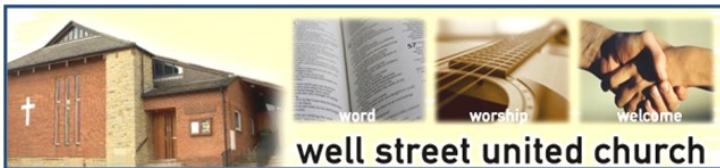


Welcome to



Serving God • Serving the community of Buckingham



Welcome to Well Street!

We're so pleased you've found us. We know you will find a warm welcome amongst us and we look forward to getting to know you. We're ordinary people who have met an extraordinary God and it's our prayer that you will meet with Him as you come to our church.

We have a minister (Rev. Steve Fisher) and a youth minister (Nick Francis), and in 2010 have appointed a part-time Children and Families' Worker (Caroline George) and details of some of what we do is found later in the booklet.

The church office is situated in the end-terraced house next to the church (19, Well Street) and our administrator (Erik Undritz) is always glad to help you during its opening hours on weekday mornings.

We are excited by God's word in the Bible and its relevance to life in the 21st Century. The preaching at our services is themed each term (for example from January 2011 we have been looking at passages in Genesis) and these are also linked into our housegroups where we can learn more of God's care for us and support one another in our faith. We believe God is calling every one of us to serve Him, through the gifts he gives us through his Holy Spirit. We serve Him by serving the community of Buckingham and the surrounding villages. We are currently engaged in looking at relocating to a larger venue and partnering others in the town in serving this community.

The church is part of Churches Together in Buckingham where we work together in reaching out to schools and young people and encouraging one another.

We hope you will join us again at Well Street. We would be delighted to see you at all of our services and other meetings.



We have three services on Sundays, each of which has its own unique style.

9.30 am This service involves the whole family. Worship and teaching is tailored to both adults and children. Communion is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month. The first Sunday of each month is an all-age service.

11.15 am This service is reflective and traditional in style. Communion is celebrated on the third Sunday of the month.

During the school summer holidays we have one joint service at 10.30 am.

6.00 pm This service is called well_street@six and is an informal service with a contemporary style of worship. There is additional teaching for young people aged 11 and over. Communion is celebrated on the second Sunday of the month.

Cafe Service

On the first Sunday of every month well_street@six becomes Cafe Service. We start at 5.30pm with refreshments and have a very different service. Discussions instead of sermons, debates, group chats – working together to discover more about God. The service is very laid back, relaxed and aimed at those new to church.

We would love to welcome you to any our services and get to know you better over a cup of tea or coffee afterwards.

We have special services at Christmas, Easter and Harvest. Please see our website for details.



Housegroups

Many of us meet together during the week in housegroups. We learn together by studying the Bible and discerning what God is saying to us. We pray together and support each other. At Well Street we have a number of housegroups meeting at various times during the week. Please phone our Church Office (01280 817 560) or visit our website for more details.

Prayer

There are several prayer events held by the church - for example, the monthly prayer evening for the whole church and a monthly prayer meeting at someone's home. There is also a newly developed prayer partnership scheme.

Social events

We enjoy meeting together socially, usually involving food! We have a monthly Network Lunch on the first Wednesday of every month. Men's curry night is also proving to be a popular night out and we have other social events catering for all ages both locally and further afield.



Serving God • Serving the community of Buckingham



by engaging children

Children play & learn in a safe environment (personnel is CRB checked).

On Sunday mornings we have **Crèche**, **Godly Play** and **MMLJ** (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) for different age groups. Creche tells very simple Bible stories with an emphasis on having fun in praising God. Godly Play children are told stories from the Bible with simple props, followed by craft sessions in which children can respond to what they have heard and ends with a feast and prayer time. The older children are exploring what they believe and working out together how they can make their faith their own.

Messy Church

First Saturday of each month, a time for families (under 9's - but older children are welcome) to come and enjoy being together, making messy things, eating together and making mess and celebrating together with a short informal messy service.

Heroes of Hope and Faith

Children in Year R to Year 6 meet every Thursday for fun, games, teaching and much more. We run as part of Holiday Club and is held at St Peter and St Paul's parish church. It's a great chance for the children to meet, get to know other and Jesus whilst having fun. We have 2 age groups KS1 and KS2 to ensure that we can meet each child's needs and to get to know them and their family.

First Steps

A group of toddlers with their mums and dads meet every Tuesday from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. Fun activities for the kids, fellowship for the adults, a chance to have coffee whilst your youngster plays with the toys, together join in some simple singing and craft. All are welcome for a coffee for all or some of the time

Holiday Club

For an action packed, fun filled, busy week then watch out for holiday club. Its run every year by a team from all the local churches, for approaching 300 local children. The children take part in worship, craft, discussions, games and for many it is the highlight of their summer. There are many children who come back year on year and have grown up with the team. The children always get lots from the week and it's a blessing to all who are involved.



Serving God • Serving the community of Buckingham

through youth work

Pro-Teens

Pro-Teens meets during the 9:30am and well_street@six services, and is open to any young person in school years 7-9. We recognise that for younger people, sitting through a whole service and trying to make something of a sermon can sometimes be a struggle; so to make life easier every other week we leave the service to do our own study.

We usually study the same passage and theme that the congregation is looking at, but we will study other topics if the church theme is not appropriate. We normally have a small icebreaker game and then study a passage together, asking each other questions and exploring what God is saying to us through the scriptures.

