

St John
the Baptist
Burford

PARTNERSHIP at Burford Church

*Growing In Christ, Loving His People,
Reaching Burford and Beyond*

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1v3-6

When we think of church – and think of each other... what do we think?
The Apostle Paul wrote the words shown on the opposite page.

Paul's thoughts for the church are ones of joy – not simply because they are nice group of people, but because of their partnership in the Gospel with him. Paul loves that together they are working for the Gospel. And he expresses his confidence that the Gospel work will continue because God will work through them. (v6)

I love how both those things fit together, all Christians are in Partnership with each other but also all Christians are in Partnership with God as he works through them. Together with God, we have a partnership that will enable the good work of God to be completed through us.

This little booklet outlines some of the ways we can express our partnership with one another.

Come: Join us at one of our Sunday Services, be part of a midweek group or take part in any number of activities.

Pray: Join us at our Prayer Meeting on the first Wednesday of every month, pray each day through the Church Directory and for specific areas of church life.

Know: Get yourself in the Directory so you can have a copy of your own and be in touch with other people and they can be in touch with you. Sign up to Enews, a weekly round up of news, information and things happening across the Benefice

Serve: Let us serve together for the sake of the Gospel, and the remainder of this booklet outlines all sorts of ways you could be involved.

Give Financially: As we seek to be growing in Christ, loving his people and reaching Burford Benefice and beyond, we partner together in the financial costs of the entire ministry

Do please respond by reading about the opportunities to serve and filling in the form – either online or by using the back page of this booklet.

In the Partnership of the Gospel,

Tom Putt, Vicar

Opportunities to Serve on Sunday Mornings

Hosting at a Sunday Morning Service

We used to call this Welcomers. It involves arriving about 30 mins before the service, giving a friendly welcome to our congregations and particularly looking out for and welcoming visitors and newcomers.

Hosting at the 7:00 pm Sunday evening meeting

This is similar to the Sunday morning role but also involves putting out and putting away the tables and chairs.

Reading the lesson

Our readers are on rota which usually comes round about once a term. You are informed of the reading about a week in advance so there is plenty of time to prepare.

Leading the prayers during a service

Those who lead our prayers during the service are also on a rota.

Prayer team after the service

After each service we provide an opportunity for specific prayer either for an issue that has been on their mind or something that may have arisen during the service.

Tea/Coffee team after the service

The teams who serve us tea and coffee after the service are made up of 3 or 4 people who do one Sunday a month. Team members arrive about 30 mins before the service starts to set up and then leave the service during the last hymn. This role also involves washing up afterwards so you are often the last people to leave the building at around 1:30pm

JAM and Rock Solid Team Roles

Every Sunday we have age-appropriate Bible lessons in small groups covering creche up to school year 9. We teach and discuss the Bible and think about how to live for Jesus in our everyday lives. We pray, have games and craft and have fun! Each group has both a leader and a helper.

JAM and Rock Solid Clear-up Team:

Pack away equipment and clear the rooms once the children have been picked up.

JAM Welcomer:

Welcome and help families as they arrive, guard the main door and help visiting families fill out contact form.

Opportunities to serve with Music

Music Group

The music group lead the sung worship at the 11am service and make use of a wide range of instruments, from the organ and keyboard to a variety of wind and string instruments, guitars and drums as well as singers. The group is made up of church members of all ages but who are usually of grade 5 standard or above on their instrument.

Choir

A four-part choir contributes to leading 9.30 Matins on the second Sunday monthly, singing an introit, and leading the congregation in singing psalms and canticles. Singers rehearse on Saturday mornings for an hour and a half, and for a shorter time just before the service.

AV/Tech team

For the 11 am service the tech team arrive about 10:30 to set up our microphones, cameras, screens and streaming arrangements. Full training will be given to anyone helping with this team.

Bell Ringing

We ring the bells for about 30 minutes before the 11 am service, and by request at weddings. Ringing practice is on a Tuesday evening. No prior experience is needed as full training is given.

Opportunities to serve during the week

Warwick Hall Reception

The Warwick Hall is a thriving hub used both by church and community groups as well as lot of visitors to our café. The reception is staffed entirely by volunteers who normally offer a morning or afternoon each week.

Welcoming visitors to the church

As a magnificent grade one listed building we get lots of visitors to our church. We try to keep the building open from 10 am until 4 pm everyday. Welcomers often offer to cover a 2 or 3 hour shift either on a regular or occasional basis. Visitors are often keen to chat and ask and this is often a great opportunity to great opportunity to share something of the gospel.

