

**WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH
SUNDAY 1st March 2026**



The Churchyard looking beautiful on Wednesday morning. Thank you to the gardening team who work so hard each week to keep it looking so wonderful.

Our Lent sermon series "From wilderness to Resurrection Life" invites us to be born of the Spirit and not of the flesh. This is a gentle season for reflection, prayer and drawing closer to God and growing in Him with renewed hope. Every blessing as we journey through Lent and go deeper in our journey with our loving Lord.

"Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2

Every blessing

Jane

Worship

Sunday 1st March 2026

Lent Holy Communion

From Wilderness to Resurrection Life

Born of the Spirit: Faith that starts Again

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

John 3: 1-17

9.30am Informal Service

*Leader and Speaker Taiwo Ogunjimi
Music: Mike Kelly*

11am Lent Holy Communion

*Leader Jonathan Elliott-Jones, Speaker Taiwo Ogunjimi
Communion lead by Revd Canon Michael Christian-Edwards*

10.30am Coffee in the Church - thank you to our coffee team this week Jane G, Hazel, Ken and Lesley.

Thursday morning online prayers

A reflection on the bible passage for the coming Sunday and prayers using the church monthly prayer guide for the Parish.

[CLICK HERE to join online prayers](#)

[CLICK HERE to see all of March 2026 Worship](#)

Paper copies for all services are available at the back of church.



Prayers

The Second Sunday of Lent

*Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,*

*and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

This week from our monthly prayer diary (copies available in church)

For all Churches and Church Leaders in the New Forest; Lord we thank you for those you have called as church leaders in the New Forest. We thank you for vision, for commitment and for sacrifice in living out that calling. Lord, sustain all church leaders across different denominations as they work, meet and pray together.

Please pray for;

*Family of Alan Haynes
Family of Noreen Pettit
Gillian Colsell
Lydia and family
Anne Johnson
Kibiritzi Parish*

Church News

Church Land/Youth Centre

PCC meeting

The PCC met on Tuesday 17th Feb as an extra meeting to discuss the church land/youth centre site. They welcomed Rev Simon Butler - a rural enabler from Winchester Diocese to support in church land matters. The PCC discussed and expressed a wish for clear governance that protected the Christian charitable objectives in our mission alongside considering a new lease and took these conversations to the first joint working group detailed below. Any questions regarding the church land - please contact any member of the church working group: Peter Blick, Janet Kirk, Jane Mitchell, Simon Butler and Russell Fry via the church office who will be pleased to help.

Joint Working Group update

The joint working group (with representatives of the PCC, SPC, Diocese and residents) met on Wednesday 25 February to review the current position and consider next steps for the future of the Youth Centre. Members toured the building and discussed user needs alongside the associated compliance challenges.

Following a productive discussion, the group agreed to explore a new governance model through the establishment of a new, separate entity. The aim of this entity would be to ensure that the Church's Christian charitable objectives, and the needs of community groups and residents are all appropriately incorporated.

The group is now reviewing governance models that have successfully supported community buildings in other parishes. Reaching agreement on a preferred

model will enable progress towards negotiating a long lease and developing a renewed vision for the Youth Centre.

The next meeting of the joint working group will take place on Thursday 12th March.

Leave

Vicar Jane will be taking a planned period of leave for some rest and renewal, and looks forward to being back with you for worship on Palm Sunday , Holy week and all the celebrations at Easter.

During this time, all services and parish life will continue as normal. If you need anything, please contact the churchwardens in the first instance, or Sara in the church office, who will be very happy to help.

Pastoral Support

If you require pastoral support, in the first instance please contact Sandra Clarke or Janet Kirk via Sara in the church office, who will be happy to assist you. 01590 682358.

Visiting Preacher from Kisiizi Hospital – Sunday 8th March



Next Sunday we welcome , Dr Ian Spillman, former Medical Superintendent of Kisiizi Hospital in Uganda, as our visiting preacher at St Luke's.

Dr Spillman will share stories of transformation in healthcare, community life, and Christian witness at Kisiizi Hospital, which we have partnered since 1973. A leaflet about the hospital and its work is attached . Please take a look at it and remember Kisiizi in your prayers.

All are warmly invited to join us. Have a chat with Ian over coffee and cakes after the services to hear more about the inspiring work happening in this very special place.

[Click HERE to see the Kisiizi Hospital Brochure](#)

The Gardening Team



The Gardening Team would like to invite someone to help with mowing the lawn in front of the Church Rooms. It does not need doing every week and, of course, is only when the grass is growing. We are a friendly group who meet on Tuesday mornings, weather permitting, and join the Community cafe for a mid morning tea or coffee. If you would be interested please phone Sara in the office on 01590 682358.

