



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 24th April 2016

May sermon series

Among the many things that I am looking forward to do at St Simon's, preaching is one of them. I have been praying for the last couple of months asking God to give me a message that He wants me to share as I begin my ministry at St. Simon's and with all of my heart I believe God has given me a message and for the next four Sundays (from my licensing) myself and Bob Mason will be sharing this.

This is a four-week series and it is called "The Great".

The Great God - 8th May
His Great Promises - 15th May
His Great Plans - 22nd May
His Great Commission - 29th May

I believe and Pray during this four-week series that God will make his future plans for St. Simon's clear, therefore could I humbly urge everyone at St. Simon's to do everything you can to be there for all four Sundays.

Thank you very much. Susi

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

3rd May	Easter: Part 5 – Bidding Farewell
17th May	Pentecost: Part 1 – God’s Promise!
31st May	Pentecost: Part 2 – What sort of Church? A 'Well' Church!

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

Alpha

The next Alpha course starts at 7.00 pm on **Tuesday 19th April** at St. Jude’s church. Flyers are available on the Welcome Table.



H.M. the Queens’s 90th Birthday Coffee Afternoon

Come and celebrate Her Majesty’s 90th Birthday with tea, coffee and cake at the home of Mick and Dinah Walters. **Saturday 23rd April**, 2.30-4.30 p.m. Numbers are limited to 30 so please contact them by Friday evening to book a place - 023 9281 4599. Modest charges for refreshments – proceeds to the General Fund.

Could you be a School Pastor?

School Pastors aim to work with schools to come alongside young people providing a listening ear, supporting and enriching their school experience and being a reassuring presence. No experience needed - all training provided! Come along to find out more on **Wednesday 27th April** at 2:30pm at North End Baptist Church, 195 Powerscourt Road, PO2 7JH. Further details are available from the church office.

Susi’s DBS clearance

You may have been aware that Susi’s licensing was dependent on his DBS check being completed in advance. This has now been completed successfully so that the formal licensing can go ahead. Susi would particularly like to thank everyone who has been praying for this.

Seating for Susi's licensing service- volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help set out chairs for the licensing service please. We are planning for 300 people and will be arranging the seating at **10.00 am** on **Thursday 28th April**. If you are able to help at this time, please come along to the church then.

Collection for Syria and Iraq

A Southsea collection is being arranged to go to Syria & Iraq. Can you donate any of the following: sanitary towels (no tampons), incontinence pads, nappies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap (no liquids). You can drop them to Victoriana's Warehouse in Exmouth Road, Southsea (or one of the shops on Marmion Road), but they need to be there by **Saturday 30th April**.

If you have the time, there is also the opportunity for people to compile a 'CARE BOX' for an expectant mother or new born baby which you can fill with items that the appeal specify, decorate and include a message for the expectant or new mum. You can find more details on what to include here: <http://www.samarasaidappeal.org/care-packs/> (But at step 7, you can deliver it to Victoriana in Southsea). Maybe get together with some friends and create one? Any questions, leave a message on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/258174814516673/>

Wanted – Large Teapots!...

...for Susi's Licensing Service on **Sunday 1st May** we will be catering for approximately 300 guests and I would be very grateful for the loan of large teapots for the afternoon. Please contact me if you are able to help. Dinah Walters.

Car park – Sunday 1st May

Please note that car park spaces will be extremely limited on the afternoon of **Sunday 1st May** due to the number of guests at Susi's licensing service. Please avoid bringing your car if at all possible.

Local Elections and the EU Referendum

Please note that the lower Church Centre will be in use as a polling station all day on **Thursday 5th May** and **Thursday 23rd June**.

Breakthru Celebration Meal

A Breakthru Celebration Meal will be held on **Friday 6th May** at 7.00 pm

All welcome - £5 per ticket

BYO drink - Note that this **must** be non-alcoholic please

Bring-and-Share Pudding table

Tickets are available from Lorna or from the church office.

