



## St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### Church Weekend at Home events

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**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

**6.30 pm**

**Quiz with fish and chip supper**

("Kings and Queens" fancy dress optional.  
Note change of theme)

Tickets £5 from Louise, Andy or Dinah

Deadline for tickets – Thursday 22nd

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

**11.00 am - 1.00 pm**

**3.30 pm - 5.30 pm**

**6.30 pm**

**8.45 pm**

**Children/Family Fun Morning**

**Youth Fun Time**

**Praise and Worship, Rev Ben Read**

**Greek/Turkish meal** (booking required)

Deadline for booking – Thursday 22nd

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

**10.30 am**

**Morning Praise, Rev Ben Read**

followed by a bring-and-share lunch

## Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

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20<sup>th</sup> June      Women of the Bible (1) : Part 5 – Daughter-in-law of Judah

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

## Parenting Course

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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.

## Parenting Course – Washers up required please

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For the parenting course, we need a few volunteers please who could wash up between 8.00 and 9.00 pm on each of the above dates. Offers to Susi please.

## Church Weekend at Home – Saturday evening meal

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After the evening service on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**, there is the option to gather together for dinner at the [Bodrum](#) Greek/Turkish restaurant on Albert Road. We have booked a table for 12 (which could probably be increased) for 8.45 p.m. If you would like to come along, please contact Dinah Walters on 023 9281 4599, or Mick in the Church Office, by Thursday 22nd June. All are very welcome.

## Church Weekend at Home – Sunday lunch

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On **Sunday 25th June**, following the morning service which concludes the programme for our Church Weekend at Home, there will be a bring and share lunch in the church. Everyone is invited – no need to book a place, just bring some food for us all to share together.

## Portsmouth Prayer Mission

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A team of Korean Christians is coming to Portsmouth in June to spend five days praying for our city. During this time there will be a number of opportunities to join them as they pray:

Citywide Prayer, every night, Wednesday 28th June to Sunday 2nd July from 12 am to 5 am at the Empower Centre, Kingston Road

Citywide Praise and Prayer Evenings

**Friday 30th June at 7.00 pm at St. Simon's**

Sunday 2nd July at 6.00 pm at City Life Church, Tangier Road

National Prayer Celebration - All Welcome

Monday 3rd July at 7.00 pm at the Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, Westminster, SW1P 3DW

Further information is available from 023 9266 2257.

## Midsummer Mystery Meal

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Come and join us for an evening drive through the beautiful Hampshire countryside to a secret destination for dinner! The church minibus will be leaving the car park at 6 p.m. on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June** – priority for places in the bus will be given to those without their own transport. The menu will include starters at £4-£5 and main courses from £8.50 to £15, with desserts at £5.50. There will be a modest contribution requested for fuel. Please contact Dinah to book in for this ever-popular evening out!

## Afternoon Tea

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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.

## Save the date!

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If you are involved with Sunday Suppers or Breakthru, please save this date - **Wednesday 19th July** - to join with us in celebrating our volunteers and supporters of Sunday Suppers and Breakthru. Time: 7:30pm, venue: Church Centre: St Simon's Church, Waverley Road. The evening will be a time of meeting fellow volunteers and celebrating these two outreaches and thanking our amazing volunteers, who enable so much of what we do. It will also be an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas for moving forward. Lorna Sandland

## Minibus driver wanted – August 24th

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

## Ride & Stride 2017

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Ride & Stride will be on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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

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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.

## Feedback e-mails

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We now have a dedicated email address for all feedback. Please use this email address for all feedback whether it is about Children's ministry, Youth ministry, Sunday Suppers, Breakthru or Sunday services. This is so that your feedback will not be lost in the sea of emails that comes to Susi every day.

[feedback@stsimons-southsea.org.uk](mailto:feedback@stsimons-southsea.org.uk)

This is only for feedback. For all other enquiries or pastoral matters please contact Susi or the church office direct.

## Sunday worship changes

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Following the four trials, responses were as follows:

	Like	Don't Like	Don't Mind
Shipmates in nave	38	3	30
Coffee before service	13	39	19
Band in chancel	45	18	9
Communion without rails	25	21	26

The PCC made the following decisions:

- Shipmates will remain in the nave but will start at 09.00 am and finish by 10.00 am.
- Coffee will revert to being offered after 10.30 am services.
- The band will remain in the chancel.
- Communion will be available both as now in the centre and at side rails.

## Care Home Services

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A small group of St Simon's people take services in the care homes in the parish, which the homes really appreciate. It's part of reaching out into the community. We could do with a few more for this ministry, so if you have a heart for old people and half an hour spare about one or two afternoons a month please get more info from Bob Mason or Michael Piper.

## Window repairs

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Work on the south windows is due to complete by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Most of the scaffolding in the nave should be removed before the Church Weekend at Home. Work on the west window will follow as soon as possible. Total costs are still unknown, but are likely to be around £90-100,000. We are very grateful to the trustees of the Coffee Tavern Trust who have given two grants of £25,000 each together with a loan to cover much of the VAT (which we hope to recover). Further donations are still required please.

## Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

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This scheme was originally developed by the Diocese of Gloucester, but has now been extended throughout the Church, with over half of all dioceses taking part and encouraging their churches to join. St Simon's PCC recently decided that we should join, so what is it all about and what are the advantages? At the moment, we receive about 50 monthly standing orders from members which are transferred directly into St Simon's bank account, but under the new scheme these members will be invited to make a monthly direct debit to the PGS, instead of making a direct payment to St Simon's. The PGS will then make a single monthly payment to St Simon's which will make the treasurer's job easier, as it will greatly simplify the bank statements! For the giver there is also the advantage that all giving will be anonymous, as only the total amount of giving from all members will be known, not the individual contributions received. Another benefit is that the PGS will claim Gift Aid on our behalf, with a regular monthly payment for this being received, rather than the treasurer having to submit claims which is time consuming. This regular payment of Gift Aid on a monthly basis will also make the church's cash flow more even throughout the year. In a nutshell the key details are:

- Members arrange a Direct debit with the PGS, payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month;
- Churches receive a payment from the PGS on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month;
- Churches receive a payment of recovered Gift Aid on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of each month.

The scheme applies only to those who make a contribution to the Church by Standing Order, other gifts in cash received in the weekly collections are not involved in the Scheme.

If you have any questions about the scheme, please ask the Treasurer, or any member of the PCC for more details. Victoria James, the Stewardship Advisor for the Diocese of Portsmouth will be visiting St Simon's on 11<sup>th</sup> June to give a short presentation (which will be recorded) during the morning service. St Jude's and St Luke's have both already joined the scheme and have provided positive feedback, and the PCC is unanimous in recommending the advantages of the scheme to members of St Simon's.

Mike Taylor

## **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)

**Fusion Café** (Fridays 4.00-5.30 pm, term time)

**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 11<sup>th</sup> June

10.30 am Morning Praise  
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June

10.30 am Morning Praise  
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June

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](http://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)

c/o 023 9282 9440

Mick Walters (Administrator)

023 9282 9440



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