



Notices for Sunday 7th April 2024

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Sunday Worship

7th Apr 10:30am – Rev James Bamber
14th Apr 10:30am – Local Arrangement
21st Apr 10:30am – Holy Communion – Rev Pam Siddall
28th Apr 10:30am – Neat Gordon

All services are also accessible via Zoom for any who are unable to attend in person.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/172859764>
Meeting ID: 172 859 764
Dial-in number: 0203 481 5240

All are invited to join us for worship each Sunday, in person or on Zoom.

Fortnightly Friendship Group. The next session will be on Monday 8th April, 2:00-3:15pm, here at the church. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Margaret on 07794 607985.

Church Finance. As previously reported, the last few years have been very challenging for the church financially, and we are grateful to those who have continued to give faithfully by monthly/weekly bank transfer or in the offering plate on a Sunday morning. It costs about £425 per week to keep our church open and serving our community, most of which has to come from offerings. According to the financial projection presented at our recent Church Council, our income this year is likely to be about 10% short of our expected costs. Please think and pray about whether you can consider increasing your regular giving or put into practice any fundraising ideas. If you are a taxpayer and have not yet completed a Gift Aid declaration, please get in touch with Matt to receive a form.

Prayer Breakfast. Our communion service on Sunday 21st April will be preceded by a prayer breakfast, to which all are invited. Please come along any time from 9am to share breakfast, which will be followed by a short time of prayer, finishing at 10am, in time for the service.

Car parking. A number-plate recognition system and payment terminal is now in operation in the Greystones car park. Thanks to the generosity of the landlords, free parking is still available for anyone attending Sunday worship, but you will need to send your car registration, make and model to Matt in advance, so that it can be added to an exemption list (for Sundays only). Alternatively, you can simply pay for your parking at the machine, following the instructions displayed.

This Week's Bible Readings

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

Please use these readings in your personal devotions this week.

Boardgames Café. Our next boardgames evening will be on Friday 19th April, starting at 7:30pm. All welcome – bring a friend.

Saturday Coffee Morning. All are invited to drop in any Saturday between 9:30 and 11:00am for a warm welcome, tea or coffee and a toasted morning snack. As well as raising funds for the church, it's a great place to come with a friend for a catch-up, or just to see some familiar faces from our wider community.

District Farewell Service for the Chair of the District, Rev Julian Pursehouse. As many of you will know Rev Julian Pursehouse, the Chair of the East Anglia District, will be leaving the District in 2024. A District Farewell Service for Rev Julian Pursehouse will be held on **Sunday 14th July 2024** at 3pm at Thetford Methodist Church. Following the service there will be the opportunity to chat with Julian and fellow friends over a light buffet tea. For now, please do put the date in your diary. More details will follow nearer the date.

Community Café. First Saturday of every month, 12-3pm, Sawtry WI Hall. All are invited to come along for a meal and a chat. No charge for food. Board games, magazines, activities and play area with toys and free Wi-Fi.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

- The ongoing situations in **Ukraine** and the troubled places of the world
- Our friends around the Circuit join us in praying for our own congregation
- **Wendy** (a friend of Martin)
- **Ellie & Dan** (Jenny's granddaughter and husband)
- **Claire Bristow**
- **Louise** (Su & Chris's niece)
- **Joy Kisby**
- **Jo Anderton**
- **Al Hibbins**
- **Thelma Baker**
- **John & Jean Garner**
- **Helen Reece**
- **Levan** (Debbie's friend) and family
- **Dawn** (Kate's friend)
- **Mary Watkins** (a friend of Roz)
- **Brian Newell**
- **Hannah** (Jo's niece)
- **Kara** (Debbie's friend)

If you have any items for the prayer list, please call 01487 830345 or email notices@sawtrymethodist.org.uk

Quote of the Week

"Your life as a Christian should make non-believers question their disbelief in God."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)