Men's Day Out

How often do we men of St Simons do something together? No matter what age you are we've all got something to offer, so what a great way to get to know each other, learning more about our heritage and history. On **Saturday 7th May** we've arranged a day trip to Brooklands Museum and Mercedes World leaving the church car park at 08:30 am. There will be a cost towards the mini-bus of £4.00 and entry into Brooklands of £11.00 (Under 16's entry £6.00 and mini-bus free). Please note that there's extra cost for the 4D experience rides yet entry into Mercedes World is free. There's a cafe at Brooklands for those wishing to purchase lunch alternatively bring a packed lunch. If you're interested in coming please speak to Cliff Gollidge to secure your seat.

"Thy Kingdom Come"

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting churches to pray for the evangelisation of the nation during the week before Pentecost Sunday, **8th – 15th May**.

For details, please see the [announcement](#) and <http://thykingdom.co.uk/>

Christian Aid Week 2016

Christian Aid Week is **15th – 21st May** this year. Please consider which roads you might collect in – Sign-up sheets will be available nearer the time.



Tea Dance on behalf of the Rowans Hospice

Sunday 15th May, 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm at the Royal Beach Hotel, Southsea. Dancing to Steve Kingsley DJ. Tickets are £8.50, to include scone jam and cream, tea or coffee. Please contact the church office for tickets.

Minibus Trip to London, 14th May

This planned minibus trip has been postponed.

Retreats

Ruth Tuschling from the diocese is running two two-day retreats, one on the Isle of Wight **6-7th July** and one on the mainland **13-14th July**. These are non-residential and are particularly suitable for those who have not been on retreat before. Further details are available from the church office.

Social events

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

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 to loan or rent suitable accommodation for the four of them, please contact Mick in the church office, thank you.

A Discipleship Year at St. Jude's

St. Jude's are looking for someone to join their established Discipleship Year Placement Scheme. Are you aged 21+, an enthusiastic potential leader who wants to explore your gifts and calling within a vibrant, growing family church by the sea? This position will be with the youth team - combined with either the children, or worship team, or to be part of the emerging student ministry - as best suited to your skills. Details - <http://www.stjudes-southsea.org.uk/join-in/vacancies>

Vicarage white goods

Thank you to all who contributed to the fund for appliances at the vicarage. A total of £744.50 was collected. This provided a cooker, fridge/freezer and some floor covering.

Hearing loop

The hearing induction loop in the nave is now working again. Apologies for the delay in getting this working following the floor work. If users do have any problems with this please contact the mixer operator on the day or Mick in the church office at other times.

A thank you from Samaritan's Purse

Thank you for partnering with Operation Christmas Child and acting as a drop off point for the shoebox campaign.

This year shoeboxes from the UK were sent to Albania, Belarus, Bosnia, Central Asia, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Macedonia, the Middle East, Romania, Serbia, Swaziland, Ukraine and Zambia. Together you packed an amazing 900,008 shoeboxes, meaning hundreds of thousands of children received a gift to remember. 18,575 of these shoeboxes were sent to refugee children passing through camps in Macedonia.

Thank you for partnering with Operation Christmas Child in 2015 to share God's love in a tangible way with children across the world over the Christmas season.

Every week

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

After School Church (Mondays 3.30 – 4.45 pm, Church Centre, term time)

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)

Youth Cell (Thursday evenings at St. Jude's. Contact Babette – see below)

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)

Starlight Theatre Academy (Sundays 1.00-2.30 pm. Contact Babette)

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 24th April

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 1st May

09.30 am Shipmates
11.15 am Holy Communion
3.00 pm Licensing of Susi James
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 8th May

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 15th May

09.30 am Shipmates Service
10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 22nd May

10.30 am Morning Praise
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)

c/o 023 9282 9440
c/o 023 9282 9440
07850 992 721
023 9282 9440



StSimonsChurchSouthsea



@StSimonsSsea