



The Edgehill Churches

Parish Link

Loving
God,
Serving
People,
Growing
Community

Mattering

March 2026

I only came across the term 'mattering' for the first time last month, yet it's a verb that's been part of the English language since about 1420AD! In the early 1980's, it became a topic of interest in psychology, and since 2001, it has become a major research focus in psychology, education, and workplace management.

Mattering is a fundamental psychological and social need to feel valued by others and to believe that your life makes a positive difference.

Mattering is related to, but distinct from, belonging. While belonging is about being part of a group, mattering goes deeper - it is the feeling that the group relies on you, not just that you are in it.



While feeling valued reinforces self-worth, mattering also involves a sense of dependence - the recognition that your role and significance emerge through meaningful relationships.

Author Zach Mercurio tells the story of a woman named Jane who hopped from one cleaning job to another. Then, a change in family circumstances meant she needed a more stable job. She took a job cleaning at a university (job title, 'custodian') and stayed there for over eighteen years. When asked why, she said, 'In my first training, a supervisor defined the word *custodian* as "a person who has responsibility for or looks after something."

Despite being told her whole life that cleaning was an unskilled and dirty job, she said, 'Realising I was looking after these buildings and everyone in them changed my belief patterns and has inspired me for the last eighteen years. I finally realised I mattered.'

Jane credits that one sentence from a supervisor for fuelling her energy and sense of self in work for 18 years.

We can find that sense of mattering in work, family life, through sport, volunteering and many other places. A strong sense of mattering tends to be asso-

ciated with greater self-compassion, life satisfaction, and resilience. But if our mattering is connected to a key aspect of our life that we lose - through the loss of a job, the breakup of a relationship, or the death of someone we love, etc - then that can leave us feeling lost; our sense that we matter, our identity, our sense of purpose, our wellbeing all suffer.

Two things psychologists recommend we focus on:

1. We can help those around us by showing gratitude and letting them know they matter, and
2. We can help ourselves by volunteering in our community or on a project that's important to us. The more we look to care for others and make a difference, the more we will come to realise we matter.

Psychology is rediscovering that loving our neighbour as ourselves is one of those things that we all need to really flourish in this life.

We may not be able to change the circumstances we are dealing with, but we can help others to know they matter. And in doing our part to make a difference in the world, we discover that we matter, too!

Rev Barry Jackson

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MARCH SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL PARISHES

	Kineton	Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
1st	10.00am Simply Celebrate		8.30am Communion	10.30am Communion		8:30am BCP Comm
8th	10.30am Communion	9:00am Communion			10.30am Communion	
15th	10.30am Morning Worship		10.30am Communion	6.30pm Communion		8.30am Communion
22nd	10.30am Communion				10.30am Communion	
29th	10.30am Morning Worship			10.30am Communion		

MIDWEEK COMMUNION

Every Wednesday 12 noon
at St Peter's Kineton



A said Communion Service. All welcome.

SIMPLY CELEBRATE

Sunday 1st March

10am St Peter's Kineton



Come for **breakfast** to begin the service. A time with God for everyone. Our young people help lead the service with Bible readings, leading prayers, acting in dramas, leading the actions in songs, and more



Friday 6th March, 6.30pm,
St Peter's Church, Kineton.

A musical extravaganza, showcasing the wonderful talents of Kineton Primary School alongside performers from the local community.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7th March, 2.30pm at Hornton Methodist Church. This year the service has been put together by women of Nigeria. All are welcome



Hampshire county youth(ish) choir and 'Live Noise' present:

A MUSICAL EVENING at St. Peter Ad Vincula,
Ratley Saturday 14th March 2026 7:30pm.

Featuring a diverse set of genres and composers from Orlando Gibbons to Bernard Cribbins.

Tickets £10 on the door, or reserved on 01295 670540 or andrea.keith@googlemail.com.



SIMPLY PLAY

Wednesdays 9.00am-11am
St Peter's Kineton in term time

Come and catch up with friends over coffee and cake whilst your toddlers enjoy our new soft play area. More details Liz lizhostelofson@yahoo.com



TEA & CHAT

Friday 27th Mar 3pm-4.30pm
in Ratley Village Hall

Come and meet up with neighbours and friends for a chat and catch up. Cost £1.00 Everyone welcome. No need to book, just turn up!



NEW CURATE - Rea Verdon

We're delighted to announce that **Rea Verdon** will be ordained deacon on 28th June 2026. Rea will be serving her curacy with us and will be living in the Rectory in Warmington.



Rea has been married to Ben for 21 years, and together they have three children: Ayla (pronounced Isla) 20, Hannah 18, and Rufus 13. As a family, they like exploring and camping in the summer and hibernating with good food, music and crafts in the winter. After 16 years at St Laurence's in Coventry, they are sad to be leaving but also very excited about moving to Warmington and the Edgehill Churches and look forward to meeting everyone.

Please hold Rea and her family in your prayers as they prepare to join us this summer.



Build imagination with Lego!

Sat 14th Mar, 1:30pm, Warmington Village Hall
Snacks/drinks available and it's free!

Children must bring an adult

(BUT adults don't need to be accompanied by a child!)
for more details from rev.AlisonAbbott@gmail.com

Charity Pop-Up Board Games Café

Friday 27th March at 7.00pm at

The Sports and Social club, Kineton

If you love board games, then come and join us for a charity board game evening. Come with a group of friends, or come along to meet some new ones.

We'll plan to eat at 7 (bring a take away) and start playing at 7.30. More info on the QR code



THE BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

A weekly drop-in group

Mondays 2.30-3.30pm Scout Hut, Kineton

Come and join us in a safe, gentle environment for tea/coffee and a chat. More info from Rev Matthew Arnold on

mtr.arnold@googlemail.com



RADWAY'S TEA, CHAT & PLAY

Every Wednesday 3pm -5pm in the Village Hall

All ages are welcome from babies to grandpas!

