



Welcome to St Paul's Stockton!

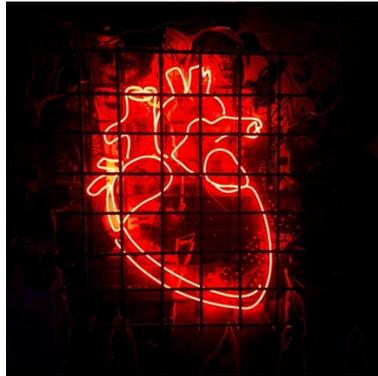
We are a recent church revitalisation in Stockton-on-Tees. After three years of preparation and discernment together, we launched on Pentecost Sunday 2021 with a small team led by Revd. Paul Arnold coming alongside the regular worshippers at St Paul's we are seeking to grow God's Kingdom here in our discipleship, in transforming the local community and numerically.

Currently we gather twice a week on a Sunday at 10:30 for informal, family worship, and 09:30 on a Wednesday for a more formal communion service. Our plans include increasing the diversity and frequency of worship as well as creating new and relevant forms of outreach through missional communities and our newly re-ordered building.



Our Vision

We believe that St Paul's is called to be the beating heart of God's love in Stockton.



This means we want to be a family of missionary servants, disciples of Jesus who live out our faith every day. We want to be known as people who love God and love our neighbours. And we seek to be led by the Spirit in all we do. As we grow we hope, like a heart, to bring people in, equip them, and send them out – into their communities, workplaces, schools and also out to form new churches or revitalise churches that would like us to work with them.

We have been blessed to be backed with money from the Church Commissioners' Strategic Development Fund (SDF). This will enable us, over the next few years, to become a church plant that plants churches. We hope to develop a clear leadership pipeline that allows us to do this and we believe that St Paul's is strategically placed to do that well through a mix of community transformation and discipleship.

Mission to schools – There are three local primary schools that we already have good links with and two secondary schools that we would like to build fresh partnerships with. We are already in conversations to do that and are taking on a Youth for Christ worker and a paid member of staff to develop these links.

Mission to the margins – We are developing links with CAP, Junction 42 (working with former prison inmates) and Safe Families UK to take prophetic action against some of the injustices brought about by the deprivation in the area.

Mission to the environment – We are seeking to put the church through the A Rocha Ecochurch awards and our redevelopment included use of renewable heating to begin that journey.

Mission to our community – We are planning to open a small café on the premises that will allow us to create a platform for mission, effectively a 'third space' for people to gather in the area. There are not many of these in the parish and we hope to use this platform to rebuild some of the shattered communities that are recovering post-Pandemic.

Our Values

Everything we do is governed by the things that we value the most. We want to be explicit about that here. So these are our six 'ALLs' of who we are:



*We are **All Jesus***

We are unashamedly and radically centred on **Jesus** as revealed in Scripture and the power of his Gospel to change our lives through his life, death and resurrection in order to bring about the Gospel purpose of restoring all creation to his glory.



*We are **All Led***

We want to walk hand in hand with the **Holy Spirit**, who guides and empowers us in the adventure of being Church family together – wherever we are sent!



*We are **All Family***

We are one **family**, that makes up the body of Christ, we value the diversity and the unity that this brings, welcoming all with Jesus' love which transforms our lives as we seek to live them for him.



*We are **All Real***

The Church is a field hospital for sinners not a hotel for Saints, we are real people, with real lives following the one True God with **authenticity**. We don't stand on ceremony. Facemasks are the only masks you will see here.



