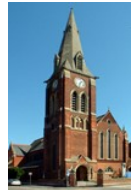




roundabout



Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common

Issue 546 October 2023

Weather

Our weather remains as unpredictable as ever. After a very wet August the sun is now shining, although how long that will last remains to be seen. Climate change, as we are experiencing, is having a dramatic impact on all that we used to take for granted. Therefore it is a responsibility in which we all share - the need to reduce our carbon footprint - so that our children's children may inherit a world worth living in.

In a similar way, as Christians it is also incumbent upon us to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that the legacy of salvation through His death and resurrection transforms this world into a kinder and more compassionate place. For each of us the opportunities to share our faith with others will be different, yet there is a common thread of words and actions. How we talk and treat other people is important, because we are called to be imitators of Jesus Christ, by reflecting his love into a broken world.



It is written in the Bible:

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
(1 John 4: 11-12)

Our knowledge and our experience of God in our lives has proven to us that God not only exists but importantly that God is love. In the next few months we have the great opportunity to share with our community that love through the Christmas narrative. As a Church we have already started planning our Christmas services and activities which will be advertised as we get closer to Christmas. But in the meantime may I ask you to pray for someone you might like to invite to one of those services, so that they may hear and experience the love of God. Remember God showed his love to us, let us share that love with others.

Yours in Christ

Rev'd Steve Spencer, Vicar



As members of St. Augustine's with St Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command—to share God's love with our community.



Young People Building Creations - and Friendships

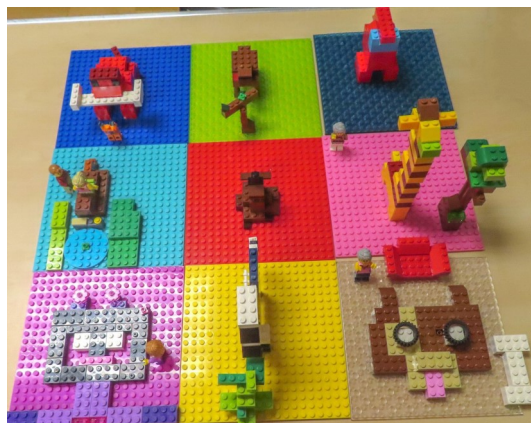
On Saturday 16 September we re-started our year 7+ group 'Youth Connect' after the summer break.

It was fabulous to have eight young people turn up; several of them are very new to the group and we potentially have a total of twelve who may attend at any one time.

We played table games, ate a meal together and then the young people showed some seriously creative flair with the 'Lego building challenges' set by Laura Webster, the Diocesan Young People Mission and Ministry Advisor, who ran the activity.

You can see some of their 'creations' here

Rachel Winn



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith as demonstrated by Jesus who taught us to suffer little children and look after the sick and vulnerable.



Over the last three months I have completed three on-line training courses plus one facilitated zoom training course run by Rochester Diocese. So I'm almost ready to get started in my role at St Augustine's with St Luke's as Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO).

Much thought has been given by the Church of England to the development of the Safeguarding Framework, to prevent vulnerable children, young people and adults being placed in situations where there is greater risk of abuse.

We have great support available from the Rochester Diocese Safeguarding Adviser, Caroline Smith in all areas of Safeguarding from the procedures that need to be put in place, to dealing with allegations of abuse.

The 'Promoting a Safer Church document' was agreed by the St Augustine's with St Luke's PCC on 25 May 2022 and can be found on the Safeguarding section of our website. It's a short read and gives a good overall summary of Safeguarding.

John Murray / St Augustine's with St Luke's Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Pam Fisher 24 April 1930 - 13 August 2023



We are sorry to announce the death of Pam Fisher in August. Pam had lived in the same house in Petts Wood ever since she married Bert (who died suddenly in 1995) and they both worshipped at St Augustine's for many years.

Pam was born in Tooting in 1930 and grew up there with her parents and older brother Alan. When she was nine years old war broke out but they all stayed together in London for the duration of the war. She married Bert, her childhood sweetheart, in 1956 and they bought a house off plan in a brand-new estate being built on green fields in Petts Wood. Elaine, Stephen and Peter grew up there and Pam and Bert were stalwarts of the 23rd Bromley Scouts, with Pam always running the coat stall at the jumble sales.

Pam was part of the team that cleaned St Augustine's church for many years. She was also on the rota for coffee making after Sunday services and was a member of the Gregarians Committee. In later years she enjoyed the weekly exercise class at the church run by Sally Morris. She was never happier than when in the company of her extended family which included five granddaughters and three great grandchildren and holidayed with family both at home and abroad. Pam bore repeated battles with cancer stoically and died peacefully at the home she had lived in for over 65 years.

