



**YOU ARE**

**WELCOME**

**AT CHRIST CHURCH DOWNEND**

**WELCOME**



Christ Church is a community of all ages and stages yet sharing **one vision** - that together we might be 'learning to live the life'. God's life is to be found everywhere - the home, the work place, places where there is stress and failure, places of rest and relaxation. Through laughter and love, pressure and pain we believe that Jesus calls us to follow him, to trust him and lead others to him.

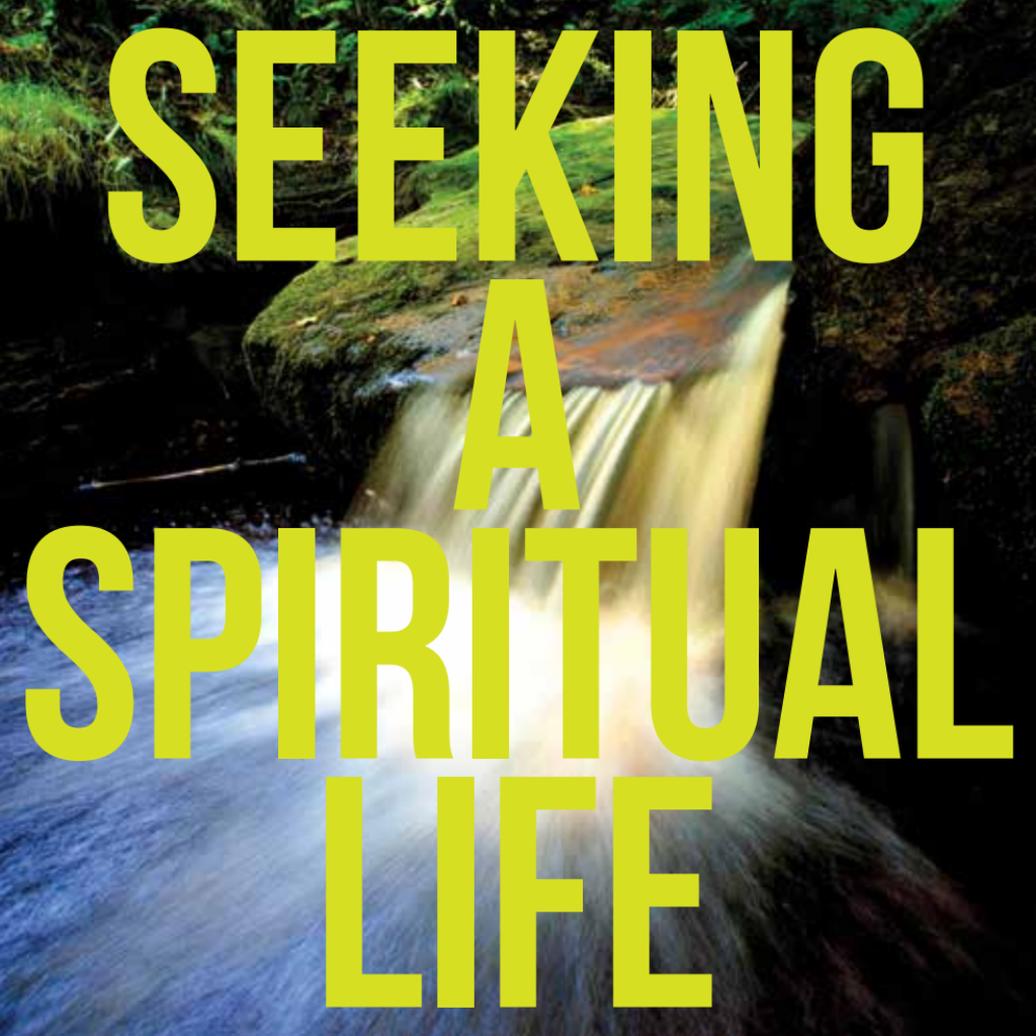


Four key **values** shape our life together – thankfulness, openness, graciousness and prayerfulness.

We hope you will be able to get a feel of Christ Church from the following pages and that you will know the warmest of welcomes when you come.

**Jo Vickery** (Vicar)



A photograph of a waterfall cascading over mossy rocks in a lush forest. The water is captured with a slight motion blur, creating a sense of movement. The surrounding environment is dense with green foliage and moss-covered rocks. Overlaid on the image is the text "SEEKING A SPIRITUAL LIFE" in large, bold, yellow capital letters. The text is arranged in four lines: "SEEKING" on the first line, "A" on the second line, "SPIRITUAL" on the third line, and "LIFE" on the fourth line. The background image is a lush forest scene with a waterfall cascading over mossy rocks.

**SEEKING  
A  
SPIRITUAL  
LIFE**

Maybe you are wondering whether Jesus was who he claimed to be. Maybe you believe he's real and you think you want to experience him in a deeper way. Or maybe you know Jesus and follow him, and you're looking for a church community to share in that journey with you.

Come to worship God with us. Discover who he is, what he's done for you. Thank him. Listen to him. Learn how to follow him all week. Receive his strength, not just for your own life, but to bring the peace and hope the world needs.

### **Draw close to God with us:**

- Come to a worship service: we have contemporary worship and children/young people's groups on Sundays; and traditional style worship on Thursdays and Sundays
- Ask to pray with someone or be prayed for
- Come and find stillness (evening services, Open Church on Tuesday mornings or by appointment).



# IMPORTANT MILESTONES

You may wish to involve the church in significant moments in the life of your family, such as a christening (baptism), a wedding or funeral. It would be a privilege to share with you at this special time.

