



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 14th February 2016

Nave Flooring Works

The first phase of work to restore the nave floor is now completed with the exception of the floor tiles that are still to be repaired. The extension of the Prayer Room flooring is also completed.

Work on the high south windows and then the flooring finishing works (sanding and staining) is due to be carried out in the coming weeks.

Second Sunday Stroll

Our strolls continue each month. Meet at 2.30 pm at South Parade Pier for a casual social stroll along the seafront. The next one is on **Sunday 14th February**. Everybody is welcome.

House Groups – Lent Course

We have agreed with St. Jude’s to repeat last year’s pattern of following a special course for Lent. We want to build on what we achieved last year by seeking to involve as many people as possible, with no other groups meeting then. To this end, leaders of the regular groups will be invited to suspend their groups for the period of the Lent Course, which will start on **Ash Wednesday 10th February**. We are also hoping that those who are not in a regular group will take this opportunity to commit to a Lent group. Flyers are available on the Welcome Table giving details.

The first “taster” sessions will be:

St. Jude’s, 7.45 for 8.00 pm on Wednesday 10th February

St. Simon’s, 11.00 for 11.15 am on Tuesday 16th February.

Positive actions during Lent

If you are interested in taking up something for Lent rather than giving up something, the following websites may help to provide inspiration:

<http://www.40acts.org.uk/>

<http://washday.org/>

Walking with the Wounded event

Walking with the Wounded is a charity which works to retrain and re-skill wounded service men and women and support them in finding new careers outside the Military. They will be holding a “Massage Marathon” fundraising event at St. Simon’s on **Saturday 20th February**. A number of physical/sports therapists will be available 11.00 am -5.00 pm offering 15-minute treatments for a minimum donation of £6.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

The church electoral roll (the formal list of church members) will be revised during the period **Monday 15th to Monday 29th February**. Your name needs to be on the roll if you wish to attend the annual meetings on **Wednesday 16th March** or if you wish to stand for election as a member of the PCC, a churchwarden or a member of the Deanery Synod. You may apply to have your name added during the revision period. If your name is already on the roll and you wish to remain on it, you do not need to take any action. The formal notice of this revision is displayed on the external noticeboard by the north door.

The revised roll will be displayed during the period 1st to 15th March; no additions or removals are allowed during this period, although any errors may be corrected.

For any questions on this process or for forms, please contact Mick in the church office.

Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper

7.30 p.m., **Friday 4th March** in the Church Centre. Tickets are now available at £5 from Dinah Walters. Please book your place by Thursday 3rd March at the latest.

Annual Meetings 2016

The two annual meetings (the meeting to elect the churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held on **Wednesday 16th March** this year. This date is different from the provisional date agreed at the November PCC meeting.

Nearer the time, nomination forms for churchwardens, deanery synod and lay members of the PCC will be available at the back of church or on request from the Church Office.

Nominations for churchwardens must be received by midnight on the preceding Sunday, 13th March. Nominations for lay members of the PCC may be made in advance or at the meeting.

Licensing of Rev. Susi James

The licensing of Susi as Priest-in-charge of St. Simon's is due to take place at a service at 3.00 pm on **Sunday 1st May** when his formal appointment will begin. Light refreshments will follow the service.

Susi, Ruth and family are due to move in to the vicarage during the first week of April. He particularly asks for the following prayer requests please:

- To find a right schools for the boys
- God willing we are planning to invite my parents for my licensing (from India) would you please pray that they would get Visas
- Please pray that I will have a smooth handover here at Holy Trinity
- Please pray that we will end our ministry well
- Please pray that I will be able to strengthen all the ministry that I am leading so that it will continue to flourish after my move (specially the youth)

Social events

The initial list of social events for January – June 2016 is now available on the [website](#) and the Welcome Table.

Real Easter Eggs

Real Easter Eggs, “the egg that shares the Easter story”, will again be available this year. You can order online at <http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk/> and some other independent retailers. They will also be available in larger branches of Tesco, Morrisons and Waitrose from mid-February.

The Queen's 90th Birthday

The Bible Society and LICC are publishing a book *The Servant Queen – and the King she serves* as a tribute on the occasion of the Queen's birthday. You can register your interest at hopetogether.org.uk

What Breakthru has done for me

The following is a contribution to the Newsletter from Sid, who is a member of Breakthru.

