

September
2024

children@stfranciswgc.org.uk
www.stfranciswgc.org.uk



Youth & Children's Church Newsletter

Welcome to our September edition!

Our under 10's Children's Church on Sundays during the 9.15 service, meet in the hall. We start with worship action songs, followed by adding our TSP prayers (Thank you, Sorry & Please) onto the board, hear the Bible reading & watch an animated story video of the reading. We will then do a craft/build/ play games linked to the reading. We then discuss some questions linked to the reading & close in prayer. There is always a break downspace for under 3's in our group and parents are very welcome to stay in & join us for the session and mix with other parents.

This month we will be exploring the following Bible readings:

**Sunday 22nd September:
Jesus predicts his own death: Mark 9 V30-37**

Do join us for our Harvest service:

**Sunday 29th September:
10am All age Harvest Festival service**



Nikki, our Children's & Families' Worker

You can contact me on email: children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

My main working days are Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday

Hi Everyone!

I hope you have all had a great summer and that you & your family are settling into the new term. For some of you it will be a new adventure, starting nursery, school, secondary school or even A levels or University! For some of you it will be back to normal routine but with a different teacher and class year. For some it will be really exciting and for some it will be an anxious time, but know that God is with you on this journey and that if you need anything please do email me!

This September in our house see's me returning back to working at Church after 10 month's off on parental leave and returning with another little person! I am really excited to be back and cant wait to see you all and catch up as well as meet lets of new faces as new families come and explore St Francis and all we have to offer!

Lets Pray!

Dear God, thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favour has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us, as with a shield. We ask for your guidance so that we might walk fully in your blessing and goodness today. We ask that your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones, that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Establish the work of our hands and bring fulfilment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong by your huge favor and grace.

In Jesus' Name, Amen. – Debbie McDaniel



Follow that trail!



Have you tried out our monthly trails?

Every month we will put up a new trail around the Church grounds, there are 10 frames to find!



This month's trail is:

Harvest themed



harvest
BLESSINGS



Children's chapel resources needed

We are looking for the following if anyone is having a clear out:

- *Thats not my..... books
- *Hardback baby books
- *Puzzles
- *Large floor puzzles
- *Christian story books
- *Christian games /puzzles
- *Children's story books
- *fabric cube storage boxes

We would also love feedback from both the children & parents on what we could do to improve the Children's chapel



Elfie
Selfie



Elfie Selfie needs your help!

We are looking for donations of:

Mini packs of sweets

Mini packs of chocolate coins (nut free)

New or in great condition party bag style toys

New or in great condition children's Christmas story books

**Please drop off all donations in the
labelled box by the YACC office by
Sunday 24th November**

activities to try at home

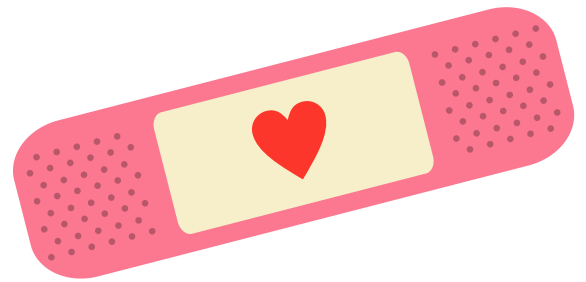


Bubble prayers:

As you blow through the bubble wand say a thank you prayer for all the wonderful things we receive this Harvest time

Healing prayers:

Write down the names of people who are poorly or of areas of the world that need God's healing hands



Coin prayers:

Throw a coin and if it lands on heads say a thank you prayer
If it lands tails say a sorry prayer

Playdough prayers:

Why not try modelling with the playdough and use it to make something you can say in a 'wow' moment prayer



YES WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Helpers to serve
Interval Refreshments

What?

3 (minimum) or 4 helpers to serve interval refreshments during Welwyn Garden Concert Club's concerts on Saturdays.

When?

