



Loving
God,
Serving
People,
Growing
Community

St Peter's Community



Our Vision

Becoming the people
God made us to be

St Peter's Vision

Being a Christian is about following Jesus; drawing close to him, learning from him and serving like he served, all as part of a Christian community. As we do this together we grow to realise more of our potential, we never arrive, but we can always get closer to who we could be. So, simply stated, the vision of St Peter's is:

Becoming the people God made us to be.

And we aim to help one another do that by focussing on the things we see the church doing in the Bible;
Loving God, Serving People and Growing Community



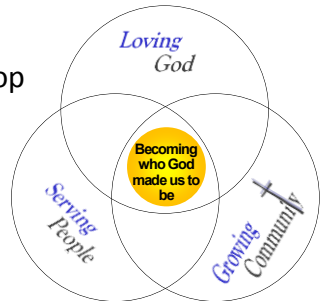
Loving God

We want to help one another experience the love and power of God, growing in our awareness of His love for us and learning to take time just to be with him.

We also want to help one another learn more about God; the history of his interaction with humanity, the richness of our inheritance in the Bible, the guidance he has given and still gives today and more

Serving People

We aim to help one another identify and develop our gifts and talents and enable each of us serve where God is calling us to make a difference. We work together to identify the needs of the people in our village to find ways that we can help.



Growing Community

We work on being a community where relationships are real and supportive, where all are welcomed and can feel at home as part of our church family. We want to grow in our love for one another as a community and we want that love and hospitality to overflow to the wider village community.

Becoming who God made us to be

We believe if we focus on growing the church in these areas then we'll provide the right environment for making new disciples, helping every member to grow in faith, in service and in belonging. Together becoming the people that God made us to be.

Values

Our values are like a 'highway code' by which we all journey together and hopefully avoid accidents, or road rage! 😊

We feel that the guidance St Paul gave the church in Colossae outlines a set of values to which we aspire. We do not always get it right, but they are a good target for which to aim:



“... clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let

the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”



(Colossians 3:12-17)

St Peter's Community

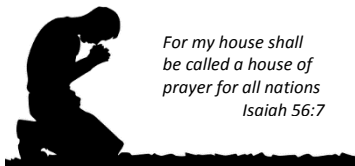
We believe God's plan for changing our world involves him helping people (through all their highs and lows, joys and sorrows, happiness, sadness, anger and grief) to become all that he made them to be. And, whilst on their own journey, helping others to do the same.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us on our journey. We all have a part to play in helping one another and in sharing the love of God with our community and the wider world.



The following pages on 'Loving God', 'Serving People', 'Growing Community' and 'Becoming' give ideas of how we aim to help people on their journey in each of those areas.

We surround all that we do with prayer and our hope is that St Peter's community would grow to become a house of prayer and blessing.



*For my house shall
be called a house of
prayer for all nations
Isaiah 56:7*

We are all individuals and will all relate to things differently. However you choose to journey with us, you are welcome to engage with as much, or as little of this as you like.

Jesus said that he came that we may have life, and have it abundantly. Our prayer for you as you join us on our journey is that you would find your life overflowing with the abundant love of God and that you would know eternal life as something beautiful that starts now in this life and goes on for ever.



God bless you,

St Peter's Leadership Team 2018

Loving God

Helping one another to grow in the *knowledge* and *love* of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Jesus said that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. People encounter God and learn in many different ways, so we offer different services, groups, events and courses to help people on their journey.



Our **House of Prayer** ministries help keep prayer at the centre of all we do as a community. As well as our regular prayer meetings in church there are many other ways that we encourage people to engage in prayer and go deeper in their relationship with God.

Church Services Our **10:30am service** has an informal style with contemporary worship and children's groups. On the first Sunday of the month, all ages stay together for a fun, lively service called '**Simply Celebrate**' which starts with **breakfast at 10.00am**.

On the 2nd and 4th Sundays we have a communion service.



For those who like a more traditional service -

At 8:30am on 1st and 3rd Sundays we have a formal spoken Book of Common Prayer communion service.

At 11am on the first Thursday of the month we have an ecumenical communion service with traditional hymns.

Just Space A service on 4th Sundays in the evening where we meet to explore ways of knowing God through Contemplative Prayer.



Church in the Pub A monthly meeting to explore world news from a Christian perspective

Simply Messy A monthly relaxed and informal service with a warm welcome for the whole family. It involves construction, crafts, songs, drama, games and a hot meal together.

Youth Work We have two youth groups... 'Thrive' for 9-12 year olds which meet on the evening of 3rd Sundays in church and 'Connect' for 12-15 year olds which meet on 1st Sundays in the evenings at the vicarage.