Get in touch to find out more.



**TAKE THE**

**NEXT STEP**

Learning to follow Jesus is a marathon, not a sprint! If you are thinking about taking the next step towards him, it doesn't matter if you have barely begun, or have been following him for years, there is always a new step to take on the journey.

We want to encourage, inspire and equip each other so we can make a difference for God where we are each day.

### **Take a step:**

- Join a small group, a life group where you can explore faith with others who are growing together
- Pray alone or with others in workshops, 24/7 prayer events, Quiet Days
- Learn how to read the Bible – the Bible course, life groups
- Find out how to live well in different stages of life: we run a bereavement group, a toddler group, a divorce recovery group, a carers group, women in work group.



# FLORISH

# A SPECIAL PLACE FOR CHILDREN

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Children hold a special place in God's heart. They are eager to learn and their faith is strong. Our aim is to create a safe and inspiring environment where children can play, learn and grow. We learn from them too as they explore what it means to follow Jesus day by day. We also believe that both parents and children need support in learning how to follow God together.

## **Celebrate with us:**

- Sunday children's groups for all ages from 0 upwards
- Seasonal events and celebrations
- Messy Church, alternative church for all ages
- Mid-week activities.

**LIVE LIFE**



**TO THE FULL**

# FIND A SAFE PLACE TO GROW UP

There are so many pressures and opportunities for young people in our culture today. We long to see young people discovering their identity in Jesus, their hope in God and their lives transformed by hope, healing and life. We want to create a safe, inspiring environment where young people can be themselves and discover what God has in store for them as they choose to follow him. We learn so much from them.

## Explore with us:

- Sunday group to inspire young people and grow in faith
- Elev8: mid-week nurture groups
- Ignite: Thursday youth groups
- Residentials
- After school drop ins
- Serving the community.

Visit: [www.igniteyouth-christchurchdownend.co.uk](http://www.igniteyouth-christchurchdownend.co.uk)



**FIND YOUR  
PURPOSE  
IN LIFE**

You may be exploring faith for yourself and would like to raise some questions. You could try a course which will help you find out more, such as Alpha or Puzzling Questions. You could explore your creative gifts and find out how they could be used to bless others.

If you're already discovering what Jesus has done for you, you'll want to share it! That could mean bringing the good news of hope to people in our local community, or supporting those who share God's love overseas with prayer and practical help.

### **Reach out with us:**

- Christians Against Poverty (CAP) - helping people break free from debt. For more info see [www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)
- World mission - partnering with mission projects across the world
- Local outreach with other churches e.g. C in the Park
- Care for the sick, bereaved and lonely.

**CONNECT  
MORE  
DEEPLY**



In today's world it's easy to feel isolated. In the church we seek to be a community who know, accept and support one another. A good deal of this happens naturally as people get to know each other better but a team of care co-ordinators also help us respond in time of need. Our lay chaplain co-ordinates hospital and residential home visiting as well as communion to the housebound.

At Christ Church we want to be people who draw closer to God in times of trouble, discovering that as we rely on Him more and more, we discover inner strength and peace. As we learn to listen to one another, pray and serve, we help each other to find God's wholeness and healing.



**PODCASTS**

In an increasingly busy world, podcasts are becoming the space for thinking and reflecting in our culture.

As we strive to be a church that equips Christians to be whole life disciples of Jesus, we regularly publish podcasts to our channel **'Learning to Live the Life.'**

All of our weekly sermons are available along with discussions on the hot topics in our church and culture, learning from other churches and lifting the lid on our ministries at Christ Church Downend.

In each episode Rev Aidan Watson (curate) is joined by two guests to chat about what it looks like to be trying to follow Jesus in day-to-day life.

Please subscribe and email in thoughts to [podcast@christchurchdownend.com](mailto:podcast@christchurchdownend.com)



**DEVELOP  
YOUR  
POTENTIAL**

You may want to learn how to be a better leader in your work place, your family, your community. We seek to use excellent material from a variety of sources to help people lead like Jesus both within the church and wherever they are during the week.

- Growing Leaders Course
- Global Leadership Summit
- Mentoring
- Frontline Focus.



# GET CONNECTED

There is so much more we could share with you! The best way is to meet you face to face so do introduce yourself, whether you're just looking, dipping a toe in the water or keen to get stuck in.

- **Visit our website:** [www.christchurchdownend.com](http://www.christchurchdownend.com)
- **Find us on:** Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- **Contact us through our Parish Office** (week days 9.30 -12) 0117 908 9867 or [office@christchurchdownend.com](mailto:office@christchurchdownend.com)
- **Vicar:** Rev Jo Vickery, [vicar@christchurchdownend.com](mailto:vicar@christchurchdownend.com)
- **Associate Minister:** Rev Paul Peterson, [paulpeterson@christchurchdownend.com](mailto:paulpeterson@christchurchdownend.com)
- **Curate:** Rev Aidan Watson, [aidan@christchurchdownend.com](mailto:aidan@christchurchdownend.com)
- **Fill the contact form.**

We would love to welcome you to Christ Church and get to know you better.

# HELP US TO STAY IN TOUCH

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

How would you like us to contact you?

Phone

Email

Post



# WHAT TO DO NEXT...

After you've completed the form overleaf either

- Give it to one of the welcoming or leadership team at any of our church services
- Drop it into the Parish Office or post it to:

Parish Office

57 North Street

Downend

Bristol

BS16 5SG



0117 908 9867



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