) and moves through a set liturgy of prayers, scripture readings and responses. There is a short talk and we conclude our service by taking communion together.

The liturgy (order of words) varies between a modern and a traditional set of words from the Book of Common Prayer (which the Church of England has been using for over 400 years).



To guide you in your prayers this month .....

1. **Thurs:** Lord Jesus, as the New Year opens before us, we open our hearts to receive your plans for 2026.
2. **Fri:** Be with us Lord Jesus in this New Year - our guide, our inspiration, our helper and our hope.
3. **Sat:** We thank God for Aneal and pray for him; Lord be his guide as he plans the year ahead.
4. **Sunday:** *"Take my life and let it be, consecrated Lord, to thee."*
5. **Mon:** We pray for the hopes and dreams of the people of Ukraine to be fulfilled.
6. **Tues:** Loving Lord, give wisdom and guidance to all involved in negotiating peace in Europe.
7. **Weds:** We pray for a stilling of the conflict in the skies over the Middle East and Europe.
8. **Thurs:** May we never take for granted the blessing of your peace.
9. **Fri:** Loving Lord, replace hearts of stone and hatred, with hearts of flesh and love.
10. **Sat:** Lord give us generous hearts and a willingness to share what we have with others.
11. **Sunday:** *"Take my voice and let me sing, only, always for my king."*
12. **Mon:** We pray that everyone who came to church for the first time at Christmas to come again.
13. **Tues:** Lord, help us to be watchful for newcomers and give them a warm welcome.
14. **Weds:** We pray especially for our welcomers, stewards and refreshments teams.
15. **Thurs:** We commit ourselves to praying regularly for our weekly Church activities.
16. **Fri:** Heavenly Father, we commit our lives to your service – the only one true God.
17. **Sat:** We commit ourselves to making our weekly Sunday Worship our No.1 priority.
18. **Sunday:** *"Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise."*
19. **Mon:** We pray for Little Fishes and their families to come to know the Lord Jesus.
20. **Tues:** We pray for Life Groups as they meet to study God's Word and to know Him better.
21. **Weds:** We pray for our mid-week service of Holy Communion and for Lunch and Craft matters.
22. **Thurs:** We pray for all who lead our worship music practice and sound technicians.
23. **Fri:** We pray for Zoom prayers, meeting Monday, Wednesday and Fridays each week.
24. **Sat:** Lord be with all who preach your word and teach the children week by week.
25. **Sunday:** *"Take my lips and let them be, filled with messages from thee."*
26. **Mon:** We thank God for all who faithfully clean our building.
27. **Tues:** We give thanks for our NHS and pray for all who work tirelessly to keep us healthy.
28. **Weds:** We pray for all in our church family and their families, who need God's healing touch.
29. **Thurs:** We pray for all who mourn the loss of loved ones and those who accompany the dying.
30. **Fri:** Loving Lord, keep us looking upward to your light in these days of long night – *pray for Street Pastors tonight*
31. **Sat:** *"Take myself, and I will be, ever, only, all for thee."*

**For those who are sick & suffering:** Sarah H's grandson, Joey.

**Grieving:** Caroline R; McHansen family; Gillett family; Cattanach family; Hill family; Maris family; Wright family; Turner family; Jude W

**We pray for the following members of our church family:** Mick and Angela P, David P, Caroline R, Beryl R, Sue R, Andy and Sophie R & family, David R, Andy and Penny S, Anne S, Mark and Lisa S & family, Patricia S, Pearl and Simon S, Sue S, Ben and Ruth S, Frazer and Laura T & family, Immy and Tim T-R & family, Annie and Nige T.

## December dates for your diary.....

|                           |             |  |
|---------------------------|-------------|--|
| Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan   | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 12.00pm     | Craft Matters with <b>Hearing Clinic</b> |
| Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 9.30am-12pm | Christmas Clear Up at Church             |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan | 11.30am     | Lunch Matters                            |
| Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan | 12.00pm     | Craft Matters with <b>Hearing Clinic</b> |
| Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan | 11.30am     | Lunch Matters                            |
| <b>February</b>           |             |  |
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb   | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | 12.00pm     | Craft Matters with <b>Hearing Clinic</b> |
| Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 10.00am     | Little Fishes                            |
| Weds 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb | 11.30am     | Lunch Matters                            |

**Zoom Prayer Meetings**  
**Monday 9am (& 8pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday)**  
**Wednesday 7:30am**  
**Friday 8am**

on Zoom      Meeting ID: 849 7205 6375  
                  Passcode: 268102  
*For any questions or Prayer request, contact Annie (07906 944562), Nige (07504 084975)*

## 3rd Sunday – 18<sup>th</sup> January

Third Sunday is a service where we seek **intimacy** and an **encounter** with our living God in more creative and open ways than we can on a Sunday morning. We meet from 7-8pm for a time of extended sung worship and prayer as we expectantly wait to hear what God is saying to us.