Her family send their thanks for the kind messages and cards they've received.

Elaine Dawson

Remembering Wedding Bells.....

Many congratulations to the following couples:



Charlie and Lynne Louth who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September. They enjoyed time with the family and a visit on the Belmond British Pullman to one of Kent's wonderful vineyards.



Alan and Liz Carter who celebrated their Golden Wedding Day in September with prosecco and pancakes for breakfast, and tea at Patisserie Valerie. Later there was a special lunch with family at the Bromley Court Hotel.



Dave and Christine Mason who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in September which included a card from King Charles and Queen Camilla.

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Talk about the work of Foal Farm



If you love dogs, cats and all creatures great and small, do join us for a free talk by Craig, a volunteer from Foal Farm Animal Rescue Centre, Biggin Hill, in The Garden Room, St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane, Bromley, BR2 8AT on Thursday 19 October at 7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm for refreshments).

Entry to the talk is free but a donation towards running this event is welcome. The talk has been organised by the Friends of Jubilee Country Park.

Featured this year on Channel 4's 'Challenge Anneka' with a project to upgrade their dog kennel facilities, the charity Foal (short for Friends of Animals League) started in 1962. Their work involves rescuing abandoned, neglected and mistreated animals as well as those whose owners are no longer able to look after them for a variety of reasons. The aim of Foal is to take in as many animals as can properly be cared for, to restore them to health and happiness and, where possible, to rehome them. It's not just dogs who are taken in - they have cats, donkeys, horses, sheep, goats, cows, pigs, rabbits, geese, hens, ducks and more besides!

On Friday 24 November at 7.30pm (doors open at 7.15pm) I will be running a Quiz Night to raise funds for Foal Farm at Southborough Lane Baptist Church, Southborough Lane, BR2 8BQ. Tickets for the Quiz Night are only £5.00 each, every penny of which goes to Foal. Tables seat up to six people. This is a very popular Quiz and a fun social occasion so book early to avoid disappointment by calling me on 07840-542261.

Jennie Randall

Macmillan Coffee Morning



A Big Thank you to everyone who supported my Coffee Morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Through your generosity I have raised a fantastic amount this year, the most ever - £1,639.00. It was a lovely day and a good excuse for a get-together and to meet new friends.

Thanks also to those who were unable to come, but still donated and to those who gave me cakes. I am very proud to be sending such a large amount to this very worthy charity.

Thank you again for helping to make it so successful.

Sue Goodger

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Electric Buses

Route 358 is shortly to be provided with electric buses. It is a particularly long route, with its circuitous journey between Orpington Station and Crystal Palace, and the buses will be equipped for opportunity charging at each end.

In Bromley, some buses on route 119, which come from Croydon, are electric, but those on the 358 route are the first in our parish. Well, not quite! The buses on the night route N199, which come along Bromley Common and Southborough Lane, are electric.

I wonder if any of our readers have travelled on one of these.



Picture courtesy of Buses magazine.

Rob Hutchings

Commemorative Scroll appeal 2023/2024



The purpose of the annual Commemorative Scroll Appeal is to raise funds for the provision of flower arrangements in St Augustine's Church, throughout the year but especially for the festivals of Harvest, Christmas, and Easter in memory of loved ones.

A framed list of the names of friends or relatives for whom you have donated is then displayed on the wall of the Memorial chapel. Alternatively, loved one's names may also be added to the Scroll without a donation to the Flower Fund by just completing the last section of the accompanying form. This form will be available as a hard copy within Roundabout or at the back of Church.

All members of the Flower Guild consider it a privilege to arrange your flowers, knowing that each bloom represents cherished memories.

There are three ways you can donate to the appeal fund as indicated on the accompanying form. Please complete the form and return it in an envelope clearly marked '**Commemorative Scroll**' to the church office.

Thanking you for your support. God bless.

Cathy Fyfield
On behalf of the Flower Guild at St Augustine's with St Luke's Church

A Blessing

Seventeen years ago the father of A Little Girl I Know and I moved to the house we currently live in. It seemed enormous for the two of us, but a mere 17 months later we were joined by A Little Girl I Know.

A large space was suddenly filled with a cot, toys, and other bits and pieces needed for a small baby. As time has gone, our spare bedroom became a fully functioning office as Covid meant that it was necessary for us all to have a quiet space to work, or use Teams and other media to meet with friends and family, have meetings or even have school lessons. The one thing that really blew my mind, was to attend a weekly church service, and enjoy a coffee and chat with friends afterwards whilst sitting at home sometimes still wearing my pyjamas!

