



St Luke's Church Hedge End

Reaching out, Reaching in, Reaching up

August News

In the words of my Boston USA family : **Happy Holidays!** Unless you are retired, or work in a school, you might not have this entire month as holidays. But I'd like to invite you to enjoy August as a month of holidays, whatever your context! Please read on.....

Indeed, holidays are a relatively recent legal 'right' for relaxation and recuperation. Historically, holidays were only Holy-Days : specifically, each weekly Sabbath, and those special Holy Days in the year that celebrated and commemorated the significant Christian festivals and other meaningful religious days. And on those occasions, people rested; enjoyed family life; had what we now call down-time.

Hardly where we are today! For most workers, 25 entitled days off work, plus Bank and other privilege days are much more : yet many stay 24-7 connected to their work email, phone and web responsibilities, even while with family on the beach, mountain or campsite.....

So a challenge, an offer and an invite : to treat each day in August, or at least a part of each August day, as a Holy-Day. I offer you Psalm 27 and Psalm 42 as a Biblical way-in to this approach. And, being conscious and mindful of The Infinite outside ourselves, helps us be aware of it within :

*To see a World in a Grain of Sand
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand
And Eternity in an hour*

William Blake : Auguries of Innocence

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

Teresa of Avila

For a moment, imagine the above. Now imagine the above on a daily basis!

So please see part of each day this month as a Holy Day : a day / time to rest, recuperate, have fun, sight-see , eat ice cream, play tennis.....or whatever gives you a window into God's creation and presence. Find God in the 'now'.

Happy Holy-Days. Jeff

Summer Walk

This year's Summer walk will be around the Mottisfont Abbey area, on the 10th August 2017 Start Time 09.30 from the SPEARYWELL CAR PARK on the B3084 and Lunch will be at The

Church Services

Sunday's @ 10.00am
1st Sunday of the month
'All In' Service with Baptisms

2nd & 4th Sunday's
Communion

Prayer Ministry

Prayer is an important part of St Luke's ministry, so if you would like to receive prayer, please go to the right of the church either during communion or after the service, or speak to one of the leaders.



Church Room Bookings

The church diary on our website is regularly updated with all current and future bookings of this Worship area and other church rooms. New enquiries and changes must be made via the church bookings email- bookings@stlukeshedgeend.co.uk Alternatively speak to Andy or Pauline who will be happy to offer informal advice on availability and prices.

Could you spare some time to...

Help at U3A meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month here in St Luke's and they would absolutely love it if there would be one or two people from the church who would be able to help with serving refreshments. They bring all that is needed, they just need help in the kitchen. The meeting starts at 1.30pm and you would be very welcome to attend and listen to the speaker, and the refreshments are served from 3.15/3.30pm so you needn't be here the whole time. If you might be able to help out (doesn't have to be every month - it could be occasional) please can you have a word with Fiona? Thank you. <https://www.u3a.org.uk>

Hedge End Street Pastors, serving Hedge End, West End and Botley - 7 years old - still meeting a local need - still valued by Hampshire Police and by Local Councils.

We are urgently looking for new recruits from the churches. Training starts 15 September - contact Frank Parker on 07879 537 990 now. Come out with us as an observer for one Friday evening and see what we do!

Have you got an event coming up? Please let Sue know on publicity@stlukeshedgeend.co.uk For the Monthly News, Facebook, Website and Linda on office@stlukeshedgeend.co.uk For the Weekly News Sheet Keep us informed so we can tell you what's happening!

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GOOD NEIGHBOURS

If you are a driver and have any hours to spare, please consider becoming a volunteer for Hedge End Good Neighbours. Expenses are paid and trips can be very local or further afield. Any help you can offer would be greatly appreciated as demand for our service increases. See Rosie Adams for more details or ring 03330 448842.

Milk Bottle Tops - Recycling!

We collect the milk bottle tops for the New Forest Mencap Charity. They need to be clean, dry and free from any paper or plastic inserts. **Only milk bottle tops can be recycled.**

They are then sold and made into hard plastic toys for children. They need an enormous amount to make money but last financial year

Mencap received £300 And this year £255 so far from all donations.



Leave at church - under the stairs