



**BUILDING GOD'S CHURCH
WITH GOD'S WORD
FOR GOD'S GLORY**

Church Profile

Who we are

King's Church Guildford is an independent evangelical church based in the centre of Guildford. We describe ourselves as 'a family on mission'. We are a work in progress, but by God's grace we are united to him and to one another through the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are members of God's family, which means that we are also partners in God's mission. So, whilst we want to look in and love one another, we also seek to look out and love the lost. We believe that the most loving thing to do for people is to point them to Jesus, because he is the best and most important person anyone could know. As a family on mission our great desire is to build God's church with God's word for God's glory.

We meet at 3pm on Sunday afternoons and our current average Sunday attendance is around 80 adults and children. A large proportion of our congregation is made up of young families and students and we are excited that we are growing in both maturity and number.

Where we are

Guildford is a 40 minute train journey south west of London. King's Church currently meets 5 minutes' walk from the town centre of Guildford. We don't own a church building, but we hire Christ Church Guildford for our Sunday Services as well as rent an office from them, next door to the church building.

How we started

King's Church started from scratch in September 2014. Initially, there were only 4 adults and 7 children with nothing but a desire to start a new gospel church and a God for whom nothing is impossible! In his kindness, the Lord provided money, housing, gospel partnership with other churches and networks, a building to meet in, people, gifts and wisdom to help us register as a charity and start meeting as a church. Over the first few years, the church grew in number quite rapidly. There was much to learn and adapt to as we grew to around 70 adults and 30 children.

This growth led us to move from holding services in Boxgrove School, where we began, to meeting in Guildford County School, which had more space and was in a better location in order for us to continue to reach students. Again, the Lord continued to grow us in our new venue until the pandemic in 2020.

Post pandemic, we are meeting in Christ Church Guildford and seeking to re-establish and rebuild. We are very thankful to the Lord that this rebuilding project is bringing in new people and it's exciting to see where the Lord is taking us in the next phase of the church's life.

What we do

Our great desire is to build God's Church, with his word for his glory.

Build God's church...

We want to build God's church in both maturity and number. That is, we want to build up those who are already Christians, so that they grow in their faith, love and service of King Jesus. We also want to reach out to those who don't know Jesus as their King, so that many more can come to know the life, joy and hope that is to be found in Him. We don't just want to make disciples of Jesus, we want to make disciple-making-disciples of Jesus.

With God's word...

It is God who builds His church, through His word and by His Spirit. That is why we get the Bible open at every opportunity - on Sundays, in Life Groups, one-to-one, and on our own - in order to focus on what God is saying rather than on what we are wanting. In order for us to grow up and grow out, prayerful Bible teaching is at the heart of what we do.

For God's glory

The reason we are seeking to build God's church with His word, is so that He would be glorified. That means that we want God to be seen to be the great, glorious and gracious God that he really is. We don't want to make a name for ourselves, but for our Father.

To help us to this, we organize our ministries around 5 'E's':

EVANGELISING

Our Evangelising ministry is about people coming to faith. Over the last 12 months, we hosted an online Explore Course for people to investigate the Christian faith, posted talks online trying to answer big questions people might be asking, held Carol Services, a wreath making and beer tasting event with a gospel talk and run Hope Explored.

But evangelising isn't just about programmes and events, it's about people and relationships. So, alongside providing opportunities for people to 'come and hear' the gospel, we are striving to be a people who 'go and tell' the gospel. That means getting alongside our friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues; loving them, spending time with them and prayerfully seeking to speak about Jesus to them. It's hugely encouraging to hear of conversations about Jesus that many in the church family are having with their unbelieving friends.

ENGAGING

Our Engaging ministry is about people joining the family. As a church family, we want to reflect our Heavenly Father's gracious welcome of people into his family. Therefore, we work hard to make everyone feel welcome at King's, whether older or younger, regular or visitor, believer or doubter. We also want to help Christians keen to make King's their home to settle in as easily and as quickly as possible - to become gospel partners in our 'family on mission'.

That's why we have a dedicated 'Hospitality Team', to help new comers on the pathway to joining the church. We have a Welcome Meal each term, followed by a Unite Course to help people understand what King's is about. We also have welcome literature and a clear website to help people to connect with us.

