



Getting Connected @ St Thomas' s Church

Here at St Thomas' s Church we encourage everyone to join in *sharing God' s love from the heart of the city*. We believe that a healthy Christian faith is lived out in three dimensions - UP, IN, and OUT. As a result, we encourage everyone to find:

1. a place where they can worship God and receive from him (UP),
2. a place where they can know and be known by others in the church (IN),
3. a place where they can serve God in ministry and mission (OUT).

Because God has made each one of us different, we as a church have committed ourselves to developing *multiple points of entry* into church life, and *multiple ways of belonging* as we live out the Christian faith. One size does not fit all!

That' s why we' ve put together this directory, to give you a snapshot of what is currently happening at St Thomas' s Church. As you look through this directory, please ask God if he is calling you to get involved in one or more of these areas:

- If so, please get in touch with the person named as a contact, to find out more about getting involved.
- If not, is there something else that God is calling you to start? If you believe that God has given you a passion to reach people we are not currently reaching, pick up a leaflet called *'How to start a Missional Group'* from the welcome desk in the foyer, or get in touch with a member of our clergy team for a chat: Jon, Craig, or Helen (each firstname@st.tees.org.uk).

CHURCH-WIDE WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND BIBLE-STUDY

SUNDAYS

Sunday

We have three main Sunday congregations, each with a different flavour:

9am Reflective and peaceful

11am Informal and friendly

7pm Lively and contemporary

Junior church groups and youth groups are offered at the 9 and 11am services.

MIDWEEK

Wednesday

Wednesday Communion:

We offer a 'said' communion service every Wednesday at noon, which lasts for 30-40 minutes.

Every Thursday at 7pm in the upstairs in the Church centre. If you want to gather with others to pray for the spiritual renewal of St Thomas' Church, for the forthcoming building project, and for revival in our city and nation, then join us for this very simple weekly prayer meeting, anytime you can make it.

LIFE GROUPS

PRAYER SUPPORT
FRIENDSHIP COFFEE
CAKE OUTREACH
FELLOWSHIP BIBLE
STUDY FUN SHARING

We have a network of approximately 20 life groups (which typically vary from 6-20 members) that meet regularly for Bible study and prayer, friendship and pastoral care, and gentle mutual accountability. Membership of a life group is a great way to get more involved in the church – if you'd like to find out more about joining a home group, contact Jon or Anne on lifegroups@st.tees.org.uk

MINISTRIES

There are a huge variety of ways to get involved in the many ministries that take place in the life of St Thomas's Church. If you are interested in joining one of these ministries, please do contact the named ministry leader for more information.

20S AND 30S

Want to meet others in their 20s+30s for bible study, a walk, a drink, some cake, games nights and more? Contact Claire Cooke via the church Office (admin@st.tees.org.uk)

ALPHA COURSE/START/ CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED



The Courses are an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith; it's relaxed, low key,

friendly and fun. We begin each evening with a meal or pudding, followed by a talk, then divide into small groups for a time of discussion on the talk.

Contact details Claire Cooke e-mail claire@st.tees.org.uk

ANGELS

Whether it's illness, bereavement, or the happy crisis of a new arrival, we all go through times when the offer of practical help can be, literally, a godsend. If you need practical help in a time of crisis, please seek it first with your home group, or otherwise contact the church office (Tel 590 410 or admin@st.tees.org.uk), who can put you in touch with the Angels team. To find out more about joining the Angels team, contact Wendy Moore via the church office.

ARK

The Ark meets each Friday 6-9pm. We provide a hot meal, short word, prayer, film and friendship to the homeless, those in poor housing and anyone who wants a friendly night out. Contact Anne Carman via the Church Office admin@st.tees.org.uk for more information.

BOOK GROUP

Meets every other month on a Saturday morning to discuss the book we have chosen to read. We try to have a good variety of books, all fiction and most are available as films and audio books. We welcome all comers and value everyone's views. We have a number of socials throughout the year. This group is a very friendly drop in group - no compulsion to come to all of the meetings, just turn up! Contact Anne Purvis via the church office for more information.

BUSINESS NETWORK

Whether you are a sole trader or manager in a local business, this is an open group aiming to share news, advice, opportunities and action plans for church and community. Co-ordinator: Robin Dunnington robin@rydalengineering.com 01524 849131

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY –

Our vision for the Children's and Families' ministry is "sharing God's love with His children." We do this through lots of groups and events, and aim to inspire and equip children to share God's love wherever they are.

Regular groups include:

- 7 Junior Church groups across 2 Sunday congregations,
- Little Fishes toddler group (Wednesdays 10-11.30am term-time),
- Refresh (midweek for Y4-6),
- Judah music group,
- Saturday junior football.
- Messy Church, monthly, 3rd Tuesdays
- Easter Holiday Club
- Light Explosion
- The Summer Fun Day

For more information, or to get involved, contact children@st.tees.org.uk

CONNECTIONS TEAMS

The purpose of the Connections Teams for each service is to befriend newcomers and to help them integrate into the life of the church.

Contact Dorothy & Adrian Mairs for 9am Service, Jon Scamman for the 11am service and Claire Cooke for the 7pm

CRAFT AID



The shop sells Fairtrade goods and gives away all profit to international development charities. Open Tuesday and Wednesday 10:30am to 3:00pm, Thursday and Friday 10:30am to 1pm and 11:00am to 2:00pm on Saturdays. For more info, Tel 01524 590419 or email: corina.redmore@tesco.net

EXTRA TIME



Extra Time is an open fellowship for older people, it plans and arranges an interesting and varied programme of events, activities and talks. It takes place on the first and third Tuesday morning of each month in the church centre.

Contact details Alan/Pat Williams 01524 542777, e-mail apwill@talktalk.net

FLOWER GROUP

Each week flowers are arranged in church. This group also provide flowers for weddings and funerals when requested. For more information, contact Jane Thwaites via the church office (Tel 590 410).

INTERNATIONAL WELCOME

- An Asylum Seekers Support network, which works alongside other groups in Morecambe and Lancaster.
- English Language Classes
- We also provide some foreign language Bibles and written sermon notes to help non-English speakers

For more information contact Maja Moller via the church office admin@st.tees.org.uk

JUNIOR FOOTBALL



St. T's Junior Football, Saturday mornings, 9.30 - 10.30am at Dallas Road Boys Club. 40+ children, in three squads, aged 4 - 12. Experienced players and beginners welcome. Our great footballers need more coaches. Contact Katie -- 07868314807, katie.schad@hotmail.co.uk

LYRICS AND LUNCH



is a group for dementia patients and their carers where we enjoy singing and having

lunch together. We meet twice a month at St Chad's Church Hall, Torrisholme Road, from 10.45-1pm. Contact Jeanette Main via the Church office or by emailing jeanette@st.tees.org.uk or see the church website (look under 'groups') for further details.

MARRIAGE COURSE



We offer an annual Marriage Course, which includes a delicious two-course meal served at candle-lit tables for two,

using the 7 sessions of the Marriage Course (see www.relationshipcentral.org for more info). No group discussions involved! Contact: Alison / Nick Johnstone (amj0@dsl.pipex.com)

MEN'S MINISTRY



We encourage men to actively engage in discipleship. This might be one-to-one

mentoring, prayer triplets, running mates or it might be home groups or missional groups. We have events such as an in-house cricket matches, a meals out, and best of all combing two great male passions - fire and meat with a BBQs and bonfires

MISSION ON THE MARSH

We are a group of people, working in partnership with the Priory church, who are seeking ways to be salt and light to

those living on and around the Marsh estate. We currently meet to pray weekly, and are exploring opportunities which may involve cooking, gardening and mentoring to support the work of the Marsh Community Centre and other groups. Contact details:- Sally Pidd spidd@doctors.org.uk 07804 189907
Prayer meeting:- 11.45am Tuesdays St Thomas More Centre off Willow Lane

OPEN CHURCH

Three times a week the Church is open to allow anyone passing by to come in to pray or just sit quietly. A rota of pairs of people look after the church and visitors. Monday morning, Wednesday afternoon Friday afternoon.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM



Angela Letchford co-ordinates this group; information leaflet on the welcome desk. Access to

Pastoral care is either by telephone 590410 or email to the church office, admin@st.tees.org.uk. Alternatively Angela can be approached directly or via pastoral@st.tees.org.uk

PARENTING COURSE / PARENTING FORUM

The course, Parenting for Beginners, aims to equip and encourage all parents. It is aimed primarily at parents of pre school children. The Parenting forum is aimed at parents of Primary School children. For more details see Emma Dixon children@st.tees.org.uk

PCC

The Parochial Church Council is the trustee body of the church, with members

elected annually from those on the electoral roll. Much of the work of the PCC is carried out by sub-groups, which include both elected PCC members, and also others in the church with a particular area of relevant expertise. These include:

- Building Oversight Group and Building Management Group
- Health and Safety Group
- Mission Support Group
- Pre-school committee
- Safeguarding Adults Group
- Safeguarding Children Group
- Vicar's Advisory Group

For more information about the PCC or any of its sub-groups, contact Jon Scamman on jon@st.tees.org.uk

POLICE LUNCH

Providing a lunch to our neighbouring Police Station, as thanks for their work. More information from Meg Eagles via the Church Office admin@st.tees.org.uk

PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

There is a Prayer Ministry Team on duty during and after each Sunday Service, offering confidential prayer.

For anyone interested in joining a Prayer Ministry Team we offer training once a year. The teams come together for fellowship and training twice a year.

Contact Angela Letchford via the Church Office

PRE SCHOOL



A term time preschool for all children aged 2-5, rated 'Good' by Ofsted. Contact

info@preschool.tees.org.uk

<https://www.preschool.tees.org.uk/>

SPORT AT ST TEES

We are a place for people to arrange informal games & activities that all can be invited to join. If you have a suggestion, let us know. Volunteers are needed to maintain the Facebook page, help organise sports evenings, and to be available when we have a major event opportunity to impact the community (e.g. World Cup).

Sport at St Tees currently includes:

- **The Walking Group:** an open and friendly group of all-age walkers who enjoy trips to the Lakes and Dales on Saturdays. We aim to invite friends, neighbours and colleagues to join us in relaxed fellowship. Contact Stephen & Sally Taylor or Sally Pidd. taylorssallya@gmail.com. 01524 34550.
- **Monday Night Men's Football.** 8-9pm at Ripley astroturf. We would love for church members to come along, but the purpose is to have an environment where those who don't know Jesus can come along, hear some Good News and build relationships with those who follow Christ.
- **Badminton:** Friday nights, Salt Ayre sports centre. Contact Maja Moeller for more info, on moeller.maja@gmail.com

STUDENTS @ ST TEES

Student Ministry at St. Thomas's aims to effectively disciple students by giving them somewhere to belong in the worshipping life of the Church and the extension of hospitality and opportunities for active service in the wider life of the Church. If you can offer to make food, or be a host for a student. Contact Claire

Cooke on claire@st.tees.org.uk for more info.

SUNG WORSHIP BANDS

We offer a wide range of sung worship styles at our Sunday services, involving a large number of musicians. All ages of musician are welcome - contact Jono Peatman on jonopeatman@st.tees.org.uk if you're interested in getting involved.

SUNDAY SERVICE SUPPORT TEAMS

There are many ways to be involved in offering practical support to help our Sunday services to happen each week. These include:

- **Welcome Teams**
- **Connections teams**
- **Coffee Teams**
- **Sidesperson Team** – helping people find seats, take up the collection, guide people to communion, etc: Contact Anne on Anne.Gager@Cumbria.ac.uk
- **Warden's Assistants** – helping the church wardens with all the practical aspects of setting up for and clearing up after each Sunday service. Contact Chris on c.park@lanacs.ac.uk or Katharine on katharine.shentall@virgin.net
- **Visual Worship Team** to run the sound desk and video projection desk, contact Jono Peatman on jonopeatman@st.tees.org.uk.
- **Readers** to bring us our Bible reading in Sunday services. Contact Pauline Joslin, admin@st.tees.org.uk
- **Collection Counting Team**, Contact Chris Park (c.park@lancaster.ac.uk).

THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

A group who specifically intercede for St. Thomas's Church and the city. For more information contact Viv Hawksby via the church Office admin@st.tees.org.uk.

WOMEN'S GROUP

Women's Group welcome all women to meet to relax and share news over coffee at 11 am on the first Saturday of each month in the Storey Café. And the 2nd Wednesday in the upstairs Church centre. We have a much used prayer chain so we can support one another and others in prayer. Contact Ingrid Eglese: ieglese@mac.com or vivien.hawksby@btinternet.com



YOUTH MINISTRY

In our youth ministry at St Thomas's, we have lots of fun and games whilst also looking into God's word and how to live our lives for him. We have five main youth groups:

- **Encounter** (11-14's), Sunday 11am
- **The Gap** (14-18's), Sunday 11am
- **Rock Solid**: Monday night youth club for 11-14's, 7-8.30pm
- **Amplify** Bible study group: Thursday nights, 14-18's, Youth room in church.

In addition, we have Saturday night socials, have a Style Weekender and go to Soul Survivor in the summer and join in with Live, the inter-church youth group. For more information, contact Ali Demet on Ali@st.tees.org.uk