React

React is the main youth group for Well Street and open to all young people in school years 7-11. We meet on Saturday nights from 7.30 - 9 at Well Street United Church. React is a great place to come and hang out - we have lots of fun & (messy!) games, space to chill out with your mates, a pool table, tuck shop, and normally a small talk on a variety of subjects. We also organise trips out, social events and camps. We want React to be a safe, welcoming place for all young people, where you can make friends, have fun, relax and also explore the Christian faith. Come along - we'd love to see you there!

Chill'n'Chat

After the evening service our Chill'n'Chat session is for anyone in Year 10 and above. It takes place in the upper room and includes refreshments and a chance to chill and chat about topics that matter to you!

Housegroups

At Well Street we have a number of house groups for young people. They are great environments to make good friends, spend time reading the Bible together and praying for each other. There are currently groups for girls in Years 7-9 and boys in Years 7-9. For more information on the girls Years 7-9 house group please contact Liz Francis. For the boys house groups please contact Nick.

www.wellstreetchurch.org.uk



Caring for others is a central part of our church. We aim to reach right into the community in which we live and to demonstrate God's love for us by caring for others. The Pastoral Team provide caring support in a variety of ways:

Prayer and Communion.

We care for people through prayer and offering home communions. A prayer ministry team is available after every service. We have an email prayer group who will pray for people with urgent and not so urgent prayer needs. A telephone prayer chain has been set up for those who are not on email.

Befriending.

Our befrienders continue to provide one-to-one support for many people in a variety of ways.

Hospital visiting.

We visit people when they are in hospital.

Meals in crisis.

We provide meals when people are unable to cook for themselves or their families because of illness, bereavement or hospital admissions.

Transport.

We provide transport, mainly for hospital appointments and church services and events.

Home visits.

We are very mindful of those who are unwell within our congregation, the housebound, and those with difficult family situations. Steve and the leadership team are readily available to visit and pray with people and share communion.

We value the care and support everyone gives to others as part of the pastoral life of our church.

For more information, please visit our website.

Alternatively phone our Church Office (01280 817 560), who will put you in touch with the Pastoral Team.

Serving God • Serving the world-wide community

through mission work



We are committed to providing financial, practical and spiritual support to those engaged in mission, whether individuals or organisations. We support the main denominational charities/mission projects, as well as a number of other local, national and international missions, with which we have strong links.

We have a special interest in Bangladesh through Dave & Preeti How, who work with Oasis, and also through the URC Commitment for Life programme.

We also support our young people for short-term mission projects in many parts of the world, including India, South Africa and Tanzania.

Details of all the missions we support are on the mission pages of the website.

We have a 'Mission of the Month' to provide more information about the missions we support, through an article in the Church magazine, a display on the notice-board in the lower hall and the mission pages on the website. These are designed to encourage informed prayer and to generate more interest.

We hold occasional events to give more information about where our money goes and also for fundraising for the gap year students.

Mission Team: Jane Butcher; Margaret Gateley; Pat Golding; Jill Townsend; Dot Young.

Serving God • Serving the community of Buckingham
through activities



There are many activities going on at WELL STREET UNITED CHURCH throughout the year for all ages to enjoy.



Summer Tea Party



Church Fete



Special visit at Christmas Lunch



Men's breakfast



Christmas Day Lunch



Breakfast at Bethlehem



Hill End Camp



Youth worship



Church London Walk

Serving God • Serving the community of Buckingham



by belonging

Belonging to Well Street United Church

When you are a Christian you belong to a family! The Bible is clear about this:

1 Corinthians 12:27-29 - Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. Romans 12 v5 - So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

As a family at Well Street United Church, we believe that every member of that family should have a voice and make a commitment to work and pray for the church and our vision. That commitment, made publicly, confirms your own faith and helps the other family members to know who you are and what you stand for. It's a bit like getting married. The wedding service doesn't create the love between husband and wife, but it does confirm it and take it a step further. When you stand before your friends and family and declare your love, that love is greatly strengthened. So it is with faith. It's good to stand before our church family and declare our faith and commitment to work for God's kingdom while we are part of Well Street United Church.

It's good to have others walking alongside you in your journey of faith. And you can be a real source of encouragement to others too. The church will also try to help you identify more of God's calling and gifts for you and support and encourage you in serving Him.

While much of the day to day running of the church is undertaken by the Leadership Team, all our big decisions are made by our members - those who have demonstrated their commitment to God and His vision for Buckingham. Membership is not an exclusive club, but a family who are looking to welcome in new people all the time so that God's will can be effectively done. Our background in church doesn't really matter - we may have been part of another denomination or no church - what matters is where we are now and our unity in Jesus Christ. You need to be 16 or over to take this step as we this is an age where we all start to take responsibilities for our own lives a bit more. So we would like to ask you - do you belong to Well Street United Church? Why not stand up and say so and step forward in your faith, encouraging others at the same time. If you've never been baptised then we can talk about that too as part of this step. Let's serve God together and see His Kingdom grow!

The Leadership Team

Write to us at:

Well Street United Church
19 Well Street
Buckingham
MK18 1ET

Email us at:

admin@wellstreetchurch.org.uk

Phone us on:

01280 817 560

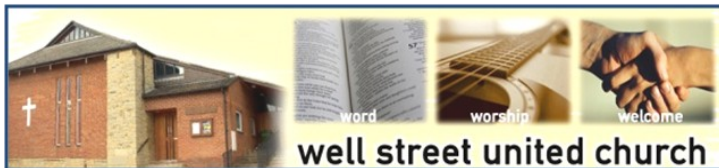
Visit our website at:

www.wellstreetchurch.org.uk

Office hours:

Monday to Friday 9am - 1pm
(except Wednesdays 10.30am - 1pm)

Well Street United Church has wheelchair access from the road to the church as well as to the Worship and meeting area. Disabled toilet facilities are also available.



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