ESTABLISHING

Our Establishing ministry is about people growing in maturity. Psalm 1 contrasts the difference between the person who delights in God's word with the person who rejects God's word. The former is likened to a strong, flourishing tree, whilst the latter is described as 'chaff blown away by the wind'. At King's we want people to thrive and flourish in the Christian life - to grow increasingly mature in Christ. This maturity is brought about by the work of God's Spirit through the teaching of God's word.

That is why we have Life Groups, a Student Group, youth and children's groups, so that many can hear, discuss and pray the Bible as well as speak encouragement to one another so that become rooted and established in the faith.

EQUIPPING

Our Equipping ministry is about people training for service. According to Ephesians, ministry is not just done by the pastor to the people. Rather, pastors teach the Bible so that the people might do ministry to others. Therefore, we want to grow a culture of training where every Christian at King's is equipped to do all kinds of ministry to all sorts of people in all manner of contexts. This is why, in the last 12 months, we have put on training events for Student Group leaders and Life Group leaders; for women and for men. It's why we want to continue running the Ministry Training Scheme (MTS) - a full time 12-month training programme aimed at equipping men and women for ministry at King's and beyond, both now and in the future.

ENABLING

'Enabling' is about supporting word ministry. Just as a vine cannot grow without a supporting trellis, so too the word ministry of the previous 4 'E's' cannot grow without the organisational ministry of 'Enabling'. There are many unseen areas of this vital ministry, such as **legal & financial** (bookkeeping, fundraising, Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Data Protection etc); **operations & communications** (Organising our Sunday meetings, managing the buildings we use, producing publicity, updating the website etc); **people & prayer** (overseeing staffing, partnership with other churches & organisations, communicating prayer needs via the weekly Newsletter, organising the termly rota etc.).

What we believe

As a church family, we don't all believe the same things about everything, but we are united in our faith in Jesus and our beliefs about the following...

STATEMENT OF FAITH – PART A

1. The Father

There is only one God, who exists eternally in three distinct but equal persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. God is the Almighty Creator of all things, the Supreme Ruler over all things and the Holy Judge of all people. He sustains and governs all things according to his sovereign will, for his own glory. Even though God is more powerful, wise and holy than we can imagine, because of his kindness revealed in the Gospel, we can know him as our loving Father.

Genesis 1:1-2:25; Psalm 90:2, 96:10-13; Isaiah 45:5-18; Daniel 4:34-35; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 1 John 3:1

2. The Son

The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and lived a sinless life in obedience to the Father. In his life, death, teaching and miracles he perfectly reveals the Father. On the cross he died in the place of sinners, bearing God's anger and punishment for their sin,

redeeming them by his blood. He rose bodily from the dead and ascended into heaven where he is exalted as Lord of all. Salvation is in and through Christ alone.

Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1-18; Acts 2:22-36; Colossians 1:15-22; Hebrews 2:14-18, 7:23-28, 10:11-14

3. The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He has been sent from heaven to glorify Christ and to apply his work of salvation. He convicts sinners, imparts spiritual life and gives a true understanding of the Bible – for he inspired all Scripture and he speaks in Scripture to us today. He indwells all believers, brings assurance of salvation and produces increasing likeness to Christ. He builds up the Church and empowers its members for service and mission.

John 3:1-8, 16:5-16; Romans 8:1-17; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, 3:17-18, 12:1-31; Galatians 5:16-26

4. The Bible

God has revealed himself, his actions and his promises in the Bible, which consists of the Old and New Testaments alone. Every word was inspired by God through human authors, so that the Bible as originally given is in its entirety the Word of God, without error and fully reliable in fact and doctrine. The Bible alone speaks with final authority and is always sufficient for all matters of belief and practice.

Psalms 19:7-11; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 2 Peter 1:19-21

5. The Human Race

All men and women are created in the image of God and therefore have inherent dignity and worth. Because there is equality and difference within God himself, men and women are equal before God, yet have different roles under God. Both men and women are created to love, obey and glorify God. However, as a result of the disobedience of our first parents, Adam & Eve, every aspect of human nature has been corrupted so that naturally all people are without spiritual life, guilty sinners and enemies of God. Every person is therefore under the just condemnation of God and needs to be forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ in order to know him & please him.

