



Our vision is to be a Church Family of all ages, nationalities and backgrounds who worship God and follow Jesus in the power of the Spirit according to God's word.

BACKGROUND

Abbey Wood Community Church was started in September 2016 as a plant from the Slade Evangelical Church, Plumstead. 30 members of the Slade who lived in or close to Abbey Wood agreed to partner in planting a new church. With no building of our own we met on Sunday evenings at a community centre in Eynsham Drive. Then we moved to Sunday mornings at St Paul's Academy Secondary School and, after being restricted to meeting only online for over a year, in May 2021, Bexley Council were willing for us to hire and start meeting at Lesnes Abbey Lodge. In March 2022 Abbey Wood Community Church was formally recognised as an independent church and charity by the Charities Commission and is now in the process of affiliating with the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches, a fellowship of over 600 churches throughout the UK. We have three elders/pastors, with Chris as the full-time paid leader, Ryan sent and supported full-time by churches in the USA and Jeff a retired headmaster. The church family is very diverse with a whole range of ages, different backgrounds and many nationalities.

abbeywoodcc.org

MINISTRY

Our ministry is largely focused around four factors: **Gathering, Growing, Giving and Going.**

Gathering

We have an informal worship service at Lesnes Abbey Lodge every Sunday morning at 10:30am which includes a Kids slot, praise time and preaching. Once a month we hold an all-age service which seeks to be accessible and engaging to all ages and those with less experience of church or the Bible.

Growing

Midweek we hold Growth Groups which includes deeper study of the Bible passage which was preached on Sunday and prayer. We also offer other short courses such as Christianity Explored and various discipleship and doctrine classes.

Giving

We function solely through both the service and giving of the congregation itself. We trust that the Holy Spirit empowers and entrusts each Christian uniquely to do this so that we can mutually benefit and bless each other as well as the wider community.

Going

We believe we are called to share the good news of Jesus throughout the world and so we are seeking to do that locally and globally (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8). We support various missions including supporting an international student worker at the University of Greenwich and supporting a Christian primary school in Andhra Pradesh. Locally we support local families through partnering with 'Safer Families' and once a month on a Sunday we provide free kids crafts and Christian books through a stall at the Lesnes Abbey Farmers Market held beside the Lodge. During the December 2022 Market, we put on a Nativity walk through and transformed the Lodge into Bethlehem! Throughout the day people could come and walk through the nativity and so both see and hear the Christmas story. We hope to do this again next year. Please join with us in praying for more such opportunities to make Jesus known throughout Abbey Wood and the surrounding area.

Abbey Wood Community Church
Chris Statter

Lesnes Abbey Lodge, Lesnes Abbey Park, New Road, SE2 0AX
info@abbeywoodcc.org





**WE PRAISE GOD FOR EVERY OPPORTUNITY
WE HAVE TO BE A LIGHT FOR CHRIST IN
THAMESMEAD AND FOR ALL WE HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH FOR HIM.**

Christian Life Centre Thamesmead (Christian Life Ministries Thamesmead Trust) is located in the Moorings Ward of Thamesmead in the Royal London Borough of Greenwich. This ward has the highest levels of poverty in Thamesmead and is a very deprived area.

Christian Life Centre Thamesmead held its first service on 11 January 1998 in the then Thamesmead Community College on Yarnton Way, South Thamesmead. It was started by our Senior Pastor, Reverend 'Yomi Olowoyo and his wife Eunice when they were released from their former church fellowship - Glory Bible Church in east London. CLC Thamesmead is a non-denominational church. Our mission is to preach the gospel, make disciples who will fulfil their God-given destiny and to become like Jesus. Our Core values are: Love God wholeheartedly, love people unconditionally, hate sin militantly and pursue destiny passionately.

Although the congregation is largely black African, CLC Thamesmead has a vision to reach out to all ethnic groups in the community, especially the indigenous residents. To this end, we started a football club for the young boys in the community – Thamesmead Arrows in 1998. The club was registered with the Bexley Football league for its first season in 1998/99. The club ran for several seasons, until the boys were 13/14 years old, and did very well in the league table.

