

Abingdon Food Bank



"The food bank [supported by St Helen's] has been a lifeline to my family while we waited for benefit payments to come through. Everyone has been kind, and the advice and support we received ensured we applied for all we are entitled to. Thank you to everyone."

Andrew

Charitable Giving: The Dorothy Springer Trust

Opportunities House – that says it all. The Dorothy Springer Trust (DST) transforms the lives of people with disabilities in Sierra Leone by providing training in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), and empowering their graduates to develop the skills needed to enter the workplace and earn a living.



Disabled from childhood, Dr Abs Dumbuya received anonymous funding to study in the UK, where he gained a string of academic qualifica-

tions. On discovering that his benefactor was a lady named Dorothy Springer, he was inspired to form The Dorothy Springer Trust in her memory. The organisation has now trained over 80 students, of which 60 are in full-time employment, some have started their own businesses, and others are studying in higher education.



Dr Abs Dumbuya is CEO of the Dorothy Springer Trust. Our late Peter Penfold acted as a much-loved patron and adviser. The DST is extremely grateful to a range of supporters and partners who help deliver their goals. These include St Helen's Church, Abingdon.

Mary

Thank you to all participants for their inspiring words in this leaflet.

Thank you to you for your ongoing financial contributions and donations, which enable our Church to make all this difference.

Please consider increasing your pledged giving this year to "Build on our Impact."

For details of how, see the accompanying Financial Stewardship leaflet ...

THANK YOU!

St Helen's Clergy and Wardens



St HELEN'S CHURCH
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES



STEWARDSHIP 2025

Building on our Impact

Turn over to see the influence your giving has in St Helen's Church and in the community ...

Worship

Sunday 10.30 Eucharist

“... our North and our West doors have been wide open during the course of our worship, and sitting as President of the congregation ... what I’ve noticed over the years is how almost everyone who passes by, however often they might have done it, at least turns his or her head to look in, and many, especially children, want to stop altogether, at least to gaze and hear, and if they can manage it, come inside.”

The Revd Dr Charles Miller

Sunday 8.00 Service

“The gentle rhythm of the psalmody and its expressive content; the regular daily reading, corporate and prayerful reading and recital of Scripture and the Office – all give a sense of stability, rootedness and homeliness without and within God Himself – and the time of open prayer allows a powerful voice within the church and, more importantly, a corporate voice of assent and petition before His Throne. Thanks be to God!”

Veronica

Wednesday Eucharist

“It is good to go out in the middle of the week, have a lovely Service; we then have coffee and biscuits with friends and catch up with news. We all look forward to this time of worship and fellowship each week.”



Choir and Music

“I play the organ here and I lead the choir. The best thing about this church is the group of people who gather and come to be part of [it ...] to enjoy singing together and using their music to say something about what their faith means.”



Peter

Babies and Toddlers

“St Helen’s Baby and Toddler group has been meeting weekly during term time for many years. It is one of the ways in which St Helen’s serves our community, offering welcome to all who come. We offer a place for families to meet, and where parents and carers can find support and friendship.”



Rosalind

Junior Church, “Quest” & “Senior Quest”

“I think we’re extremely welcoming to everybody – all nationalities, all genders, whatever your beliefs. We look after the children here and we tell them about all the classic Bible stories I grew up with ... Noah’s Ark and Jonah and the Whale ... At the same time we look at the Scriptures [set for] that day and explain them... We also run Quest and Senior Quest where we do talk about more senior aspects of



the Bible. We end with a prayer, and we pray for people who are in difficult situations throughout the world. I’ve been coming here since 2007 and I love it. My children have been baptized here and now I sing with my younger daughter in the Choir as well! St Helen’s is such a warm, welcoming place for a family to relax, meet new people and have a good time!”

Alison

Bellringing



“I like bell ringing because it allows me to socialise with people outside of school and have more confidence talking to other people.”

Samuel

House Groups



“Joining a St Helen’s House Group and studying together enables us to learn with like-minded others, as we explore faith and grow in understanding of religious literature and the Bible. Our House Group helps us explore the Big Questions.”

Linda

Welcome



“I’m thrilled that we’ve managed to have the doors open to the public every single day. [It’s] one of the best developments I’ve experienced since I’ve been going to St Helen’s.”

Margaret