A while back as I climbed up the hill which runs the full length of the estate where we live, I felt exhausted. It had been a busy session at work, the children had been loud and argumentative, there seemed to have been lots of falls and trips to deal with, repaired using basic first aid - a wet paper towel and sometimes a plaster. The hill seemed never-ending and I regretted not accepting a lift home from my colleague.

I imagined a rope in front of me that I could grip onto and use it to pull me up to the end of our road. It somehow made the walk easier and before long I was sat at the kitchen table enjoying a hot cup of black coffee with my sandwich. It wasn't long before I was on the move again loading the car for an activity that evening.



As much as I have moaned about the hill, I love it too. Standing often alone at our front bedroom window I have been privileged to witness some of the most amazing sunsets with an almost clear view as there isn't a house directly opposite us. The colours have been spectacular, changing as the day fades into darkness. I enjoy watching it evolve as time goes on. A Little Girl has a bedroom at the back of our house, often my mobile phone will ping early on a school morning with her having sent me a photo of the sunrise. Her message, 'Look what you have missed...' Little does she know that I have seen it too and have photographs to prove it!

That hill is definitely a blessing, and sometimes a curse.

The rope I referred to might be a gift from God, Him stretching out His hand to remind me that He is always there not just in times of need. He offers us many ways to help us if only we choose to take His help.

Just place your hand in His and see where He will take you.

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October Newsletter 2023

Sunday Services

Sunday 1st October

10am Cafe Church

St Augustine's Church.

Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-end, Matthew 21: 23-32

Sunday 8th October

10am Holy Communion

St Augustine's Church.

Isaiah 5: 1-7, Matthew 21 33-end

Sunday 15 October

10am Harvest & Parade

5.30pm Holy Communion

St Augustine's Church.

Isaiah 25: 1-9, Matthew 22: 1-14

St Luke's Church

Sunday 22 October

10am Holy Communion

St Augustine's Church.

Isaiah 45: 1-7, Matthew 22: 15-22

Sunday 29 October

10am Morning Worship

St Augustine's Church.

Colossians 3: 12-17, Matthew 24: 30-35

Mid Week Holy Communion Services

Wednesday 11 and 25 October

St Augustine's Chapel, at Midday

Weekly Group

ARK

Every Wednesday, St Augustine's Church, 10.00am - 11.30am. Booking essential see below for church website details

Warm Space & CAMEO - All Welcome

Every Thursday 11am - 4pm.

Monthly Group

Merry Pilgrims - Friendly Walkers

Tuesday 24th October at 10.30am. Meet at Filston Lane, Shoreham TN14 7SP

Youth Connect - Friendship and Food for School Years 7+

15 October at 7.30pm "What did you say?" How we communicate with each other

29 October at 7.30pm Movie Night

Friends Re-United

Monday 30th October at 12.30 - Garden Room at St Augustine's Church.

Forget Me Not Café

Tuesday 17th October at 1.30pm - Garden Room at St Augustine's Church

Contact Details: Parish Office 020 8295 1550 (Weekday am Only). Email: office@st-augustines.org.uk

Website: <https://www.st-augustines.org.uk>

Staff Contact Details

Vicar:	Rev'd Steve Spencer	020 8467 1351 or 07778 784331
Curate:	Rev'd Rachel Winn	07311 330202
Licensed Lay Minister:	Alan Mitchell	07985 070734
Licensed Lay Minister:	Verity Mitchell	07379 294826
Churchwarden:	Hilary Chittock	07884 195700
Churchwarden:	Jeff Blyth	07557 349279
Parish Office:	(Linda Spencer	020 8295 1550
(Mon - Fri 10:00 - 1:00)	(Victoria Bouwer	email: office@st-augustines.org.uk

The 10am service will also be live streamed on our You Tube channel, www.st-augustines.org.uk

St. Augustine's Church Rooms and St. Luke's Hall are available for hire. To book a room at St Augustine's, contact Liz Carter on 020 8467 8155. To book St Luke's Hall, contact the Church Office on 020 8295 1550

Contact details for all church and uniformed organisations are on our website www.st-augustines.org.uk
Our vicar Steve Spencer can also be contacted at revsteve.spencer@btinternet.com



October Edition: Editor - Sue Goodger Layout - Tanya Wardley

The November 2023 edition will be printed and published on the St. Augustine's and St. Luke's website

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