Genesis 1:26-27, 3:1-24; Matthew 22:34-40; Romans 1:18-32, 5:12-19; 2 Corinthians 5:16-19; Eph 2:1-3

6. The Gospel

The Gospel is the wonderful news that because of God's love, sinners can be saved from God's wrath through the sacrificial death and resurrection of God's Son. Because of what Jesus has done on the cross we can be saved from wrath for relationship; from Hell for Heaven. This salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and cannot be earned or deserved. It is God who calls sinners, granting them repentance and faith so that all who believe in Jesus are justified by grace alone, through faith alone in Christ alone. Believers are adopted into the family of God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit and preserved for the coming Kingdom.

John 1:12-13, 6:35-51; Romans 3:21-26; Galatians 2:15-16; Ephesians 2:4-9; 2 Tim 1:9-10; Titus 3:4-7

7. The Church

The universal Church is the body of which Christ is the head and to which all who are saved belong. It is made visible in local churches, which are congregations of believers who are committed to each other for the worship of God, the preaching of the Word, the administering of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, for pastoral care and discipline, for building up believers for service and reaching out to non-believers in evangelism. The unity of the body of Christ is expressed within and between churches by mutual love, care and encouragement.

Acts 2:42-47; Ephesians 2:19-22, 4:1-6, 5:25-33; Philippians 2:1-11; Colossians 1:18

8. The Future

The Lord Jesus Christ will return in glory. He will raise the dead and judge the world in righteousness. Those who have not been saved by Christ will be sent to eternal punishment in Hell and those who have

will be welcomed into a life of eternal joy in fellowship with God in the promised New Creation. God will make all things new and will be glorified in all things forever.

Matthew 24:1-44, 25:31-46; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:11-21:8, 22:1-5

STATEMENT OF FAITH – Part B

As well as believing 'Part A' of the Statement of Faith, the Elders / Trustees also believe the following:

1. Bible teaching and prayer lie at the heart of gospel ministry.
Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 1:38; Acts 6:4; 2 Timothy 4:2
2. The chief role of the Holy Spirit is to work through his Word to give faith and grow godliness.
John 3:1-8, 16:7-11; Galatians 6:22-23; 1 Peter 1:23
3. A 'complementarian' view of the roles of men and women in the home and the church. Men and women are made in God's image and just as God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are equal in divinity yet different in role, so too, men and women are equal in humanity yet different in role.
Ephesians 5:22-33; 1 Timothy 2:8-15
4. That marriage is between one man and one woman and that heterosexual marriage is the right, best and only context for sex.
Matthew 19:3-6; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20, 7:1-16; Ephesians 5:3, 22-33

How we are led

We believe that the **Lord Jesus** leads and governs his church by his word, the Bible, but that he gifts and sets apart elders to lead local churches. We have 4 elders of the church (including the Pastor), who are also trustees of the charity - they make up our **Leadership Team**. Their main tasks are to pray for the church, teach the Bible, model Christian living and manage the affairs of the church.

For the past few years we have had a small **Staff Team** led by the Pastor. This has been made up of Ministry Trainees, a part-time Student and Youth Worker and a part-time (volunteer) Women's Ministry Leader. At this stage we don't have anyone lined up to undertake the Ministry Trainee Scheme from September 2022 and our Student & Youth Worker will end his employed role in August 2022 to study for a PhD.

Our **Ministry Leaders' Forum** (MLF) is made up of our Ministry Team Leaders from our congregation. Ministry Team Leaders oversee a team of people who together are responsible for various aspects of church life. There are 11 Ministry Teams and so, there are currently 11 Ministry Team Leaders who make up the MLF. The MLF meets up to 5 times per year and provides advice and feedback to the Leadership Team (elders), so that they can make wise, informed and collaborative decisions about the ministry and mission of the church.

We are also part of the **Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches** (FIEC), who help to provide wise, external advice and support to our Leadership Team.