ECO Church -a message from *We are Winning on Waste*

I just wanted to drop you a line to thank you and the congregation at St Luke's for the continued contributions you have made to Win on Waste. As you know, most of the items we collect at Win on Waste go towards helping other local and national charities and environmental organisations, and contributions like yours show how collective action can make a real difference.

Across last year, we were happy to welcome over 4000 local households to our services and we dealt with over 3.5 tonnes of waste, which is now directly doing good things. Such as, the foreign currency which was kindly donated to us from St Luke's, that will be raising funds to give farmers and producers a fair deal with Transform Trade.

Many thanks again for all your support.

Alan Haynes

Alan's Service of Thanksgiving will be held in church on 6th March at 1pm.

Death and Life course

Continues on Tuesday 3rd March , 2pm-3.30pm Dr Beth Birch, Consultant in Palliative Care from Oakhaven Hospice is giving a talk this week on end of life care.

A Church's Guide to Exploring Mortality
DEATH AND LIFE



10th February to 17th March
Tuesdays 2pm-3.30pm
St Luke's Church, Sway
tel 01590 682358 to book a place or sign up
at the back of church

This 6 week course is open to ALL people whether you have faith or not. We will look at the practical and spiritual aspects of death.
 Refreshments included

st luke's
 church, sway



If you enjoy baking, we'd be grateful for volunteers to make cakes for refreshments at the Death and Life course. If you can help on any of the following Tuesdays please let Sara in the office know; 3rd Mar 10th Mar 17th Mar

Interested in Will Writing?

WHY EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD HAVE A WILL	battbroadbent <small>SOLUTIONS</small>
<p>Will writing is a way to take care of the practical aspects of your estate after you're gone. It's an important act of stewardship enabling you to support those you love.</p> <p>YOUR ESTATE IS PROTECTED. FOR PEACE OF MIND.</p> <p>TO CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONES. TO INCLUDE A CHARITABLE GIFT.</p>	<p>"Wherever you are, whatever your requirements."</p> <p>Batt Broadbent are expert lawyers ready to offer personal service and support when it comes to helping you complete your will.</p> <p>Batt Broadbent have been working in partnership with the Diocese of Winchester for many years, and act as Diocesan Registry.</p> <p>The Diocese of Winchester is delighted to widen its relationship with Batt Broadbent, by partnering together to offer free wills to individuals across our parishes and communities.</p> <p>Based in Salisbury, representatives from Batt Broadbent are there to support you personally and in a one-to-one capacity, whether in person or over the phone, in the office or at a convenient place and time for you.</p> <p>Get in touch with the Diocesan Stewardship Team so that they can point you in the right direction to start you on your free will writing process.</p>
INTERESTED IN WILL WRITING?	Farewill <i>The UK's #1 Online will writing service</i>
<p>See the reverse for the Diocesan recommended will writing partners.</p> <p>Both will offer you the opportunity to consider leaving a legacy to your parish, should you wish too.</p> <p>It's often a job that seems like it's for tomorrow but why not write your will today? Put it off not no longer, get a free will today!</p>	<p>Farewill offers you the chance to write a will online in as little as 15 minutes, to take care of what really matters.</p> <p>For many people in the UK, the processes around death are tough. Farewill is there to make things easier and friendlier – by enabling you to write a will from the comfort of your home.</p> <p>Their specialist team has been voted best-rated on Trustpilot, and they have come out on top at the British Wills & Probate Awards for two years running.</p> <p>Off the back of a successful pilot in 2021, the Diocese of Winchester is delighted to be partnering with Farewill to offer free wills across our Diocesan Community.</p> <p>Get in touch with the Stewardship Team to find out more.</p>
GET IN TOUCH...	WINCHESTER
<p>If you have questions around the topic of will writing please get in touch:</p> <p>stewardship@winchester.anglican.org</p> 	

Following on from our Death and Life course week 1

The Diocese of Winchester is pleased to be able to offer a number of FREE wills through our two recommended will writing providers, Farewill and Batt Broadbent.

There is no obligation to leave a legacy gift through this scheme however, both providers will give you the opportunity to leave a legacy to your chosen parish if you

would like to do so. All free wills are provided on a first-come, first-served basis. If you require further support, do not hesitate to get in touch with stewardship@winchester.anglican.org

Why is having a Will important?

