



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 6th November 2016

Leading Your Church into Growth

You might be aware that John Bazley, Lorna and myself recently attended a residential course called "Leading Your Church into Growth". It was a great course and we were greatly challenged.

After the course we came home with a DVD and some resources which are called "Leading Your Church into Growth Local." Three of us met a few days ago to pray and plan so that the wider church family too can enjoy and benefit from what we've enjoyed.

This course has 2 sessions for leaders and 6 sessions for the wider congregation. (Each session is one and half hours). We have worked hard to find a day and time that you might be able to attend.

Further details are given on the next page. Please put these dates in your diaries – there is a choice of evening (Wednesday) or daytime (Saturdays).

Susi

Leading Your Church into Growth

The first leaders' session is on **Wednesday the 7th December** and the second one is on **Wednesday the 1st March** both from 7.00-9.00pm at the Church. **These two days are only for those who are involved in some kind of leadership role.**

Between these two dates there will be six evening sessions and 2 Saturday day sessions which is for both leaders and the wider church. (Saturday sessions are for those who couldn't attend the weekday ones and if you have attend the weekday ones you do not need to attend the Saturday one).

The dates are:

Wed 7th December 7.00pm-9.00pm (Just for leaders)

Wed 11th January 7.00pm-9.00pm (For everyone)

Wed 18th January 7.00pm-9.00pm (For everyone)

Wed 25th January 7.00-9.00pm (For everyone)

Saturday 4th Feb 9.am-2.00pm (for those who couldn't attend during weekday evenings)

Wed 1st March 7.00pm-9.00pm (Just for leaders)

Wednesday 26th April 7.00pm-9.00pm(For everyone)

Wednesday 3rd May 7.00pm-9.00pm (For everyone)

Wednesday 10th May 7.00pm-9.00pm (For everyone)

Sat 13th May 9.00 am-2.00pm (for those who couldn't attend during weekday evenings).

There is a reason for spreading this over the next 6 months. It might seem a bit complicated but I can assure you at the end of this 6 months with God's grace we will not be the same.

Thanks,
Susi.

An article on this was in the [November edition of Pompey Chimes](#).

Sermon series – The Apostles' Creed

Our sermon series, looking at the Apostles' Creed, continues:

6th November - "...the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,..."

13th November – "...the forgiveness of sins..."

20th November – "...the resurrection of the body,..."

27th November – "...and the life everlasting."

If you do miss any of these sermons, recordings are normally available on the church website - <http://www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk/sermons/>

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

15th November The Miracles of Jesus (1): Part 6 – Body Parts!

29th November The Miracles of Jesus(2): Part 1 – Lessons in Faith

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

Christmas Day Sunday Supper

Christmas Day this year falls on a Sunday. We plan to offer a Sunday Supper as normal but we particularly need people to be in the Church Centre with guests. If you are able to help or would like further information, please contact Lorna or Mick in the office.

Church Weekend at Home 2017

We are planning a whole-church "Weekend at Home" for next year. This will be from **Friday evening 23rd June through Sunday 25th June 2017**. There will be a number of events across the weekend. Please put the date in your diaries. Further details will follow.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

St. Simon's is taking part in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Collection again this year. Put simply, gift filled shoe boxes are sent to needy children around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way.



How you can help:-

- 1) Pray for the whole project, particularly the children who will receive the boxes.
- 2) Pick up a leaflet and a box from the Shoe Box Table at church and do your own box(es).
- 3) Donate items to go in the boxes via the Church Office.
- 4) Donate money to buy items to go in boxes via the Church Office.
- 5) Knit items to go in the boxes - knitting patterns on Shoe Box Table.
- 6) Come to the Pack and Wrap Party on :-

Saturday November 12th 2.30 pm – 5 pm in the Church Centre - Help wrap and pack boxes with the donated gifts, everything provided, just bring yourself!

Please read the leaflet carefully about what can, and can't, go in a box, and remember to include £3 per box to go towards postage. More information: www.operationchristmaschild.org or see Ruth Taylor (023 9283 3318)

NB. Closing date for completed boxes to be brought to the Church Office is 18th November.

Christmas Grub Club

We are going back to the Jolly Sailor for our Christmas Grub Club, and I have booked a table for 20 people at 7 for 7.30 p.m. on **Thursday, 15th December**. The menu is available [here](#) or alternatively, you can find it on a notice board in the church Centre. The price quoted is three courses for £22.95 or two courses for £18.95. There is a 10% discount for parties on a Thursday night, so I suggest that we all pay the stated price and the discount will form the tip/service charge. In previous years we have all been very happy with the food and the service, so I hope that is acceptable to everyone who comes. I need a £10 deposit to confirm the booking and they are asking for this, together with menu choices, by **14th November**, please. Contact me via the church office or on 023 9281 4599 if you would like to join us. Dinah Walters.

Social events

The [list of social events for July – December](#) is available on the website and the Welcome Table. This includes:

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|--------------------------|--|
| Friday 18th November | - Grub Club Curry Night at Purple Mango. |
| Thursday 15th December | - Grub Club Christmas Meal. |
| Sunday 1st January, 2017 | - Walk along Southsea Seafront, 2 pm. |

All-Age Party

Last January we held a very successful all-age afternoon tea and games party in the church centre and I undertook to make it an annual event! To this end, I have booked the church for the afternoon of **Saturday 7th January**. Please make a note in your nice new diaries and come along for an afternoon of traditional fun, games and tea. Dinah Walters.

Table Top Sale

Many thanks to everyone who helped and supported the Table Top Sale in any way. We had a good afternoon, met some lovely people, had great conversations and raised £270. Thank you everyone. Julie and Kathy.

University Students

It is such a joy to see the increasing number of university students becoming part of our Church Family, at the moment we have 5 students attending regularly. Could I request our wider church family to invite these students for lunch after a Sunday service please. This is a great ministry and this will mean a lot to them. I really hope and pray that we can do this as part of being a welcoming church family. If you are willing to do this please let me know as I can pass their contact details so that you can prearrange a date with them. Thank you in advance, Susi.

Knitted Hat/Gloves/Scarf sets

Many thanks to all who bought the sets of hat, gloves and scarf I knitted. I have been able to give £135 to our Church funds as a result of this. Lois.

Barn Dance

A huge thank you to all those who supported the Barn Dance. We have been able to share £538 between Singing for the Brain (Alzheimer's), Beyond the Streets, Neil and Abby Langmead and the Prayer Room. Geraldine Poulter.

More Street Pastors needed

More Christians are needed to train as Street Pastors in Portsmouth. If you are interested and would like further details, please contact Mick in the church office or speak to any of the existing Street Pastors.

Church Office e-mail address

Please note that the old office e-mail address (stsimons.southsea@...) is redundant and should no longer be used.

The only valid current address is admin@stsimons-southsea.org.uk

Regular Events

Little Shipmates (Mondays 9.30 – 11 am, 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 Bryn – 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)

Prayer for Israel (fourth Fridays 3.00–4.00 pm Lounge. Contact Ruth Warner)

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 6th November

9.30 am Shipmates
10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 20th November

10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 13th November

10.30 am Remembrance Sunday
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:

Susi James (Priest in charge)

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Lorna Sandland (Community Dev. Worker)

c/o 023 9282 9440

Bryn Jenkins (Youth Worker)

c/o 023 9282 9440

Mick Walters (Administrator)

023 9282 9440



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