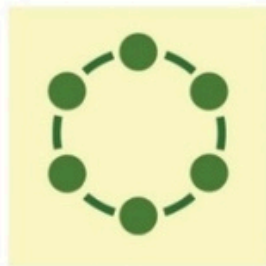
There are 6 events from Oct to May per concert season. You need to be available from 6:30 to 9:30 pm, Doors open @7pm, Concert starts @7:30pm.

Why?

100% of the profits made goes back directly into our church funds. This is part of our annual fundraising efforts.

How?

Each season's rota is displayed on our church main noticeboard. The Parish Office supplies all the stock and offers guidance with support from the Finance Team. **Please consider if you can help, thank you.**



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

We are changing how we manage Gift Aid to manage our finances more efficiently.

Why the change?

- Bank charges are increasing.
- This scheme has no cost to us
- Gift Aid received monthly (now annually)
- Fully compliant with HMRC requirements
- Secure and easy to use

What does it mean for Standing Order givers?

- Sign up for the scheme with this QR code, by going to www.parishgiving.org.uk or by calling 0333 002 1271
- Payments will be made by Direct Debit
- Cancel your current Standing Order (important!)
- It really is that easy



For more information, speak to Graham or Sally in the finance team and they can help you make the change.

Our current bank account will be closed in November

We've made it easier to support the church financially.



Thank you for your generosity.



NEW!

Monthly Direct Debit giving.
Straight from your bank account.
Easy to set up, and secure.
We get Gift Aid paid monthly.



JustGiving™

Secure debit or credit card payments.
Ideal for ad hoc or regular giving.
Great for fund raising events, too.
We get monthly Gift Aid.



Simple registration.
Over 7,000 brands online.
Small commission-share from each purchase
No cost to you!
We get Gift Aid paid monthly.



The contactless screen in the foyer.
Secure payments of any value.
ALL worldwide cards accepted!
We claim Gift Aid once a year.

giftaid it

For more information on any of these, use the QR codes or speak to Graham Bloye, our Treasurer.

Save
THE
date

The text "Save THE date" is centered on a teal background. "Save" and "date" are written in a large, elegant, black cursive script. "THE" is written in a smaller, black, all-caps sans-serif font between the two cursive words. The text is surrounded by decorative black line art: a sprig of leaves and a small heart-shaped flower to the left of "Save", another sprig of leaves and a small heart-shaped flower to the right of "Save", and two sets of three radiating lines (one to the left and one to the right) positioned between "Save" and "date".

Join us for toddletime

Come along and meet Nikki, Joan & Cynthia

WEDNESDAYS 10-11.30 ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Wednesday 11th, 18th & 25th September

Wednesday 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd October

Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th November

No sessions running throughout December

Join us for fun, exploring through play,
friendship, stories & songtime.

Suitable for confident walkers up to 4 years old.



Suggested donation: £2 for 1 adult & child 50p extra child. Card payment only please

Please walk where possible as parking is very limited

St Francis Church, Church Road WGC



GARDEN PARTY WITH 'FRANKIE'S AT 5'

SUNDAY
6TH OCTOBER 4PM

GARDEN PARTY WITH CREAM
TEA, GAMES AND FELLOWSHIP
FINISHING WITH 'FRANKIE'S AT 5'
INFORMAL WORSHIP SERVICE,
DO JOIN US IF YOU CAN

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

No tickets needed

We will host an indoor party if the weather is wet

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk





Welwyn Garden City

Wild Church

Sunday 13th October at 3pm

**Come and join in our last Wild Church of the year
Sherrardspark wood, Roundwood Drive entrance**

Please bring a drink and dress for the weather.





TALENT SHOW

09 NOV AT 7:00 PM
@ St Francis Church

**A fun night for all ages to enjoy!
Come along and watch or show us what you've
got and grab your chance to shine!**

**Entries must register their interest by
7th October 2024**

REGISTER NOW

children@stfranciswgc.org.uk



**SUPPORTING ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH &
THE 1ST WELWYN GARDEN CITY (ST FRANCIS) SCOUTS**

SATURDAY 7TH & SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2024

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INVITE YOU TO ENTER A TREE IN THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AS WE CELEBRATE ADVENT AND THE LEAD UP TO CHRISTMAS. WE WANT TO FILL THE CHURCH WITH BRIGHTLY DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES – AND THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL PRIZE CATEGORY FOR THOSE WHO EMBRACE THIS YEAR'S THEME. EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE CHURCH WAS AWARDED THE SILVER AWARD AS AN ECO CHURCH. IT'S TAKEN SEVERAL YEAR'S HARD WORK, AND WE'RE NOW WORKING TOWARDS GOLD. THIS YEAR'S THEME REFLECTS THE ENVIRONMENTAL ETHOS OF THE AROCHA AWARD SCHEME: "OUR BEAUTIFUL PLANET"