*We are **All In***

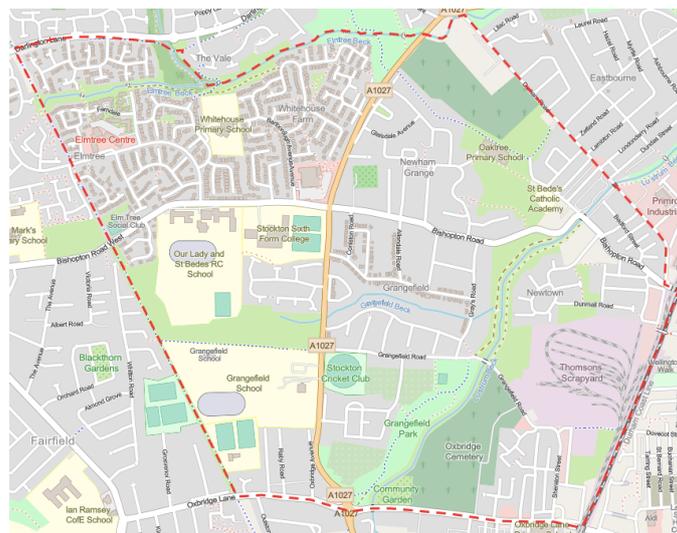
God's love allows us to be 'all in.' We are **committed**. We take risks. We Serve, Give and Live our lives in a way that shows this. Jesus is not just a Sunday guy! We are not just Sunday followers!



*and **All Can Play!***

We all get to take part in this amazing life as Jesus followers. That means valuing **participation** over performance, seeking to raise up local leaders, resting well, seeing worship as something to be enjoyed not endured, that wants to spend time with God in Prayer.

Our Place



The Parish of St Paul's Stockton on Tees consists of approximately 10,000 people over several smaller communities each with their own particular characteristics. From areas with some of the highest indices of multiple deprivation in the country through to relatively affluent areas. The church itself is placed on the borders of four of these communities: Newtown, Newham Grange, Grangefield and Wrenfield. There are high levels of health inequality as well as higher than average lone parenting and issues with addiction in the area. There are also recent developments that may mean

the parish will grow in the longer term, with permission for residential development on a nearby former scrapyard (approx. 700 homes).

The Deanery is an active and very supportive one with a wide range of traditions represented. The church also serves as the home for the Teesside New Wine Leaders Network, which Revd. Paul leads. There is a fantastic church unity movement Transforming Teesside Together, which has been doing excellent ecumenical work and growing in momentum over the past few years.

When you need to get out, the countryside is five minutes away with great walking country, excellent beaches nearby and some great opportunities for leisure pursuits on the day off.

Our Team

Priest-in-Charge



Revd. Paul Arnold

Paul leads the revitalisation of St Paul's. He is married to Liz and has 3 fantastic kids. Before coming here Paul was a curate at All Saints, Preston-on-Tees. He trained as a Barrister and had a career in the Civil Service before following God's call into Ordained Ministry and training at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He loves playing music, board games and drinking coffee.

Churchwardens



Richard Spratt



Faye Thompson

PCC Members

Dorothy Aithwaite (Secretary)

Erica Cowell

Scott Linnett

Jenny Kane (Deanery Synod)

Duncan Hird

Jim Kane (Deanery Synod)

Julie Collins (Treasurer)

Staff Team

Our staff team are a mix of volunteers and paid staff with specific responsibilities.

Administrator – Position Vacant (Hiring this Summer)

Children and Youth Outreach Worker – Position Vacant (Hiring this Summer)

Digital Church Lead – Position Vacant (Hiring this Summer)

Hospitality – Position Vacant (Hiring end of 2021)

Pastoral Team Lead – Position Vacant (looking to bring together a small team)

Prayer Co-ordinator – Margaret Wright

Worship Leader – Deb Hird

Our Curate

We hope that some of this is interesting enough for you to want to explore further. As you may have realised from the profile so far, a lot of what we are doing is in the early stages and this will either excite you or scare you (or both).

This is a prime opportunity for someone who wants to get stuck in and see how church revitalisation can happen. You will be able to adapt well to changing circumstances as we seek together to see what God has planned for this church. This means that some of the things we try won't work out as we planned and some will. But that is part of the adventure of this kind of title post.

So, if you would like to know more, we would love to arrange a conversation to explore what this all might look like for you.

You may also want to check out our website: <https://stpaulstockton.church>. You can also find us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram to get a feel for what we are like.

Whatever happens we will be praying for you as you discern where God is taking you on this journey.