



Time is marching on towards this year's Summer Gathering and the booking deadline is drawing near, the time to book is **NOW!** Book your tickets here - [Summer Gathering \(22-Aug-2025\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) or complete the Word Booking Form on the website.

Due to Lay Community subsidy and discount from Worth the cost of attending the weekend is actually LESS than last year so please do consider joining your community for a weekend of community life, spiritual input, monastic and Lay Community liturgy, and fun for all the ages. In addition to this we will be exploring feedback from the leadership discernment weekend, undertaking our Community AGM and sharing the joy of a Promise Ceremony to welcome new members to the Community. After Mass on Sunday morning, there will also be a special moment for the Community and the monks as the Young St Benedict sculpture will be formally blessed by Abbot Mark. Do look at the provisional timetable to see everything which will be on offer.

As previously, we are extremely keen for all generations of our Community to be able to attend and should you only feel able to attend for a single day, the Saturday is targeted at activities and input for all.

The theme for this year's weekend is the gift left for us by Pope Francis for this Jubilee year "Pilgrims of Hope" we will be exploring how we can become pilgrims of hope with particular input from the caring for creation team and Lucy Marfleet and Amy Robinson who are providing a variety of input for all ages highlights of which are detailed below.

Friday Bedtime Storytelling

Cosy up with a cocoa and enjoy some traditional tales performed by Amy, the resident storyteller, to send you off to dreamland.

Timeline people creative workshop

Before we attempt our community challenge to cover the story of the whole Bible in one hour, we'd love people of all ages to take the opportunity to decorate and prepare one of the paper people to go on the timeline.

Bible in 60 Minutes

Is it possible to tell the big story of the Bible in only 60 minutes? What about if lots of people of all ages and abilities share the job and take part with short scripts? This innovative new project takes scripts from Lucy's book and gives *everyone* the chance to participate. We are looking for people who love to be up the front *and* people who never normally read aloud to each read a little bit of the big story. There will be a cake break halfway through and some

hands-on elements for anyone with accessibility needs or if you would just like something to fiddle with.

Reading the Psalms as Poetry

We know that the Psalms were written as songs and poems. But is it possible to read them that way even in translation? And how can doing so inform the way we interact with them, interpret them and pray with them? Come along to this workshop to find out - no previous poetical expertise required!

Storytelling for all ages

Join in with telling some more stories, and find out some of the secrets of storytelling as we have a go at lots of techniques, all of which begin with the letter R, and use them to retell some Bible stories.

Engaging the senses and engaging everyone

Lucy will run this workshop for anyone keen to consider how we engage our senses when thinking about stories in the Bible. What did Easter smell like? What foods were available to people in Bible times? How can we use sensory experiences when working with people of all abilities in our church groups?

For more information see websites:

<https://amyscottrobinson.com/>

<https://lucymarfleet.com/>

Please don't wait - help us to make this a summer gathering to remember by booking without delay.

Best wishes

Mary Stocker, Jim Willetts and the Summer Gathering Team