

St. Andrew's Church Values

1. Prayer



'Lord, teach us to pray'
Luke 11 v 2

We believe that prayer is an indispensable element of our corporate life, and we encourage everyone to meet with others to communicate with God our Father, as well as spending time with Him alone.

Pre-Service prayer

- 9:15am – 9:55am
every Sunday morning in
Creche
- 10:00am – 10:15am
every Sunday morning in the
Worship area.

Small Groups

If praying with other people is new to you, then a Small Group is a good place to start. Gathering with a few people regularly, you will get to know them and find it is a safe place to pray with and for each other.

Prayer at Littlebourne

Mondays 11:30am – 12 in the Chapel, Nargate Street.

Prayer Ministry

Two people are available to pray, in absolute confidence, for any personal needs at the end of every Sunday Morning Meeting. The Elders are very happy to pray and anoint people with oil for healing and wholeness, when asked.

Prayer in the Services

We pray for a variety of needs, from the global to the local, in our Sunday services, using a variety of ways to express our prayers: sometimes the person leading the service will lead our prayers, sometimes people in the congregation, who are comfortable doing so, lead the prayer or we may use a creative way of contributing our own prayers.

Prayer Chain

We have a phone prayer chain for urgent prayer requests.

Prayer and fasting

Jesus clearly taught that there are times when we need to deny ourselves food for a while and devote ourselves to prayer.

Week of Prayer

It is our custom to have a week of prayer, usually at the beginning of the year, to recommit ourselves to God and ask Him what His plans are for us in the coming year.

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We have organised this week in a different way each year, finding new ways to meet together and meet with God.

Prayer links

We have members who are involved with national prayer movements such as Lydia Fellowship England and Tres Dias.

Informal prayer

People at St Andrews will often pray with and for one another in a very informal way after services and in their homes.

2. Worship



- Worship – puts God in His rightful place.
- The purpose of our worship is to glorify, honour, respect, praise, exalt, and please God.
- We earnestly desire Spirit Led Worship.
- Worship goes beyond the church building: into our homes, work place, supermarket, etc
- We want new people to be encouraged to join us in worship and we want fresh

new songs to be brought into the mix, whilst also appreciating the traditional hymns/songs.

We gather to worship God on a Sunday in order to be equipped to serve Him throughout the week. Our regular services are usually conducted by our Pastor or an Elder, together with a worship leader. Our regular Sunday services are listed below:

10.30am	Morning Worship: A family service with crèche and junior church, where children receive care and lively instruction. On the first Sunday of each month we gather around the Lords Table to share communion. Morning Worship typically comprises a mix of contemporary music and well known hymns, together with Bible teaching and activities to engage our diverse congregation.
6.30pm	Oasis Church: A contemporary café style service held in the evening. Oasis Church is interactive and makes use of multi-media presentations and themed Bible teaching to communicate the gospel message.

If you are interested in attending any of our services, you will receive a warm welcome and can expect to receive clear and well-applied Bible teaching. The pattern and style of our services are intended to provide you with a range of worship options, so come along and try!

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3. Discipleship

Discipleship is at the heart of the Great Commission which Jesus left with the eleven disciples:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

What is a disciple?

A disciple is someone who is fully committed to learning from and following the teachings of a leader, in this case Jesus.



Why discipleship?

Jesus showed the importance of discipleship by making the training of the twelve disciples a priority during the time of His public ministry on earth.

Jesus commissioned all His followers to train disciples because He intended fruit that lasts.

Discipleship is the best method to reach our world for God.

Discipleship produces spiritually mature Christians who grow through learning from the Word of God and putting it into practice in their lives on a daily basis, encouraging one another as they do so.

What signs of spiritual maturity can we expect to see developing in our lives?

- fruitfulness in our service for God;
- a humble attitude and a willingness to serve others;
- a close relationship with Jesus;
- the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23);
- a solid knowledge of the Word of God leading to discernment and Christ-likeness.

These points are summed up in the words of Jesus to His disciples about the vine and the branches in John 15: we are to remain in Him and in His love, to obey His commands, to love each other and to go and bear fruit that will last.

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How do we 'do' discipleship at St Andrew's?

In our Sunday morning services at 10.30 am and on Sunday evenings at 6.30 pm in Oasis Church there is time set aside to present Bible teaching in a way that is accessible, relevant and challenging. The current themes can be found on our website and notes from each week's messages are posted there in the Resources section so that people can follow up the teaching in their own time.