**WE PRAY THAT WE MAXIMISE OUR
OPPORTUNITIES TO HAVE A GREATER
IMPACT FOR CHRIST HERE AMONG THE
DIVERSE PEOPLE GROUPS.**

In April 2013, we started a Saturday morning Community Breakfast Fellowship which provides a free full English breakfast for anyone in the community who needs it. This has been a place for reaching out to those who would not normally attend our weekly church services. Each Saturday, we sing simple hymns or songs together and share a short gospel message before the meal is served. This has been very well received and we have seen some who accepted Christ and have been baptised. The breakfast fellowship reaches out to the lonely, the unemployed and many suffering from substance abuse. This has fostered good relationships with people in our community which has led to home visits, hospital visits and so on at their request. We have had between 15-35 people coming in each Saturday for breakfast since we started. Each Christmas we hold a special Christmas Breakfast where hampers are distributed sometimes with the Council Mayor in attendance. During the pandemic lockdown in 2020 & 2021, we continued to serve these people by delivering food parcels to their homes.

We hosted a Food Bank from our premises for a short period in the early 2000's. We work closely with other local churches on various outreaches - Easter, Christmas and Summer as part of the Churches Together in Thamesmead and Abbey Wood.

Christian Life Centre
Senior Pastor: Rev Ebenezer 'Yomi Olowoyo'
11 Arnott Close, Titmuss Ave, Thamesmead, SE28 8BG
Tel: 020 3601 1247 Mob: 07436 266178



SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH
PLUMSTEAD



Church History

St John's is in the parish of St John, St James and St Paul, Plumstead. The church building was rebuilt in 1959 within the ruined walls of an earlier Victorian church bombed during World War II.

The church was rebuilt using what may have been parts of the transept and chancel walls. It consists of a simple rectangular nave and chancel orientated north to south, with two separate extensions attached to the east wall forming the vestry and a library. The remainder of the site was redeveloped in 1972 with a new hall to the west in what may have been a common lobby.

The church building includes: a Disabled Access ramp and toilet facility, conveniences, crèche, induction loop, public telephone, Car parking spaces, and a sizeable Church Hall.

The Parish of St John with St James and St Paul parish covers the slopes from Plumstead High Street up to the Commons. Many years ago St James became Greenwich Young People's Theatre and is now a block of residential flats while St Paul's was sold to the Roman Catholic Church.

Today, in line with the pluralistic nature of South East London, St John's is a very diverse church. By embracing our differences and diversity through our love of Jesus, we are committed to being a warm and welcoming church for all.

Who are we?

We are a Church of England parish, made up of women, men and children from a wide variety of backgrounds. United by the love of Jesus, we feel called to be a warm and welcoming church where everyone can flourish.

We aim to express the love of Jesus Christ through our worship services and in our day-to-day engagements with our community. Our current membership is around 120 adults, with many children and teenagers. By the grace of God, we continue to work hard to ensure that St John's remains a safe space for everyone to worship freely.

stjohnsplumstead.org.uk

Our Services

Sunday Services

Every week, the Worship Service is held at 10:30am on Sundays.

Holy Communion

We celebrate Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sundays.

Baptism

We offer both thanksgiving and baptism for children and adults who lives in our parish or who have connection to St. John's.

Wedding

We conduct Wedding Services at St. John's.

Funeral

We are able to conduct Funeral Services at St. John's or in the local crematoria.

Youth & Children

We are blessed with a dedicated group of leaders who put in a lot of effort in to caring for our children and young people.

Crèche: Babies and children from Birth to 2 years old

Rainbows: Children aged 3-5 years old

X Factor: Children aged 6-10 years old

Revelation: Young people aged 10-17 years old

Youth Club with GYFC

Every Wednesday 5.30-7.00pm

In partnership with Greenwich Youth for Christ, we run a weekly Open Access Youth Club

Food Bank

Every Saturday 11:00-12noon

We run a weekly food bank to help a bit with the cost of living crisis

St John's Church, Plumstead
Priest: Rev Timmy Ajayi
Earl Rise, Plumstead, SE18 7NH
Tel: 0208 922 0681
info@stjohnsplumstead.org.uk



Having reached our building, you will realise that we are literally 'The Church on the hill'. This lower part of Plumstead developed largely in providing housing for workers from the then Royal Arsenal in nearby Woolwich. The large Glyndon estate has replaced much of the older housing and this is a very diverse neighbourhood. Further up the hill leads to the extensive Plumstead and Winn Commons and beyond this grew (mainly in the 1930s) the area, sometimes referred to (certainly by Estate Agents) as Upper Plumstead.

