



# St Luke's Newsletter

www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk

## July/August 2026

As we move into the summer months, many people will be looking forward to holidays, day trips, family gatherings, or simply a change of pace from the routines of everyday life.

Summer is often the season when we hope to slow down, enjoy longer days, and spend time with those we care about.

As I write this, we are in the middle of a heatwave, with temperatures reaching 35°C. It certainly makes us wonder how much sunshine is enough! Yet whether your plans involve travelling abroad, exploring somewhere closer to home, or simply enjoying your own garden, I hope this summer will provide opportunities for rest.

Rest is something we all need, yet many of us struggle to find it. Children break up from school, adults take annual leave, and families and friends arrange time together. Yet how often do we return from a holiday feeling tired rather than refreshed? Sometimes our days off become so full of activities, commitments, and expectations that we never truly stop.



We change our location, but we do not necessarily find rest.

Perhaps this is because real rest (called Sabbath in the Bible) is about more than taking time away from work. It involves caring for our whole selves - body, mind, and spirit.

*continued overleaf*

Keep in touch with what's happening at St Luke's and in the community.

**Our Weekly News** comes out once a week (Fridays only!) with events, activities, and updates for all.

Everyone is welcome to subscribe.

Please sign up to using the link below

or scan the QR code. <http://eepurl.com/jzfHgU>



Rest may mean setting aside worries for a while, spending time in nature, enjoying good conversation, reading a book, or simply allowing ourselves the freedom to do less. In a world that constantly encourages us to be busy, productive, and connected, rest can feel surprisingly difficult.

The Bible treats rest as something precious and holy. One of the words often used is “observe,” as in observing a day of rest. It is an interesting expression because it suggests that rest is not something that simply happens to us. We need to protect it, value it, and make space for it. We guard our holidays in our diaries; perhaps we should guard our rest with the same care.

For some of us, rest is constantly disturbed by worries about work, school, finances, or family responsibilities. Others find themselves caring for everyone else’s needs while neglecting their own. When burdens feel heavy, we are invited to bring them to God in prayer rather than carrying them alone. Prayer does not always remove our challenges, but it reminds us that we do not face them by ourselves. We can place our worries in God’s hands, trust in his care and provision, and allow ourselves the freedom to rest. Sometimes this also means trusting others to share responsibilities and accepting that not everything depends on us.

The Bible even speaks about giving the land a rest. In Exodus, fields were left unplanted every seventh year so that the ground could recover and be renewed. It was a reminder that rest is not wasted time. Rather, rest prepares the way for new growth and a new harvest.

As a church community, we look forward to a season of refreshment and preparation. When we return from the summer break, we are excited to begin several new initiatives, including a Toddler Group, a Community Choir, and new activities for families and children.



## **Knitting Ninja's at St Luke's**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July  
and 6<sup>th</sup> August  
9.00am till 12pm**

Come and chat, knit,  
crochet and craft.

Bring your own project or we can  
supply wool and needles.

All are welcome.  
Refreshments provided.

We hope these will provide opportunities for friendship, support, and community life for people of all ages.

Wherever this summer takes you, I hope you find moments of genuine rest and renewal.

We look forward to having you back in the autumn and sharing the next chapter of life at St Luke's together.

Rev. Yin-An



## St Luke's Relaxed Lunch Cafe

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July  
12.30pm – 2.30pm

A simple lunch followed a talk from Rev. Helen on this year's Pilgrimage



Drop in, meet people, and enjoy a welcoming space — no need to book.

Open to everyone!

St Lukes Church,  
Whyteleafe, CR3 0AA

## St Luke's Church Whyteleafe

*Root and Branch*



Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July  
10.00am to lunchtime



Come and help care for our beautiful village churchyard

If you are able please bring

- gloves & kneeling mats
- hand tools, forks & trowels for weeding
- secateurs & loppers
- shears & garden forks



Tea, Coffee and Cakes will be provided  
Looking forward to seeing you



## Back to School Service Backpack Sunday

- ★ Bring along something you use in everyday life a school backpack, briefcase, shopping trolley, work bag, or laptop.
- ★ To receive God's blessing for the year ahead.

6<sup>th</sup> September 2026  
at 9.30am

St Luke's Church, Whyteleafe Hill, CR3 0AA





## Farewell to Rev Sara and Richard

On June 14th the Transept at St Luke's was decked with bunting, the Pimms flowed and the cake table was heaving as we gathered to say farewell to Sara and Richard.

Please pray for them as they make their move to Wells in Somerset.



### A message from Richard and Sara

*Dear Friends,*

*Richard and I were deeply touched by the wonderful event that was organised by St Luke's. It meant a great deal to us that so many of you wanted to come. We will continue to treasure your friendship even though the A303 prevents us from seeing one another on a regular basis.*

*Please also know that your immensely generous gift will be used to purchase a tree to be placed in the back garden of our new home, so we shall always remember you when we look out from our sitting room window.*

*Thank you all for shared memories, joyful laughter and hopeful hearts.*

*God bless you everyone.*

*Richard and Sara*



# St Luke's Community Choir

## Choir Director Wanted

Do you love bringing people together through the joy of music?

We are looking for a passionate and enthusiastic Community Choir Director to lead, inspire and establish our new choir.

