
COMING UP THIS WEEK...

Sunday 30th August

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

Wednesday 2nd September

10:15am Coffee & Chat (mercury cafe)
11:00am Freda Gunton Lodge Communion Service

Thursday 3rd September

10:00am Tiny Tots Prep Session (hall)

Sunday 6th September

9:30am Musicians' Rehearsal (church)
10:00am Team Prayer Meeting (church)
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

COLCHESTER

NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS

Mark Wallace – Vicar of St Peter's

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Lizzie Wallace – Church Administrator

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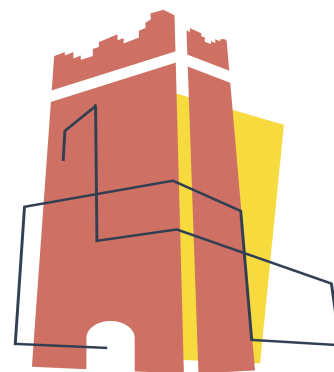
Clare Reid – Parish Safeguarding Officer

07946 071 246 | safeguarding@stpeterscolchester.org

Amanda Knight – Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser

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



St Peter's Update

Sunday 30th August 2026

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

As we come towards September, I want to encourage all of us to think carefully and prayerfully about how we will keep growing as disciples of the Lord Jesus.

At St Peter's, Sunday worship remains central. We gather to hear God's word, pray, praise, receive the Lord's Supper, encourage one another, and be reminded again of the grace of Christ. But discipleship is not only about what happens on Sundays. The Lord also grows us as we explore faith honestly, engage in the life and service of the church, and equip ourselves to know him better and serve him more faithfully.

That is why, this autumn, we are putting particular emphasis on three simple invitations: *Explore*, *Engage*, and *Equip*. For some, the next step may be to explore Christian faith; for others, it may be to engage more fully in church life by serving, joining in, or helping practically; for others, it may be to take up the opportunity of *EQUIP*, our new midweek discipleship pattern.

None of this is about adding busyness for the sake of it. It is about helping each of us take a wise and realistic next step. My hope is that everyone at St Peter's would be able to identify one way this autumn to grow in faith, deepen fellowship, serve others, or become better equipped for the Christian life.

Please do read the notices inside this Update, pray about what might be right for you, and ask the Lord to help us grow together in Christ.

With best wishes,

EXPLORE...

This autumn we're running Christianity Explored, a relaxed opportunity to look at the Christian faith through Mark's Gospel. You don't need to know anything about the Bible, and you can ask whatever questions you like. There's no pressure to read aloud, pray, or say what you believe.

We're planning to begin on **Tuesday 8th September at 7.30pm**, and would love to gather a small group to explore Christianity together. We also know that a regular Tuesday evening won't work for everyone. So if you'd like to explore Christianity but can't make the group, don't let that stop you – we can also arrange informal opportunities at other times of the week, at times that work for you.

Interested? Or know someone who might be? Please [click here](#), speak to Mark directly, or message 07947 136 048.

ENGAGE...

As we look ahead to the autumn, there are lots of ways to engage more fully in the life of St Peter's. Some are regular commitments; others are occasional or one-off opportunities. All of them help us love one another, serve the wider community, and build up the church family. Here are some current ways to get involved:

- **Church and Churchyard Working Party:** Join us on Thursday evening as we care practically for the church building and grounds. There will be jobs for different ages and abilities, and all help is welcome.
- **Ride and Stride:** Take part in Ride and Stride on Saturday 12th September, raising money for the Friends of Essex Churches Trust and for St Peter's. You can walk, cycle, visit churches, sponsor others, or help welcome visitors at St Peter's.
- **Heritage Open Days:** Help us open St Peter's to visitors over the Heritage Open Days weekends in September. We need people to welcome, serve refreshments, provide cakes, help prepare the church, or simply be present to chat with those who come in.
- **Jericho Road Group:** Join the team seeking to support and care for those in particular need. This is one way we can respond more deliberately to practical needs with Christian compassion and wisdom.
- **Practical care and support:** From time to time, people in the church family need help with lifts, meals, shopping, visiting, or other simple practical support. We would like to know who may be willing to help occasionally when needs arise.
- **Sunday morning teams:** There are many ways to serve on Sundays, including welcome, refreshments, music, technology, children's work, and practical set-up. If you are not currently serving, please consider whether this autumn might be the right time to join a team.

If you would like to know more about any of these opportunities, please speak to Mark, Lizzie, or one of the Churchwardens.

EQUIP...

This autumn we are launching *EQUIP – Growing in knowledge and love of God*: a new, flexible way to help us keep growing as Christians through the week. Choose between 'Bible Overview' and 'Christian Discipleship'. Choose a Fast or Steady pace. Work through the material at times that suit your life – but with regular opportunities to talk, pray, ask questions and learn with others.

EQUIP could work alongside an existing small group, or as an alternative if a regular weekly group has never really worked for you. It can also work if you are often away from Colchester, and you could even do it alongside your husband or wife, or a friend. Whether you have been a Christian for many years or still feel fairly new or uncertain in faith, this could be a really good opportunity to take a fresh step forward.

- EQUIP Launch Evening – **Wednesday 9th September**, 7.30pm
- EQUIP begins – **Monday 21st September**

Interested? Take a next step. You do not need to decide everything now – speak to Mark, or use [the short ChurchSuite form](#) to say you are interested, come to the Launch Evening, ask for a conversation, or just be kept informed.

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS

- **New Sunday arrangements:** From Sunday 6th September, our new pattern for *St Peter's Kids* begins. Children will spend more of the service in church with the whole congregation, before going out to the Hall for a shorter time of age-appropriate teaching and play. The aim is to help us worship more fully as one church family, while children and adults engage with the same Bible passage each Sunday.