Our work in this area began in 1868, when Mr W.J. Murphy hired two rooms to begin services for local children and a night school. In 1872 a Mission house was built in Elm Grove Street and morning and evening services began, together with the Sunday Schools. The Church was formed in December 1880 with Mr Murphy appointed as Pastor. He departed, by then in ill health, in 1886 to Australia. He was replaced by Rev Thomas Henson. The Church continued to meet in a variety of locations, including large tents and an iron Chapel. The present building was opened, amid much rejoicing, in 1925.

So what of today, some 140 years on? We maintain an evangelical ministry, led by our Pastor, who has been with us for over nine years. Our diverse congregation is mainly African but also including West Indian, Sri Lankan, Eastern European, Nepalese and even English. Some years ago, we welcomed a small group of Nepalese Christians into our building on Saturday afternoons. This has happily grown into a vibrant fellowship. We meet on Sunday mornings, with the Rivers of Life church meeting in the afternoons. In keeping with our history, our congregation includes a vibrant Sunday School. Our young people also have a Youth club, meeting on Friday evenings.

We have very recently developed a link with a private Pre School, which uses our premises from Monday to Friday during term times.

We host a Trussell Trust Foodbank for the Royal Borough of Greenwich each Monday afternoon. This is fulfilling a vital need in this area and is becoming increasingly busy. It is led by a church member, assisted by church members and a wonderful group of volunteers. We seek to encourage our foodbank visitors to join our regular Tuesday coffee morning.

We praise Our Lord for His continued goodness to us. We were able to continue our services online during the pandemic and continue to maintain an online link for Sunday services and regular prayer meetings. We have been blessed with the continued generosity of members and friends to meet our financial needs. We are able to support the worldwide Baptist Missionary Society and our home mission work, together with financial and prayerful support of a couple sharing the Gospel in Croatia. The fellowship includes an active Women's Group and a Men's Group. We use local House group meetings to study The Word together.

We thank you for visiting us and hope you have felt welcome. We would value your prayers, as we seek to become a fellowship that increasingly reaches out to our neighbours with the Gospel and also to become more involved with the worldwide church of today.



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

This ancient church has been a place of Christian worship of Almighty God for well over 1,000 years; and as we are in the third millennium of our salvation it is salutary to remember that Christians have gathered here on this spot since the first millennium.

If you would like to pray, the Lady Chapel is set aside as a place of quiet, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved or you might like to light a candle at one of the many shrines around church.

We are a Eucharistic community who is worshipping in the present, upon the Apostolic Truths of the past, in the hope of finding our future salvation in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

HISTORY

The first recorded date in the history of the parish is 960 AD - the year in which Edgar, King of the English, gave with the consent of St. Dunstan the Archbishop of Canterbury, the land known as Plumstede.

By the 16th Century, under the rule of St. Augustine's Canterbury, the village had reached a state of religious and material prosperity - with the dissolution of the monasteries, Plumstead was badly hit. Thomas Cromwell found the inhabitants in a highly resentful mood, commenting 'the people here are so obstinate...'

The tower, held by many to be the finest feature of the church, dates from 1664 and is built of 2 inch red brick in a belated Gothic style with clasping buttresses carried up as turrets and finished off with battlements.

In 1907 an explosion in the Arsenal - a gas holder - badly damaged the church, though plans for an enlargement were already in hand. The restored church was re-dedicated by the Bishop of Southwark in 1908.

In 1945 a German V2 rocket dropped on the edge of the parish burial ground and damaged much of the building - a further restoration being completed in the mid to late 1950's.

The father of Robert Baden Powell, the founder of Scouting, was an incumbent of the Parish.

TODAY

The parish church finds itself in the middle of a socially and racially mixed area facing a number of problems brought on by high unemployment.

The population of the parish is somewhere in the region of 14,000. There are no other established places of Christian worship within the parish boundaries. In the past there have been considerable difficulties with the National Front.