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING A TREE, PLEASE REPLY TO THIS E-MAIL BELOW AND I WILL SEND YOU A REGISTRATION FORM. THIS IS ALWAYS A POPULAR EVENT, SO PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ENTRY BY 5TH OCTOBER, SO WE CAN ALLOCATE YOU A SPACE AND SEND YOU MORE DETAILS. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, WE WILL ALSO ASK FOR A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR TREE/ORGANISATION FOR THE PRINTED PROGRAMME, TABLE SIGNS AND THE ALL-IMPORTANT VOTE FOR FAVOURITE TREE!

GRAHAM BLOYE CHIEF ELF 2024 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL TEAM

STFRANCISCTF@OUTLOOK.COM





**YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US AT ST FRANCIS CHURCH
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON**

* SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER: 6PM ADVENT CAROL SERVICE*

**SATURDAY 7TH & SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER
12-5PM CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL***

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER: 9.15 FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE *

SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER: 4PM FAMILY CAROL SERVICE *

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER: 6PM NINE LESSONS SERVICE

**CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER:
CHRISTINGLE CRIB SERVICE @ 5PM *
11PM MIDNIGHT MASS**

**CHRISTMAS DAY : 25 DECEMBER
10AM FAMILY COMMUNION* : ALL ARE WELCOME**

Merry Christmas

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Mary and Joseph, and the peace of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas.

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk





St Francis Church, Church Road, AL8 6QJ

Thursday Lunches

Everyone is welcome!

Join us every Thursday 12-1pm

For a homemade soup, bread & cheese,
with a hot cup of tea.

A great space to chat & meet new people



A spiritual hub for the community, making God's love known to all.

Wednesday coffee for all



St Francis Church, Church Road, AL8 6QJ

Everyone is
welcomed.
Wednesdays
10.30-12

Join us for a hot drink, biscuits and great conversation in the Parish room, back right handside of Church through the double doors.

Churches In Welwyn Garden City

WARM HUBS IN WGC

Looking for warmth and company this winter?
Why not join us? It's free and you are welcome.

The Lounge - Tuesdays 1.30-3pm.
Christchurch Peartree, Tewin Road

Mary and Isabel's Compassionate Cafe, Tuesdays, 11-1pm, St Mary Magdalene's Parish Centre, Hall Grove

Teapot Tuesdays, 2-4pm, United Reformed Church
Parkway

Coffee For All, Every Wednesday 10.30am- 12 noon
St Francis Church, Parkway

Body and Soul Cafe - Weds & Thurs anytime
11-2pm Christchurch Parkway, 110 Parkway

Thursday Lunches, 12 noon-1pm, St Francis Church
Parkway

Coffee Pot at St John the Evangelist Digswell
every Friday morning 9:00am - 12 noon

The Hub Cafe at CtKHub, Haldens
every Saturday morning 9:00am - 12 noon

Church contact details:

Parish Office: Open Wed-Fri, 9.30am-noon
St Francis of Assisi Church, Church Road, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6QJ
Phone: 01707 694191 Email: admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Vicar: The Reverend Jenny Fennell
Phone: 01707 320960 Email: vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Nikki, Children's & Families' Worker
Email: children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Check out our
YACC webpage
& keep up to
date with all the
Sunday Church
materials to do
at home :

<https://stfranciswgc.org.uk/youth-and-children/>

Join our Zoom Prayers
on Wednesdays at 8pm
Email vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk
to receive the details



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@stfrancischurchwgc



@stfranciswgc