Exploring Faith Courses We run a wide range of short courses, to help people explore the questions they have about faith in a relaxed and informal environment.

Serving People

Helping one another to identify and develop our gifts and talents in order that each of us can serve where God is calling us to make a difference.

Jesus said we should love our neighbours as ourselves. We help one another find the areas where God has given us a passion to make a difference. Our serving people ministries are specific church activities where we work together to bless people and help bring God's kingdom here on earth.



Meet and Eat is a monthly lunchtime club for adults in the village. It meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month for a simple meal with good company and entertainment/quizzes/food for thought.

Fosse Foodbank has been set up by local churches working together, facilitated by St Peter's Kineton. Together we run a network of foodbanks around the area helping to feed local people in crisis.



Our **Community Action projects** are short term activities that look to bless people in the community. They have included garden clearances, decorating, helping people move home and remodelling a garden for a disabled child.

Community Support We run a range of courses and one to one mentoring to help with parenting (toddlers to teens), grow stronger relationships, improve budgeting skills, help with CV writing, interview skills and more.



Away Days We organise and heavily subsidise an annual coach trip to the coast for families in the village.

Schools We support our primary school with assemblies, a great 'St Peter's Storytellers' team, lunchtime groups, RE lessons, Governors and practical help at many events. At the high school we run a group, 'SALT', which encourages young people engage with social justice issues.

World Mission We aim to model good stewardship, so each year we



give away 10% of our income to selected charitable organisations in the UK and abroad. This ministry goes beyond just giving money, we aim to work with four charities and involve our church family so that we become true partners and friends in prayer, volunteering and practical support.

Growing Community

We want to grow in our love and care for one another and we want our love and hospitality to overflow to the wider village community.

Jesus said that we should love one another as he loves us. We help one another to build stronger friendships and make new ones through many different activities and events.

Meeting Point is a weekly coffee morning at St Peter's Church where people of all ages come to meet, chat and enjoy some homemade scones and cakes. Everyone welcome from 9am to 11am on Thursdays.



Outlook is monthly magazine with details of local village events and organisations as well as church activities. It's free and goes to every house in the village.

Food plays a major part in our community activities. We have regular whole church Bring and Share meals, Village Breakfasts where we invite the local community to join us, our home groups organise regular meals where they invite people to join them, vicarage lunches where we look to welcome newer people to our community and more.



Growing Community Events are aimed at bringing community together, making new friendships and strengthening old ones. These include concerts in the church, Teddy bear parachuting, Golf tournaments, BBQs, an inter-village Olympics, quiz and auction evenings, camping trips, walks around the area and more —in fact any event where we can have fun.



In 2015 the six Edgehill Churches worked together with many local people to put on the first Edgehill Passion Play; an original musical set in the week leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. Many local people were involved writing, composing, singing, acting, directing, playing music, conducting, technical support, costume making, set building, front of house, hospitality, etc. and many new friendships were made. In 2017 we organised Kineton's first Ballroom Dancing competition, Kineton does Strictly, with 16 local 'celebrities' taking part and raising money for charity.



All events are in the **weekly church notices** (available online or by email) and are advertised on the Edgehill Churches Facebook page.

Becoming

Helping one another to become the people that God made us to be.

Jesus said, "Follow me." If a rabbi invited you to follow him that meant he believed that you could become like him. St Paul wrote about the Lord's people 'being transformed into his likeness' (2 Cor 3:18). This is what we mean when we say we are becoming the people God made us to be. We've several ministries designed to help one another on this journey.

Our **home groups** provide a space for people to grow stronger connections with the church family, support one another in our journey as disciples and explore questions about life and faith.



Going Deeper Prayer Pilgrimages provide an opportunity for prayerfully seeking God in scripture with the help of one to one meetings with a prayer guide. Each pilgrimage lasts three to six weeks.

Establishing a Rule/Rhythm of life Recognising that God has given us many ministries: as a family member, in church, in employment, in other roles in our community, etc. and exploring how all of those might fit into a pattern that we can sustain and will help us to grow to become the person that God made us to be.



Exploring Faith 1 to 1 Many of us have questions about life and faith, but the challenge is where to begin or who to ask. For those that would like to explore their questions more fully, we offer one-to-one discussions to help people grow in confidence with their faith.

Guided Reflection When do we really get the chance to stand back and examine our life, faith, ministries, work, etc. For those that would like to 'take stock', we offer an opportunity to meet with someone to help them reflect on where they are with God, what they are doing in ministry and work, how they are connected in community, etc. This could be a one-off meeting, but many people find it helpful to pause for a reflection like this every year or two.



Courses We run a range of courses in areas like understanding your gifts and passions, Prayer Ministry, Living Well (*managing stress and building resilience*), Building Lasting Relationships, and more.