

## Got an idea for a small group?

Do you have an idea for a small group and would like some assistance to set one up? At St Matthew's we like to share fellowship with one another; one way we like to do this is through small groups. Please speak to the Rector Jim Trood if you have some ideas and he will be able to put you in touch with someone who can help you get it up and running.

## Church Centre

The Church Centre is just across the grass from St Matthew's Church and is used for many church activities. It is also regularly hired out to local community and business groups. It has a wide variety of rooms to suit group sizes from one to one hundred. It has a well equipped kitchen, wifi and disabled access. Particular needs can be discussed with the Centre Manager, Adrian Perks.

## Contact

### Signs for Worship - Colin Townsend

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### Ladies Group - Maureen Grainger

### Church Centre - Adrian Perks

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# Small Groups



## Signs for Worship

### What is Signs for Worship?

We are a small group that worships in both British Sign Language and English.

Everyone is invited to copy the song leader who is signing or your own interpretation, sing in English, or be still in the praise-filled space. The songs and hymns are both old and new: we also take requests. We offer a safe place for people to practice BSL or to start learning. Also engaging with God in a new way, to praise God at the end of the week, which may bring a new depth of spiritual intimacy.

### Who is it for?

It is for everyone, hearing or deaf, regardless of whether you sign or not.

### When do you meet?

We meet most Friday evenings at St Matthew's Church Centre. We hold a BSL song workshop to practice both christian and secular songs starting at 6.30- 7.30 followed by refreshments. Following this between 8.00-9.00 there is a worship session. Information about every meeting is on our Facebook page: search for Signs for Worship Walsall.

### What else do you do?

You will meet deaf people and learn about deaf culture. We also take part in events, visit churches to lead services to allow services to be more accessible to the deaf community, as well as joint special services with our sister groups in Tamworth and Sedgley. We occasionally have workshops where people can learn more about Christian BSL and translating songs.

## OWL's (Our Wave Length)

### What is OWL's and who is it for?

OWL's stands for Our Wave Length, it is a group for over 55's that provides friendship and support with tea, coffee and cake. All for £1 a week!

### When do you meet?

OWL's meet every Thursday 2-4pm, in the church centre unless otherwise advertised on the church notice sheet.

### What do you do?

We have a monthly rolling rota which comprises of...

- Week 1: Getting to know each other with games
- Week 2: Watching a film
- Week 3: Guest Speaker
- Week 4: Karaoke

## Ladies Group

### What is Ladies Group?

Ladies group is a fellowship group for women from all walks of life.

### When do you meet?

We meet at 8pm on the last Tuesday of each month in the church centre and finish by 10pm.

### What do you do?

Every regular meeting we have a visiting speaker with refreshments and a raffle. At Christmas time we have a self entertainment evening of poetry reading, carols, wine and minced pies. We have outings including an 'after Christmas dinner' and a Summer outing. We also occasionally raise money for the church flower fund. We pay £2 each meeting that includes refreshments.

## Bell Ringing

### What is Bell ringing?

Bell ringing is called "the exercise". This characteristically English sound calls people to worship and marks celebrations such as weddings or royal events.

St Matthew's Church is a 12 bell tower, though often we use 6 or 8. We ring before the main morning service on Sundays, 9.50 - 10.30am.

### Who is it for?

Anyone! You don't need to read music!

### When do you meet?

We meet weekly. Beginners practice is on Mondays 6.30 - 7.30pm and general practice on Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.00pm.