- Ensures your assets are distributed as you wish
- Can appoint guardians for children
- Minimises the stress for family members
- Allows for effective estate planning
- Provides you with peace of mind
- Enables you to make charitable gifts

[CLICK HERE to learn more about writing wills.](#)

Urgent Prayer Requests



st luke's
church, sway

URGENT PRAYER CIRCLE

If you are in need of urgent prayer please contact Revd. Jane on **07885505532** or the church office on **01590 682358** or email Jennie on **mcnaughthome@protonmail.com**

We will arrange for our urgent prayer circle to pray for those in need.

If you, or someone you know is in need of urgent prayer then please contact Jane on 07885505532 or the church office on 01590 682358, or if you are unable to make contact with Jane or the office then please email Jennie McNaught on mcnaughthome@protonmail.com.

Church Rooms Available for Hire



Our church rooms are available to hire for parties, meetings, events and community gatherings of all kinds. The spaces are welcoming, well-maintained, and ideal for both one-off events and regular bookings. For rates, availability, and further details, please enquire at the Church Office on 01590 682358 or email office@swaychurch.com

Volunteers Needed!



Our church life thrives thanks to the generosity of those who give their time and gifts, and we would love to welcome more volunteers. If you would like to help with reading or leading prayers during services, serving on the Sunday coffee team, or assisting at the sound desk on Sundays, please do come forward. No experience is necessary just a willingness to be involved and support will be given. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact the Church Office on 01590 682358 or email office@swaychurch.com

Children and Families



The next Messy Church is on Monday 9th March at 3.30pm



Bubble Church COMING SOON!



The PCC are delighted to support STARTING BUBBLE CHURCH and have given the go ahead for a trial period of 18 months. After appropriate training BUBBLE CHURCH is likely to start after Easter. Bubble Church is aimed specifically for under 7's and their families and will be held once a month every 2nd Sunday at 9.30am in Church. Bubble church is a fully fledged worship experience in itself and not a stepping stone to join other Sunday services. It is aimed at helping children and families to grow in faith, it is held in church and is 25-30 mins long. Contact Lizzy via the church office to know more, join the team and volunteer to be part of this exciting new venture for St Luke's.

Mission News

[Kibirizi Church CLICK HERE to WATCH](#)

So Near, Yet So Far...

Take a look at this video (click on the link above) taken by visiting friends, from our link parish in Kibirizi, Rwanda, you'll see something remarkable taking shape. Their new church building, dreamed of, prayed for, worked for is now tantalisingly close to completion. Walls stand firm, the roofline is clear, the vision is unmistakable. And yet... they wait.

Only **£15,000** now stands between the people of Kibirizi and a finished church they can finally call home. With that final amount, the building could be completed quickly, giving their growing congregation a safe, spacious, joy-filled place to worship.

They have poured heart, labour, and faith into this project. Let's make their ambition our ambition. Let's see how, together, we might help bridge the final gap and bring this long-awaited home of worship to completion.

Jonathan

Dates for the Diary

Next Week:

Monday 2nd March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler
Tuesday 3rd March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 2pm Death and Life Course
Wednesday 4th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 12pm SWAG Lunch Club 1.45pm Open the Book Rehearsal
Thursday 5th March	9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 6th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 10am Friday Morning Service 1pm Alan Haynes Service of Thanksgiving

Future Dates:

Sunday 8th March	8am Holy Communion 9.30am Informal Service 11am Lent Morning Service
Monday 9th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 3.30pm Messy Church
Tuesday 10th March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 2pm Death and Life course

Wednesday 11th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 1.45pm Open The Book 2pm Christian Meditation
Thursday 12th March	9am Online Prayers 1.30pm SWAG Thursday Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 13th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler
Saturday 14th March	Sway Flower Show - Church
Sunday 15th March	9.30am Informal Service 11am Lent Holy Communion 4pm Evensong
Monday 16th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler
Tuesday 17th March	10.30am SWAG Cafe 2pm Death and Life course
Wednesday 18th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 12pm SWAG Lunch Club 1.45pm Open The Book
Thursday 19th March	9am Online Prayers 7pm Band Practise
Friday 20th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 10am Friday Morning Service
Saturday 21st March	
Sunday 22nd March	9.30m Informal Service 11am Lent Morning Service

Please check the website or churchsuite for all other events and dates.

Contact Information

VICAR: REVD JANE MITCHELL (Rest day: Friday) vicar@swaychurch.com | 07885 505532
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: SARA WILLIS office@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358
Family and Community Support Worker: Lizzy Smith - Wednesday mornings
01590 682358