Flower Arranging

The flower arranging team work on a rota basis and usually create two large arrangements each week. Prior experience of flower arranging is preferred but help if always available.

Rock-a-Tots Team Roles

We serve our local community by running two back-to back singing and parachute groups for 0-3+ age. Every Tuesday morning from 9-11:30am.

Bakers: To provide tray bakes. 1 or 2 times a term.

Helpers: To help host the morning with a small team. Occasional or weekly.

Coffee & Company

This group meets at 10:30 each week after our mid-week communion service either in the Church or, in colder months, in the Warwick Hall. Volunteers, make the tea and coffee, bake or serve cake and chat to the guests.

Signpost

Signpost runs each Wednesday from 10am-12pm in the Warwick Hall and is for anyone in our local community. It provides a confidential, listening ear and either appropriate practical help or signposting to professionals and organisations who can assist.

Time Out

Time Out is a social group for older people which meets every week on Mondays in the Warwick Hall. We start at 11 and finishing at about 3. Volunteers can be regular or occasional and help with setting up/clearing away, giving lifts to the less mobile, organising activities or befriending the members.

Specific events aimed for men or women

We usually organise 2 or 3 events each year designed specifically for either men or women eg Men's breakfast or a Women's evening. Volunteers are always welcome to help set up, cook or be part of the organising team.

Event Hospitality

Similarly we also put on several events for the whole church family and their friends. Events might include a barn dance, a day out, harvest supper, a quiz night or even a weekend away. Help is always welcome both with planning and organising the events.

Small groups

Small groups are one of the best ways of growing together in our faith. A small group makes it easier to get to know people in the church family. A typical evening will include talking over coffee, discussing a Bible passage together, and praying for each other. Group members seek to encourage and support one another in living the Christian life week by week.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC are the trustees and the leadership group of the church. It meets every two months and members typically serve for 3 years. Elections occur each year at our AGM. There are also several sub committees including, Finance, Fabric, Management, Mission Support and Evangelism. Sub-committees are made up of a combination of PCC members and volunteers with a particular interest or experience in that area.

Signing up

Please go to <http://tiny.cc/partnersignup> and complete the online form to indicate

- any ways in which you would like to partner with us,
- to tell us about areas of church life you are interested in,
- to sign up for e-news and
- to be in our church directory.

Alternatively if you find it difficult to access online material you can complete the tear-off paper sheet on the next page.

Please note that we are using this opportunity to ensure our distribution lists are up to date so unless you complete these details you will no longer receive e-news or remain in the next edition of the church directory.

Safeguarding: Duty of Care and Safer Recruitment of Volunteers:

We have a responsibility and duty of care to look after our volunteer teams and also to those that we serve. Therefore, we follow the recommended Church of England Safer Recruitment guidelines and provide Safeguarding training for volunteers and also obtain DBS checks and references for those working with vulnerable groups.

I am interested in serving in the following areas of Church life. If you tick a box below the leader of that activity will contact you in March to discuss with you more of what is involved.



Please only tick areas that you are NOT already serving in. An outline of each role can be found in this booklet.

Sunday Mornings

- ☐ Hosting at the 9:30 am Sunday service
- ☐ Hosting at the 11:00 am Sunday service
- ☐ Hosting at the 7:00 pm Sunday evening meeting
- ☐ Reading the lesson
- ☐ Leading the prayers during a service
- ☐ Prayer team after the service
- ☐ Tea/Coffee team after the service
- ☐ JAM/Rock Solid group leader/assistant
- ☐ JAM clean-up team
- ☐ JAM welcomer

Music

- ☐ Music Group
- ☐ Choir
- ☐ AV/Tech team
- ☐ Bell Ringing



During the Week

- ☐ Warwick Hall Reception
- ☐ Welcoming visitors to the church
- ☐ Flower Arranging
- ☐ Rock-a-Tots
- ☐ Coffee & Company
- ☐ Signpost
- ☐ Time Out
- ☐ Men's / Women's events team
(cooking/setting up/clearing away)
- ☐ Event Hospitality
- ☐ Fabric Committee
- ☐ PCC

I would like more information/be kept informed about

- ☐ Joining a home group
- ☐ Men's breakfast
- ☐ Women Events
- ☐ Financial Giving

- ☐ I would like to receive Enews
- ☐ Please include me in the Church Directory

My contact details

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Mobile number:

Telephone number:

