



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

BIGGLESWADE

Christ-Centred – Welcoming – Inclusive – Outward - Looking



VIII Sunday after Trinity

26 July 2026

VIII Sunday after Trinity, 26 July, 2026

10am **Parish Communion**
Mafambisa Commissioning Service

Readings:

I Kings 3.5-12 *Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom*
Romans 8.26-39 *God's Love in Christ Jesus*
Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52 *Parables about the Kingdom of Heaven*

Collect: Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and
govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of
your laws and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both
here and ever, we may be preserved in body and
soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Zoom To join [Click here](#)

Meeting ID: 931 2877 4094

Passcode: 263739

Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830

(No Sunday School until 13 September)

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

12noon Baptisms in church

Hear2 Listen Holiday Club 8:30am—1pm Mon-Fri

Wednesday 29 July

11am Penrose Court Home Communion

Thursday 30 July

9:30am Holy Communion

Readings: Jeremiah 18.1-6

Matthew 13.47-53

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

11:30am Funeral—Emily Smith RIP,
St Andrew's Church

Saturday 1 August

Mafambisa Team depart

10am-12noon Coffee Shop, Chapter House

Sunday 2 August

10am Parish Communion

Coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

12 noon Baptism in church

Vicar: Revd. Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243)

Churchwardens Rosemary Bentley (07885 431928)
Rob Butcher (07733 226027)

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All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:
office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by **Tuesdays, 11am**

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

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Intercessions Let us pray for: Lord Lieutenants, their deputies, and Sheriffs

Requesting our Prayers: Joan Chelley, Percy Doughty, Thelma Holden, Margaret Hulley, Charles Rutt, Steve Waldron, Derek and Gill Whinnett.

We continue to pray for: Corey Sherry, Joan Betts

We pray for the souls of the recently departed: Emily Smith.

For families and friends preparing for services of thanksgiving and celebration of life. We remember with prayers and thankful, privileged, memories those whose Year's Mind fall at this time: Malcolm Huckle (28th), Joan Tolson (29th), Joan Pettit (31st)

Mafambisa: We remember the people of our partner community of Mafambisa, for the vulnerable and orphaned children, the care workers, the caregivers and all who support them. By name this week we pray for care-worker: Kethiwe and children: Ayisha, Felicia, Lovemore, Fikile

Team Africa 2026 -The Africa Blog for 2026 is now live:

<http://standrewslink.blogspot.com/2026/07/team-2026.html> As we prepare for our departure, please continue to pray for the team in the weeks ahead — for safety, unity, and God's guidance in every step. While we are in Africa, you can follow our journey through the blog. We would be grateful if you would keep praying for us throughout the trip as we serve, learn, and support the communities we visit. Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and prayers.

Church Summer Social Evening:

Thursday, 23 July at the Kings Reach Pub, from 7pm onwards. All welcome.

Blessings, Revd. Liz

Mission Partner Review: Many churches have Mission Partners, who are organisations with whom they share a long term, mutually accountable relationship to work together for God's mission. Our current mission partner is Hands at Work. The PCC is reviewing our mission partner position. To help the PCC make future decisions, we would like to hear from you. Peter will be carrying out discussions to gather your views on our Mission Partner. There are three key themes:

- 1) Should we have a Mission Partner?
- 2) Should that mission partner remain Hands at Work?
- 3) If not Hands at Work, what kind of organisation should it be?

Ideally, we would like to hear your views on all three questions, even if you have a definite view. The format would be a short discussion, face to face or over the phone with some key questions. If this is not convenient, email exchange is also possible. Please contact Peter Giles if you would like to share your views, peterdvgiles@gmail.com

MU Saturday 8 August

This year MU is celebrating its **150th anniversary** (as you're probably aware) and we are planning a **Ploughman's Lunch** for the 8 August, the day before Mary Sumner Day (our founder). This will be our usual lunch but includes a cold dessert. We will ask for a minimum donation of £5 with proceeds split between the MU appeal and St Andrew's. A list and details will be in the foyer.

Maggie McLoughlin and Rosamund Drakes

'Phishing' Emails—Beware!

Please be aware that a number of parishioners have received 'phishing' emails on Gmail which appear to have been sent from Revd. Liz.

Peter Giles



Triumph Heart

Theme: Every child matters, every life has purpose.

Our speaker last Sunday was Teresha Clark Karahukayo Founding Director of 'Triumph Heart' project. She is currently in the UK with her daughters visiting St Mary's Eaton Socon, and family.

Triumph Heart is a charity restoring hope, dignity and opportunity to children with disabilities in Uganda. Much of the work occurs in the Jinja district and nearby communities. The children receive physiotherapy, medical care, special mobility equipment, assistive devices, nutritional support, and practical assistance for their families. The objective is to support education, improve healthcare and nutrition, and facilitate mobility for children.

If you would like to find out more about Triumph Heart and the work they do the video link is;

<https://youtu.be/LtpzxQAaLas?is=m33fcWgDGQabS6uY>

Biggleswade Deanery Lent Project 2025-2026. The donations to Triumph Heart at the start of 2026 were £948.72. Deanery Lent services and summer evensong, plus St Andrew's Church Lent Giving 2026, have added £1,107.40. In addition, last Sunday a £200 donation was made from the PCC Emergency Mission Fund, which brings the grand total to **£2,256.12**. This total will enable the purchase of life-changing wheelchairs for children and young people. Thank you to all who gave to this valuable project.



Sunday School - End of term

As Sunday school draws to a close for this year, we would like to say a big thank you to all the children who have participated in some way to help make Sunday school the fun and enjoyable service that it is. We have lots to look forward to in the new term especially the crib service at Christmas. We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable summer break. Looking forward to the new term we have our All-Together Communion on 6 September and Sunday School will resume on Sunday 13 September. During the holidays our Children's Corner in Church is available during the 10am Parish Communion along with the additional space for accompanied young children in the Ivel Room.

Thank you from all the Sunday School team

Country Fayre Exhibition 'Calmness in Crisis'

This year our exhibition will focus on Calmness in Crisis - different ways we all cope when going through challenging times, linking in with our charities Cruse Bereavement and Homestart Bedfordshire. We would love to hear from the congregation as to what you do to keep calm and if able to represent this in our exhibition (e.g. art/painting, photography, other crafts, exercise, poetry etc.). Please do contact any of the Country Fayre Committee and we can discuss with you further. As usual, we will be asking for the help with running stalls and refreshments on the day as well as setting up and clearing up - please volunteer if you feel like you would be able to help (Saturday 19 September).

Oliver Dilley, Lucy Dilley, Noah Dilley, Jane Parker, Carolyn Marron, Sue Cleghorn, Nick Gurney

Next Standing Committee: Tuesday 8 September, 7:30pm Ivel Room

Next PCC Meeting: Tuesday 22 September, 7:30pm Chapter House

Growth & Mission Working Group: Tuesday 29 September, 7:30pm Ivel Room

Annual Gathering for Pastoral Visitors: Saturday 3 October, 2026

9:30am St.Luke's Tide Holy Communion followed by refreshments and 'Time to Talk'

Good News to Share: Over the past year or so, I have been pleased to be able to prayerfully support Peter Giles along the Diocese of St.Alban's Vocations discernment process. Peter has now attended a Stage 2 Panel (Selection Conference) and Bishop Richard has informed me of the Panel's advice. I am delighted to share the good news that Peter has been recommended to begin his training and formation for the Ordained Ministry. Peter plans to train part-time on the Eastern Region Ministry Course (ERMC) alongside his full-time work. This will begin in the Autumn. As his Vicar, I will take up the Training Minister's role with him. For now, Peter will remain here in his home Church (known as his *training* Church) as the local, contextual focus for his preparation for ordained ministry. I am sure you will join with me in thankfulness for Peter's willingness to take the next steps involved in responding to his sense of vocation, and with me, you will remember Peter in your prayers.

Revd. Liz - Vicar

Future Dates

1-16 August	Mafambisa Team 2026 in South Africa
16 August 5:30pm	Taize Service—Cockayne Hatley
6pm	Holiday Club Opening Service
18—21 August	Holiday Club
23 August 9:30am	Parish Communion
11am	Holiday Club Service followed by BBQ

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go.
May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. Amen

Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve, Holy Spirit make us heralds of good news. Stir us, strengthen us teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus. Amen



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