
COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday 2nd August

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (church)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (church)
10:15am SPK Registration (hall)
10:30am Communion Service (church)
12:15pm Summer Picnic (vicarage garden)

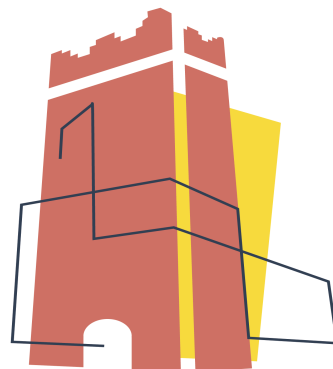
Wednesday 5th August

10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)

Sunday 9th August

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (church)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (church)
10:15am SPK Registration (hall)
10:30am Morning Service (church)

The full church calendar, with further details of locations etc, may be viewed online [via the website](#) or via ChurchSuite.



St Peter's Update

Sunday 2nd August 2026



NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

07772 615378 | mark.wallace@stpeterscolchester.org

Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

07947 136 048 | office@stpeterscolchester.org

Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

07946 071 246 | safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org

Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

01245294457 | safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

Churchwardens and other office-holders at St Peter's may be contacted via the Office (office@stpeterscolchester.org).

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we begin a short August sermon series in Genesis, looking at *Women of the Promise*. We start with Eve, before going on to Sarah & Hagar, Rebekah, Leah & Rachel, and Tamar.

These are not simple stories of "Bible heroines" to imitate. They are often painful, complicated, and deeply human stories. They include faith and failure, longing and disappointment, sin and suffering, waiting and hope. But running through them all is the faithfulness of God.

From the beginning of Genesis, the Lord promises that the offspring of the woman will crush the serpent's head. That promise is not lost, even through the tangled lives of sinful people. God keeps his word, preserves his promise, and prepares the way for the Lord Jesus Christ.

My prayer is that this series will help us see again the grace of God in the real lives of his people, and the glory of Christ as the true fulfilment of all God's promises.

With best wishes,

Mark

FIRST SUNDAY PICNIC – Sunday 2nd August

Our next "First Sunday" Picnic will be after the Morning Service this Sunday (2nd August) in the Vicarage Garden, weather permitting. Please bring your own lunch, and a chair or picnic rug if you can. If you have not brought anything with you this morning, please don't let that stop you coming – you would still be very welcome to join us, stay for a while, chat, and enjoy time together as a church family.

There is no programme and no need to sign up. Just come across after the service and join in as you are able. All are very welcome, whether you are new to St Peter's or have been here for years.

COLCHESTER FOODBANK AT ST PETER'S

Each week, Colchester Foodbank uses St Peter's Hall as one of its local foodbank centres, helping provide emergency food and practical support for people in crisis. We are glad to be able to support this important work by making the Hall available, and we are thankful for the volunteers who serve local people in this way. This is one of the ways our buildings are used during the week to support people in need across Colchester. Please do pray for all those involved in the Foodbank, and for those who come needing help and support.

There may also be opportunities for St Peter's people to volunteer. If you might be interested in helping, please speak to Lizzie Wallace on 07947 136 048, who can point you in the right direction.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AND RIDE AND STRIDE – coming up in September

As part of the national *Heritage Open Days* event, we plan to open the church over two weekends: Saturday 12th – Sunday 13th September and Saturday 19th – Sunday 20th September. This is a great opportunity to welcome visitors and share something of St Peter's – and there will be many ways to join in and help: cleaning and decorating, welcoming on the door, serving refreshments, donating plants or home-made crafts, providing cakes, or simply sitting and chatting to visitors.

The first Saturday, 12th September, is also *Ride and Stride* day, raising money for the Friends of Essex Churches Trust and for St Peter's. Whatever your age or mobility, there should be enjoyable ways to take part or support the day. After last year's success, we would love as many people as possible to join in again.

More details will follow, but please put the dates in your diary. If you would like to offer help early, please speak to Lizzie in the Church Office on 07947 136 048.

MISSION PARTNERSHIPS AND CHARITABLE GIVING

Later this year, the PCC will be thinking more carefully about how St Peter's supports mission partnerships and charitable giving beyond our own immediate church life. This is still at an early stage, but we would be glad to hear from anyone who has thoughts, questions, or suggestions. Please speak to Mark, or to one of the Churchwardens – John or David – if you would like to contribute to the conversation.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS...

- The Prayer Pointers for August are now available at the back of church.
- Our summer arrangements for SPK are now in place. Younger children should continue to head to the Hall for registration as usual, where there will be a simpler summer programme. Spark-age young people will remain in church for the whole service, giving them a good opportunity to share more fully in the worship and life of the wider church family.
- Macmillan Coffee Morning: The Macmillan Community Voices team are holding a coffee morning on Tuesday 4th August at Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester. The event is open to all, raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support and helping encourage supportive conversations around cancer. This may be of particular interest to anyone affected by cancer, or who would like to support others. Please see the invitation at the back of church for details.
- Small Groups: Our Small Groups are taking a break over July and August. If you would be interested in joining a Small Group when they restart in September, please contact the Church Office on 07947 136048, or use the Connect form.
- Tiny Tots: Tiny Tots has finished for the summer and, God willing, will return in September. Please do pray for this important ministry to local families. We also need more team members for the autumn, so please speak to Lizzie Wallace if you might be interested in helping.
- Please note that the 9am BCP Communion services will pause during July and August, and resume in September.