Those who respond to the challenge of the gospel and make a decision to follow Jesus and become disciples are encouraged to be baptised as a public confession of their faith in the presence of their friends and the congregation of the church. During 2012, 8 young adults will have been baptised as believers in services held on Easter Sunday, in September and on the Sunday before Christmas.

New believers have the opportunity to grow rapidly in their faith through weekly one-to-one mentoring using Notepad material which helps them to develop a routine of daily Bible reading.

We also offer the Freedom in Christ discipleship course to any new or more mature Christians who are prepared to commit to 13 weeks of interactive teaching which can transform lives. All who belong to the fellowship of St Andrew's are encouraged to join one of the small groups which meet weekly for worship, prayer, Bible study and mutual encouragement. Since January 2013 Life Groups have been introduced with an additional focus of witness to those who are not yet believers. There are also mid-week meetings when the whole fellowship can come together.

4. Mission



When mission is mentioned, the word means different things to different people. We all know that when people are "on a mission", they are out doing something. But doing what? For us at St Andrew's our mission is to preach the Good News of Jesus to all mankind, to reveal Jesus to the world, to make disciples by teaching believers, to encourage worship of God and to bring joy to mankind.

We have been blessed with a building that enables users to

carry on the mission of the Church of Jesus Christ. It is used nearly every day in some activity where the focus is on Jesus, and where Good News can be shared in Canterbury. We have a sister chapel in Littlebourne as well. **Part of our mission is to equip everyone to be able to share the love and message of Jesus Christ to others.**

As a Bible believing fellowship we believe that the purpose of the church is to be a witness to all mankind so that whoever calls on the name of the Lord may be saved. We have children's and youth activities as well as fellowship and smaller group meetings throughout the week.

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We have a long history of sending out workers on overseas mission through YWAM and other organisations, supporting three families at the moment. We support a number of fellowships in Kenya which help people with primary education, medical care and feeding those who lack food as well as preaching Good News. We support Christian Aid to provide practical help to those overseas in need. We also have a cafe in the building which is used during the week and also in some evenings as a place that welcomes all who come in.

Part of our mission is to equip everyone to be able to share the love and message of Jesus Christ to others.

We believe that our personal witness to those we know and we share with is important.

Part of our mission is to build up our faith and relationship with Jesus to enable us to reveal his love and message to others.

We believe that spending time with each other in small groups to learn more about Jesus and to worship Him in praise, prayer and study, is time well spent.

Part of our mission is to be disciples who have the willingness to devote time to God, time to God's Word, time to strengthen and encourage each other and time to make disciples.

We welcome all who come to our building. People rejoice when they know that their sins are forgiven, that a weight is lifted of their shoulders, that having a relationship with Jesus has changed their outlook on life and given it new purpose.

Part of our mission is to bring joy to others and to be joyful ourselves.

Jesus says in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20): "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

5. Service



Service underpins all aspects of our life at St Andrew's as an essential part of our Christian calling. Ministry and service are closely related, and Jesus had to correct the expectations of his disciples on service.

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

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As a church fellowship we can express our service of ministry in a number of ways. All regular worshippers are encouraged to join one of the stewarding groups to welcome visitors to the time of worship on Sunday and to serve refreshments afterwards. There are 6 groups in the congregation serving approximately every 6 weeks.

These groups encourages fellowship both within each group and as a congregation as a whole. A separate team provides sound and projection as part of the worship.

A team of volunteers run the Oasis coffee shop offering valuable ministry both to the church fellowship and to anyone in the area in need of refreshment at lunch time. The team covers a wide range of ages and welcomes all who have the time and desire to serve others. Training in food hygiene is organised to ensure compliance with regulations and to pass local council inspections. The team provide a valuable pastoral support and outreach to those in the fellowship and local community.

Tuesday Connection is a fortnightly group of church members and friends who meet in the church for talks, activities and fellowship. Craft Cafe meets monthly on Saturday for activities, refreshments and friendship together.

There is a catering team who form into teams to cover special events such as church lunches, refreshments for special events and suppers.

At St Andrew's we can offer our facilities to other Christian groups involved in mission within Canterbury as an act of service to the wider community. Examples of these groups are Kidz Klub, Global Cafe, Causeway Prospects and the Chinese Church. Sonbeams toddler group meet at St Andrew's encouraging a new generation of parents in their challenges. Many of the members of St Andrew's are involved in several areas of service in the community including Street Pastors, Prison fellowship and many volunteering activities to encourage and support those around us. There are many ways in which we can serve the community we live in and important to continue to reflect and review that what we are doing is for the Glory of God.