



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 14th May 2017

Alpha

Alpha starts on **Thursday 18th May**

Please contact the church office to book your place.

Invitation cards are available on the Welcome Table.

Watch [the Bear Grylls Alpha video](#).



Christian Aid Week 2017

Christian Aid Week is **14th – 20th May** this year. Please consider which roads you might collect in – Sign-up sheets will be available at the back of church.



Ebenezer

The men's home group, Ebenezer, will start the summer series on **Tuesday 16th May** with a particularly interesting DVD series under the heading 'Wild at Heart', considering what makes men tick and how that affects men's attitude to faith. We meet every other week at 8.00 pm in Lowcay Road, and would welcome newcomers, at least to give it a try. Contact Michael or Mick for further info.

LYCiG Follow-up Events

The next follow-up event:

Creating a Culture of Welcome

Venerable Bob Jackson, who is a national church expert on church growth, will speak about ways to make our churches more welcoming on **Friday 19th May 2017 7pm-9.30pm** OR **Saturday 20th May 2017 9.30am-2pm**.

The session will cover:

- Discover making the church more visible
- The premises: Making them more inviting
- A welcoming God and his welcoming people
- Belonging to the church community

[Book the Friday session online.](#)

[Book the Saturday session online.](#)

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

23 rd May	Women of the Bible (1): Part 3 - Looking Back
6 th June	Women of the Bible (1): Part 4 - It's not fair!
20 th June	Women of the Bible (1) : Part 5 – Daughter-in-law of Judah

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

Ladies' Day Out

We are running a minibus trip for the ladies of the church on **Saturday, 10th June** to West Dean Gardens, in Sussex. The plan is to leave the church car park at 11 a.m. and arrive at the gardens in time for lunch in the cafe, which serves a wide variety of delicious home-made food. Then the afternoon is free to wander round, maybe have a cup of tea/coffee towards the end, and leave around 4.30 so we are back in Southsea for 5.30. Entry to the gardens is £8.75 or £9.70 with Gift Aid and there will need to be a contribution towards fuel. Places are limited to 15 - Please contact Dinah Walters for more information and to book.

Church Weekend at Home 2017

For your diaries - **Friday evening 23rd June to Sunday 25th June 2017.**

Friday 23rd

6.30 pm Quiz with fish and chip supper

Saturday 24th

11.00 am - 1.00 pm Children/Family Fun Morning

3.30-5.30 pm Youth Fun Time

6.30 pm Praise and Worship, Rev Ben Read

Sunday 25th

10.30 am Holy Communion, Rev Ben Read

Afternoon Tea

A fundraising afternoon tea for senior church members and their friends will be held in the church on **Monday 3rd July** in support of the charity Action Aid. Tickets will be available in due course from Dinah Walters and the church office.

Minibus driver wanted – August 19th and 24th

Bryn is taking a group to Soul Survivor in August. Is anybody available to drive the minibus for them on **Saturday 19th and/or Thursday 24th August** please? Please contact Bryn or Mick in the office if you may be able to help.

Parenting Course

At St. Simon's we will be running our first Parenting Course (for those parenting 0 to 10-years-old) and the dates are **14th, 21st, 28th June, 5th and 12th July** (5 Wednesday evenings).

Food, materials and admission are FREE but only 12 places are available. Please contact the church office to book your place NOW.

Ride & Stride 2017

Ride & Stride will be on **Saturday 9th September** this year. We need volunteers to help with welcoming and refreshments on the day and one or two people to co-ordinate things in advance – offers to Mick in the office please.

LYCiG material online

A reminder that the LYCiG materials are available online [here](#). Please respect the copyright of these materials and do not distribute them outside of St. Simon's.

Help Needed – food collection

For many years we have been collecting cakes and bread from Heidi's for Sunday Suppers. Now Heidi's has closed, Tesco will be providing us with, hopefully, some cakes and bread. Pat & Nigel have helped us for many years, and Louise and William have helped us in recent years. However understandably, Pat, Nigel, Louise & Will want to step down now, so we are in need of helpers to collect from Tesco's in Palmerston Road every 3rd and 5th Saturday. The collection will need to be collected between 7.30 and 9.30 am on a Saturday. If you are able to help, please speak to either Sue Piper or Lorna Sandland or contact the office. We are so very grateful to Pat, Nigel, Louise and William for all their help. (NB The pick up on the 5th Saturday is only 4 times a year!). Sue Piper

Window repairs

As announced recently, the necessary repairs to the south and west windows are anticipated to cost in excess of £90,000. We need to raise the funds for this urgently. If you feel that you would be able to contribute, please contact our Treasurer, Gail Chipperfield, or if preferred, Susi or Mick in the church office. We would appreciate donations, offers of pledges over time, loans or help with grant applications or writing to others who might help.

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)

Temples for 11-18 year-olds (Tuesdays 7.00-8.30 pm)

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 nights 6.00 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 023 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 May

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 28th May

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 21st May

10.30 am Holy Communion
6.00 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)

023 9242 1745

Lorna Sandland (Community Dev. Worker)

c/o 023 9282 9440

Bryn Jenkins (Youth Pastor)

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Mick Walters (Administrator)

023 9282 9440



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