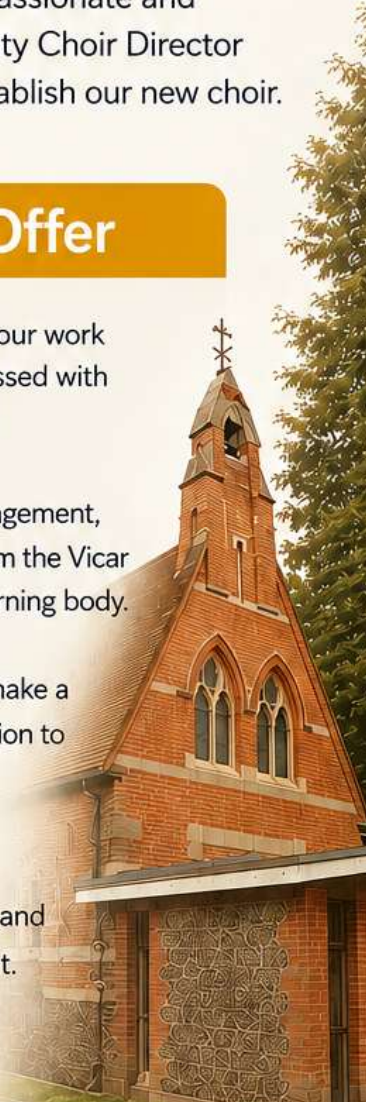
### About the Role

We hope you are someone who:

- Enjoys leading, encouraging, and inspiring singers of all abilities.
- Values building meaningful relationships and fostering a strong sense of community through music.
- Can help shape a vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive choir culture.
- Has experience in choral direction, vocal leadership, or community music-making (formal qualifications are welcome but not essential).
- Is open to people of all faiths and backgrounds. No particular religious belief is required for this role—what matters most is sharing the vision of St Luke's Church to build the community.

### What We Offer

- £ An honorarium for your work (details will be discussed with suitable candidates).
- Full support, encouragement, and collaboration from the Vicar and the church-governing body.
- Heart The opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to local community life through music.
- Church A warm, welcoming, and inclusive environment.



### Interested?

If you would like to find out more, or have an informal chat about what the role involves, please contact the Vicar, Rev. Yin-An ([vicar@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](mailto:vicar@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk)) by **12 July 2026**.

We welcome expressions of interest from anyone who is passionate about bringing people together, building connections, and creating community through music.





## Summer Update

Many of our regular activities will pause over the summer.

Follow our Facebook page or join our Weekly News mailing list to keep up to date. This autumn, we're excited to launch three new initiatives:

- ★ **St Luke's Community Choir**
- ★ **Toddler Group**
- ★ **Children & Families Fellowship**

**We'd love you to join us!**



**Food bank items needed this week**

- Rice pudding
- Jolly
- Angel Delight
- Biscuits
- Cereal
- Fray Bento pies
- Toilet roll
- Laundry products

Whyteleaf Food Bank    
No one should go hungry

**SATURDAY CAR BOOT SALE**  
— PORTCULLIS CLUB —

**BUY • SELL • BROWSE • EAT**



**CAR BOOT SALE**

**BARGAINS • SELLERS • HOT FOOD**

**£1 DONATION PER BUYER FOR ENTRY** — Under 16s free — **2026 DATES** (Weather permitting)

**SELLERS**

- £10 Car
- £15 Van
- £5 Trailer

**9 May**    **13 June**  
**25 July**   **22 Aug**  
**19 Sept**

**IMPORTANT INFO**

- Sellers must not arrive before 08:00
- Hot food van available
- No external food stalls
- Buyers will be let in after 09:00

**LOCATION**    **TIMES**

Portcullis Club    Sellers: 08:00  
Kenley Airfield    Buyers: 09:00  
Caterham CR3 5FX    Finish: 14:30

Visit our facebook page for more information and updates 

@1stwhyteleafscouts  
www.1stwhyteleafscouts.org

**TABLE TOP SALES & POP UP CAFÉ**

**2ND SUNDAYS APRIL TO OCTOBER**

**Scout HQ**  
1 Church Road  
Whyteleaf  
CR3 0AR  
10:00 - 14:00  
Buyer Entry 50p

- 12th April
- 10th May
- 14th June
- 12th July
- 13th September
- 11th October

**Want your own space to sell?**

Sellers set up from 8:30  
Tables £5 each

Email: 1stwhyteleafwebsite@gmail.com  
to book your table or turn up on the day



**Save the Date**

**St Luke's Church  
Whyteleafe Hill**

**Service of  
Thanksgiving and  
Commemoration for  
the Battle of Britain**



Sgt. Peter Walley of 615 Squadron taking off from Kenley on 18<sup>th</sup> Aug 1940 "The Hardest Day"  
Artist: Barry Weekley

**Sunday  
20<sup>th</sup> September  
at 10.00am**

# Services at St Luke's July and August 2026



## Sunday Services

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational Celebration (no refreshments)  
followed by the baptism of Chloe, Jevan, and Aurora

### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July

9.30am Eucharist

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational Celebration

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July

9.30am Eucharist

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational Celebration

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August

9.30am Eucharist

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational Celebration

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

9.30am Eucharist

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August

9.30am Eucharist

## Tuesday Morning Prayer

9am – 9.30am Join Rev Yin-An and Rev Helen in morning prayer.

*To find out about upcoming services and special events,  
please check our website or subscribe to our email updates.*

**[www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](http://www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk)**

## Pastoral Support

If you would like to enquire about pastoral support - including baptisms, weddings, funerals, or home visits, please contact Rev Yin-An (vicar@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk) or the Parish Administrator.

We are here to support you at any stage of life.