“I joined Breakthru in September 2014, when I was in a bad place. Joining creative writing things began to change, I felt welcome, and this lifted my spirits greatly.

Creative writing is not as difficult as you may think, it’s not about spelling or grammar; it’s more about using your imagination. Sharing and listening to stories and gaining a positive attitude, and having fun. Marie will guide you in these things.

To conclude, Breakthru has been an inspiration to me, I am sorry I won’t be able to attend regularly in future. *I have moved forward doing voluntary work*, and will attend Breakthru when I can, as I believe it has helped me overcome my issues. ***God Bless You All. 29th January 2016 by Sid Davis***”

Missing microphone

One of our two lavelier (lapel) radio microphones has been missing since the end of the service on Sunday 24th January. If you have seen it or have any ideas where it might be, please contact Mick in the church office, thank you.

Bishop’s Lent Appeal 2016

The appeal this year will support learning, both locally and abroad. One beneficiary will be St. Nicholas’ Seminary in Ghana. The other will be a local group or charity which supports people who have difficulty in learning due to dyslexia, language barriers, etc.. Leaflets giving further information and donation forms are available on the Welcome Table.

Cleaner

Sadly, our Cleaner, Marian, has resigned due to ill-health. We have temporary cover in place and will be appointing a new cleaner in due course.

Chris and Nadege Cowley

Chris and Nadege with Timothy and Nicholas will be visiting Southsea for a week at the end of June or early July. If anyone is able loan or rent suitable accommodation for the four of them, please contact Mick in the church office, thank you.

Youth Pilgrimage - Taize

For people aged 15-25, Saturday 23rd July to Monday 1st August. Travel is by train to London then by coach and ferry to Taizé. Costs are £220 for 15 to 17 and £240 for 18 years and older. A deposit of £50 is required to secure a place before 31st May. Includes food, accommodation in own tents and travel.

For more information or a booking form contact Revd Allie Kerr (group leader) 07889 540125 or 01983 299930.

If you're interested to find out more come along to Portsmouth Cathedral on Wednesday 2nd March, 7:00 to 8:30pm, for an evening with Bishop Christopher & Brother Paulo (from Taizé) - parents would be most welcome too.

Stop Press - Day Away

A Day Away for the whole church is being planned for **Saturday 9th April** at St. John's Church, Shedfield. Details will follow, but for now, please put this date in your diaries.

Every week

Little Shipmates (Mondays 9.30 – 11 am, Church Centre, term time only)

Youth Cell (Monday evenings. Contact Babette – see below)

Tuesday Time Together (Praise and Prayer, 10 am in the South Room)

Tuesday Bible Alive (Alternate Tuesdays, 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge)

City Churches Prayer Meeting (Wednesdays 6.30am, at Oasis, Arundel Street)

Breakthru Self-Help Community (Fridays 10.30 am to 2.30 pm)

Sunday Morning Worship with Children's Groups (see back page)

Sunday Suppers + Sunday Extra (Sunday nights 6 to 7.15 pm)

Rhythm of Prayer (Wednesdays at 6.00 pm and Fridays at 09.30 am)

There is also a variety of **Small Groups** for adults for discipleship, prayer and support. Phone the Church Office on 9282 9440 or you can find a list of our current groups on our website.

Notes

These Newsletters are published fortnightly. The deadline for contributions is midnight of the Tuesday before publication. Please send your news, notices of events, etc. to the Church Office.

Would you like to read this Newsletter in large print? Please let the office know.

This newsletter is available on the church website.

If you would like to receive notification via e-mail when future Newsletters are available, please request this from the Church Office.

Services at St. Simon's

Sunday 14th February

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 21st February

09.30 am Shipmates
10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 28th February

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 6th March

09.30 am Shipmates
11.15 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

If you would like more details of any of the events listed here, please contact the Church Office, or visit the Calendar on our website:

www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk



Useful Contacts:

Amy Allen (Children and Families' Pastor)
Lorna Sandland (Community Dev. Worker)
Babette Shaw (Youth Outreach Worker)
Mick Walters (Administrator)

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