

## Life Groups and Prayer Triplets at St John Meads, April 2024

Life Groups are at the heart of our life together at St Johns. They are where we can effectively care for one another, make friends, exercise our gifts and grow in faith. They are a key part of helping us to be disciples and make disciples, get to grips with the Bible and develop our prayer life. Our aim is that they will be groups that are life giving, fun and a place of belonging and acceptance. George Fisher, Janet Jackson and Joan Fisher oversee the groups. Below is a summary of the groups we have and details about the Prayer Triplets. If you wish to join or change a Life Group, or Triplet, please contact one of us or the church office.

George Fisher  
07579 058653  
[revgeorgefisher@gmail.com](mailto:revgeorgefisher@gmail.com)



Janet Jackson  
07983 258381  
[janetcjackson@googlemail.com](mailto:janetcjackson@googlemail.com)

Joan Fisher  
07552 654060  
[joan.fisher21@gmail.com](mailto:joan.fisher21@gmail.com)



### **Bolsover Group.**

Wednesdays at 7.30pm. We meet at the Boshoff's flat for drinks and snacks and share news before doing either a Bible study or video course together. We then have a time of discussion and prayer and as most of us work we aim to finish at 9pm. We also meet for social events and have a WhatsApp group for sharing prayer requests and news.

### **Fairfield Road Group**

The meetings are fortnightly on Thursday evening at Granville Road, 7.30-9.30pm. We enjoy refreshments together before the evening starts with prayer and then study a

teaching series or a book from the Bible. The topic for each term is discussed as a group and all contributions are welcomed. We end the evening by praying together about any issues that arise. We have a WhatsApp group for contact with each other during the week should any urgent prayer needs arise and we enjoy regular socials together.

### **High Trees Group**

We meet on Thursday evenings at 8pm and try to be finished by 9:30, but people are free to stay and chat as long as they like. We meet at Tony and Pauline's in Carew Road. We have time to relax and catch up on life, usually with drinks, cake and plenty of laughter. Our aim is to help each other grow in living out the Christian life through relationship and deeper understanding of the bible and how it relates to life today. We are flexible, wanting to 'scratch where it itches' so while we will have a structured plan we will always have time to talk about the things that concern or puzzle us and explore the bible's answers. We have explored a few different styles of prayer and will use any that help us develop a closer relationship with God.

### **J-walkers**

We meet every fortnight on Tuesday evenings - led by Gilli. We are primarily (but not exclusively) a Bible Study group looking at the Bible as an important way to get to know Jesus better and to understand what following Him - Christian discipleship - looks like. We split our meetings together into essentially four parts: General social catch up; "Notice Board": (making sure that anything going on at St John's is communicated); Bible Study (main part of our meeting); and Prayer. We have fun, celebrate birthdays and get together from time to time for purely social purposes.

### **Lectio365/WhatsApp**

Catherine Butcher coordinates this group. It is an online Life Group, using the free daily podcast Lectio365. Members then comment to other group members on the day's podcast through WhatsApp and share prayer needs, hence developing a fellowship together. They intend to meet together occasionally for a social.

### **Lent 2024 Group.**

Paul Burley leads this new Life Group with an emphasis on bible study. It meets at the back of

church on Thursday mornings from 10.30.12noon. It starts with a social time over a drink before digging deeper into the bible's truths.

### **Living Stones Group**

The Living Stones group with co-leaders Pete and Judy Stone meet at their home every Tuesday at 7.30 pm. We start with tea and coffee (and cake sometimes if you're lucky), share news and turn to our Bible study. We started as an Alpha group and have grown into a life group, growing ever closer in Christian trust and fellowship. We always finish with prayer giving opportunity for all with individual requests and concerns.

### **Morning Prayer.**

Meet on Zoom each weekday morning from 9.9.30 and everyone is welcome. We have a simple liturgy, read the scriptures set for the day, read a reflection and discuss it, and then pray. Contact the office or one of the Coordinators for the Zoom link.

**Online Ramblers** is facilitated by George Fisher and John Caroe and meets weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 on Zoom. We chat together about the past week before looking at a short course or book from the Bible and end with a time of prayer. We have only ever existed as a group on Zoom and we enjoy occasional socials in person. We intend to remain online on Zoom so anyone wanting to join us is welcome, whether that is for a brief period or more long term.

### **Pilgrims**

We meet fortnightly on a Tuesday morning from 10.15 to 12 noon. The group is facilitated by Mandy Calff and Jenny Burrough and we meet in one or other of their homes. We have quickly become a relaxed and trusting gathering and we try to support each other when there is a need. We enjoy refreshments and fellowship, before prayer leads us into a Biblically based study, when we share experiences and insights. We allow time at the end for prayer needs and we hope to enjoy more social times together in the future.

### **Prayer Triplets.**

Prayer Triplets are a wonderful way to develop your prayer life. We have over 30 people involved in them. They vary in their frequency of meeting from weekly to monthly, depending on what the trio want. It is an opportunity for more intimate

sharing and prayer with strict confidentiality. Sarah Hassell coordinates these so if you are interested in one, contact her at 07904 302887 [sarah.c.hassell@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.c.hassell@gmail.com)

### **Rustington Court Group**

We meet from 2.30pm to 4pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. We meet in Ian Ford's home at 14 Fairfield Road (which has one step into the house and plenty of roadside parking).

The ethos of the group is biblically based with plenty of time to share views in an often lively debate amongst friends with sometimes varying opinions. The afternoon consists of sharing, praying, Bible study, discussion, tea and chat. We are a close group who enjoy some social occasions together e.g. picnics in the garden and visits to cafes for coffee or lunch – with more planned!

**Springfield Group** meets on Cranborne Avenue every other Wednesday evening during school terms. The group facilitators are Sarah Hassell and Richard Wells.

We gather at around 7.30 for coffee/tea, aiming to provide a relaxed atmosphere in which people can explore the Bible and develop a closer relationship with God. The study usually lasts for about an hour with time for prayer afterwards, ending around 9.15pm. We hope that, as we meet, study and pray together those who join us will feel friendship and love. We aim to have a social event from time to time during the year.

### **St Gabriel's House Life Group**

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday afternoons at 2.15pm in St. Gabriel House, Darley Road, the home of the leaders Kate and Clive Dilloway. Our main purpose is to study and discuss the Bible together but we also pray together before finishing with tea and usually cake. We may be an older group but we enjoy challenges. This last year, we looked at some of the Big Issues that face us as Christians e.g. Creation, Gender, and even Death and Euthanasia, all from a biblical perspective. Recently we have looked at some of the minor Old Testament prophets which have added much to our understanding of the Bible story and even their relevance to today.