St. Nicholas is firmly in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England and its life of worship and outreach is centred on the

Mass and Eucharistic presence of Jesus Christ. We are a worshipping community of about 70 on Sunday - growing back slowly after the Covid pandemic - and varying numbers at the daily Mass. Uniformed Organisations, the Mothers Union, Guild of the servants of the Sanctuary, Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament and the Society of Mary form part of the life of the Parish.

We endeavour to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord in a living and exciting way, even though at times the Church of England, by some of its pronouncements, makes this an ever more difficult task.



St Nicholas Church, Plumstead

Priest: Father Andrew Stevens

St Nicholas Road, SE18 1HJ

Tel: 020 8854 0461

parishpriest@saintnicholasplumstead.org

Emmanuel Baptist Church Thamesmead (EBCT) was planted by local residents in January 1972 with help from The London City Mission. EBCT is now a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the London Baptists. We are also members of The Evangelical Alliance.



EBCT is a charismatic evangelical Baptist Church.

EBCT has had just 2 senior ministers: Revd. Victor Lambert who served for 40 years before retiring in 2016, and Revd. Angela from 2019 to the present.

The Area

THAMESMEAD was developed as a 1960's social housing project built on the Erith marshes along the south bank of the River Thames. Currently Thamesmead is undergoing regeneration and many of its iconic concrete 1960's tower blocks have already been demolished. New tower blocks are being built, comprised of a mixture of social and private dwellings. These new homes - plus the opening of the

Elizabeth Line providing excellent links to Central London - are attracting a new demographic.

EBCT is located in the Thamesmead East ward of Bexley borough which shares more characteristics with many inner London areas than with other Bexley wards. Thamesmead East has a population of 15,926 of which 57.6% are UK born. The majority of those not born in the UK are Nigerian, followed by Ghanaian, then West Indian.

What We Do

Sundays

The main Sunday Service is at 11.00 am. After sung worship, the children leave for their 'King's Kids' classes.

Also on Sunday, there is:

Prayer: 9.00-10.00 am.

Bible School: 10.00-11.00 am.

Mid-Week

Bible Study and Prayer Group.

New Life Groups - meet to build community among members of the church.

Alongside our church services, we believe it's our purpose to show our love to people both overseas and in Thamesmead. We do this through 'Overseas Mission Giving' and by responding practically to the needs in our Thamesmead community, for example, Foodbank:

EBCT is a Trussell Trust Foodbank distribution point – in addition to giving out food, we have people present who can offer expert advice on legal matters and debt management.

'Young Foundations Pre-school' provides pre-school education and enduring links with the community.



Please would you pray -

- that we are a 'spiritually alive', faith-filled people who are led by The Holy Spirit.
- that we are rooted in prayer and the Word of God.
- that we are 'outward looking' and respond to the challenge of reaching the people of Thamesmead.
- for our Financial needs - resources to run our various ministries, including the maintenance and repair of our building.



We are a lively and friendly community and always welcome new members and visitors.

St. David's Church is a Catholic parish in Abbey Wood in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, South East London. Fr. Michael Edem CM is our parish priest. He is a Vincentian Father belonging to the Congregation of the Mission. The Vincentian Fathers are the ones serving at St. David's Abbey Wood, St. Benet's Abbey Wood and at St. Paul's Thamesmead. They carry out most of the important celebrations together especially the conferment of the Sacrament of Confirmation rotating from one parish to the other annually except this year 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic where everything was stalled.

St. David's Parish was founded in 1964 to serve the growing population of the Abbey Wood Estate. Today our congregation comes from Abbey Wood, Thamesmead, Plumstead, Belvedere and surrounding areas. We are part of the Archdiocese of Southwark and have close links with our neighbouring parishes of St Benet's in Abbey Wood and St Paul's in Thamesmead as mentioned above. We also have good relationships with local schools, especially St. Thomas A Becket Primary School where our Parish Priest is a Foundation Governor as part of the Governing Body of the school. We also have good relationship with St. Paul's Academy Abbey Wood.



stdavidsabbeywood.org.uk

St David's Catholic Church
Priest: Father Michael Edem
Finchale Road, SE2 9PD

Tel: 020 3718 5041
abbeywoodstdavid@rcaos.org.uk