



Interserve: Update from our Mission Partners

Interserve makes Jesus Christ known to the neediest people of Asia and the Arab world by loving the whole person through word and deed.

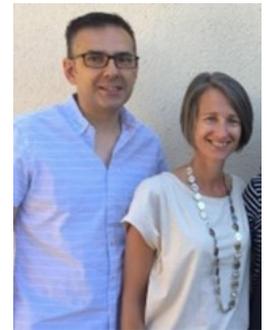
42% of the world's population have no access to the Good News about Jesus and 81% of these people live in Asia and the Arab world. Only 3% of Christian missionaries work with this group of people.

Interserve works by partnering with various denominations of the local church and has people of over 20 nationalities working with them. Many serve in countries where Christians are persecuted for their faith.

War, persecution, education, business and dreams of a better life drive 500,000 people to come to the UK each year. Many of these are from the Arab world where Interserve works. While politicians and the media argue about the cost of immigration, ordinary Christians are showing their faith by housing asylum seekers, defending refugees and helping them to integrate by teaching English while sharing the gospel.

We support two couples who are doing this through Interserve:

- Mike and Helen Francis working in Farnborough with Nepali people, often from a Buddhist background
- Jonathan and Helen working in Bristol amongst people from Africa and the Arab world with Muslim backgrounds



On Sunday 22 March Jonathan and Helen will share more about their work in Bristol at some of our services and in St George's café at 5pm over refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

Please go to the World Mission page on our website; sgsgashtead.com - community - world mission, for news and prayer requests from our Interserve Partners.

Liz Marlow



Launching Baby Play

We are launching a new group called Baby Play under Judith Lovett, our new family outreach worker. Judith will engage pastorally with new mums in our community and Baby Play is designed for them. Our hope is that it will become a key connecting point for many. As well as offering a safe space for babies, our main focus will be on the care of the parent and the wider family, building strong relationships which we pray will bear much fruit over the coming years.

Tuesday 24 March
10am - 12pm
St George's Church

Judith Lovett
Family Outreach Worker
familyoutreach@ashteadparish.org

CHURCH TALKS

Lent: Deepening our Prayer life

March

15	Prayer: Thanksgiving 8am guest speaker Alan Jenkins	Psalm 107:1 & Colossians 4:2
22	Mothering Sunday Prayer : Listening Choral VI guest speaker Jon Prior	1 Samuel 3:1-21
26	Messy Church Healing of the paralysed man	Mark 2:1-12
29	Prayer: Interceding	Esther 4



sgsgashtead.com



SGSGAshtead



SGSGAshteadChurch

Coming Up

Lent Lunches

Mondays in March and April, 12pm - 1.30pm, Dell Centre
Lunches continue on Mondays in March and end on 6 April. All proceeds to Water Aid, everyone welcome.

Evangelism meeting

Monday 16 March, 8pm, Dell Centre
Come to explore developing our outreach as a Church.

Contemplative Prayer

Monday 16 March, 8pm, St Giles' Church
An hour of stillness, with prayers, bible readings, music and silence, a time to stop and come to focus on the presence of God.

Open Mix

Saturday 21 March, St George's

Interserve

Sunday 22 March, 5pm, St George's café
Jonathan and Helen will share more about their work in Bristol.

Shed Time

Monday 30 March, 7.45pm, Dell Centre
An event for men, Alison Anderson will talk about aspects of physical and mental health.

Rector's Sabbatical

Wednesday 1 April, 10.30am - 12pm and 8pm - 9.30pm, St George's
Richard Jones will share experiences and insights from his recent sabbatical. All are very welcome to attend, no booking required.

Spiritual Book Group

Saturday 4 April, 10am - 12pm, Dell Centre
We will discuss the spiritual and pastoral impact that the book 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse' by Charlie Macksey has had on those who have read it. If you would like to come along, please contact Sharon.Seal@ashteadparish.org.



Eco Church

The PCC have given careful thought to looking at our response in caring for the environment that God created. The first step was to complete an eco-church questionnaire on how well we are doing and then to take steps to become better stewards of our community and world. The questionnaire looks at areas of church life like teaching, buildings, lifestyle etc. This is now completed and there are some changes that we are beginning to make, including encouraging people to refill their water bottles instead of buying new 'single use' plastic bottles. Currently we are working towards getting a bronze award. If you would like to know more, please contact Liz Marlow on phil.liz.marlow@btinternet.com.

Thanks John! We want to say a huge thank you to John Cooper for covering the Ministry PA position for seven months! We thanked him as a staff with a church classic; a lovely cake. Sarah Jones is now doing a great job as our new Ministry PA.



Easter Prayer Experience

St George's Church will be open 24 hours a day with interactive prayer stations, each providing creative ways to pray and connect with the Easter story. The Easter Prayer Experience is good for all ages, including families who would like to journey through the Easter story with their children and pray together. To join us in this exciting non-stop prayer-a-thon, please sign up for a slot! A link to the 24/7 sign-up page is on sgsgashtead.com.

Lay Leadership

As a church we value enormously all our volunteers. The PCC and staff team have discussed how we might equip and train people to become key lay leaders in our church community. It is important going forward that we continue to build a clear structure and lay leaders will be key in making this work. If you would like to find out more, please contact Sharon.Seal@ashteadparish.org.

Coronavirus

We ask you not to come to church if you've got one of the possible symptoms. Please wash your hands before coming to church. During Communion we will not offer the Chalice and not make physical contact.

Please pray for

- those who are sick, especially for Joan Cooper, and for those who give on-going care so faithfully to their loved ones
- those affected by the coronavirus around the world, those suffering because of the virus locally, either because of worry or knowing someone who is ill
- our church as we look to deepen our relationship with God during Lent, that we might find time to reflect and pray
- our youth after the Shift event, that they and their friends might grow in their relationship with God
- the family and friends of Graham Griffin, who died on 4 March