



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 19th November 2017

Open Church

The Open Church project, where we will offer overnight accommodation for up to 10 rough sleepers on Fridays through February, needs more volunteers.

There are three shifts:

Evening 6.30 pm - 10.00 pm

Night 9.30 pm – 6.45 am

Morning 6.00 am – 8.30 am

If you are able to offer to volunteer for any of these shifts for any of the dates (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd February) please contact the church office or Lorna. Volunteer application forms and further information are available on the church [website](#).

Please also see the information below about a registration evening on 28th November.

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

28th November

Women of the Bible (2):Part 4 - A New Beginning

12th December

Christmas 2017

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

Alms Fund 2018

Nomination forms for the 2018 Alms Fund organisations are available on the Welcome Table and must be returned by **Sunday 19th November** please.

Open Church Volunteer Registration Evening

A registration evening for volunteers and potential volunteers will be held at 5.00 pm on **Tuesday 28th November** at St. Jude's Church. The Society of St. James will be on hand to answer your questions and sort out DBS applications. If you wish to apply, you will need to bring [id documents](#) for your DBS application and a completed [volunteer form](#) please.

Mince Pie Sunday

This is your annual opportunity to contribute to our hospitality at our Christmas services by bringing along some mince pies! If you can do so, I'd be most grateful if you could bring them along to the morning services on **Sunday 3rd December** and leave them on the table outside the kitchen. They will then be offered at Carols by Candlelight on the 10th and the Nativity service on the 17th, and any left over will go to the Sunday Suppers guests. Many thanks in anticipation! Dinah Walters

St. Nicholas "Empty Bowls" Supper

This is a community event at 7.00 pm on **Wednesday 6th December** where members of a local pottery group, The Maker's Guild Potters, and St. Simon's Church come together to raise awareness of and fight hunger in Portsmouth. Tickets are £7.50 and include a handmade ceramic bowl with a choice of 2 homemade soups and bread. Tickets are available from the church office or Louise Roulston.

St. Jude's "Connect" (Ladies') Christmas Dinner

The ladies of St. Simon's have been invited to join the ladies of St. Jude's at their annual Christmas Dinner, on **Friday 8th December** at the Watkins and Faux Cafe, Southsea Tennis Pavilion. The cost is £16 for two courses or £20 for three courses and we are asked to each bring a gift of less than £5 value for the Secret Santa-type game. Three members of the XCell home group are going – if anyone would like to join us, please contact Dinah Walters as soon as possible for more information and a booking form. There is a deadline of **Tuesday 21st November** for completed forms and payment to be received.

Carol Singing in Palmerston Road

On **Saturday 9th December**, St. Jude's will be leading carol singing in the Palmerston Road precinct from 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm. Please come along and join them – the more the merrier.

Christmas Grub Club

As usual, we are going to The Jolly Sailor on Clarence Parade for our Christmas Grub Club Dinner on **Thursday 14th December**. See the [TJS website](#) for prices and menu choices. A hard copy can be found on the church noticeboard. I have booked tables to sit down at 7.30 – drinks at the bar from 7 p.m. All are very welcome so if you would like to join this merry band, please contact me, with a £10 deposit and your menu choices. Last orders will be taken on Monday, 4th December. Dinah Walters.

Shep Woolley concert

[Shep Woolley](#) and various other performers will be holding an event at the Square Tower on **Sunday 17th December** from 5.00 to 10.00 pm. Proceeds will go to St. Simon's (Sunday Suppers in particular, to be confirmed).

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at the Guildhall

Last Night of the Christmas Proms, 7.30 p.m. on **Friday 22nd December**. The blurb says, “Kick off Christmas with our fun-packed concert for all the family, featuring seasonal classics old and new, all wrapped up with a sprinkling of magic and sparkle.”

Currently four of us are planning to go, sitting on the side circle where tickets are priced at £22. If anyone would like to join us, please contact me, or Mick in the church office, as soon as possible and by Sunday 12th November, at the latest, as many seats are already sold. Dinah Walters

Home Coffee, Christmas Day

Home Coffee in Albert Road (and in Cosham) will be open on Christmas morning for “hot drinks, sweet treats, conversation, laughter and friendship” for anyone who would otherwise be on their own. Please feel free to spread the word.

Alpha

The next Alpha Course will start on **Thursday 25th January 2018** with an Alpha launch dinner, including a sit-down meal and interesting after-dinner speaker. All church members and friends are invited. Tickets available in January.

Any offers of help with cooking or washing up gratefully received.

Please contact Hilary Poley to book a place or to offer help.

Enthusiastic bakers required

Breakthru, would love to build a team of volunteer bakers to work with small groups of people, or 1-2-1 during the morning of a Breakthru session (10:15 am – 12.00 pm).

Sharing your baking skill, really helps people practically. Baking with others also gives the ideal opportunity to get to know people.

You can tailor this time to what you enjoy baking & plan future bakes with people in the Breakthru Community.

Please speak to Lorna, or leave a message in the office, if you would like to find out more information. **Thank you!**

Barn Dance

Save the date! – **Saturday 24th February** – Barn Dance with Supper. Details to follow. Please contact Geraldine Poulter in the meantime.

Sunday Suppers @ Christmas

We would love to remain open throughout the Christmas season. If you would like to join us either in the Church Centre, spending time with our guests, or in the kitchen preparing food please do get in touch with Lorna, via the church office.

Dates we need additional cover for: 24th December, 31st December, 7th January

Window repairs

The formal public notice regarding the window repairs is now displayed in the outside notice case and in the Church Centre. This covers four points:

- Repairs to the south windows
- Repairs to the west windows
- Removal of the lectern light
- Opening of the screen in to the Prayer Space

The notice gives details of how to raise any objections. However, in the case of the windows repairs this is retrospective.

The window repair work is now completed and the scaffolding should be removed by the end of November.

December Services

Date	Time	Service	Notes
3 rd	09.00	Shipmates	
3 rd	10.30	Holy Communion	
10 th	10.30	Holy Communion	
10 th	19.30	Carols by Candlelight	
17 th	10.30	Nativity	Not Communion
23 rd	16.00	Crib Service	
24 th	10.30	Morning Praise	
24 th	23.30	Midnight Communion	
25 th	10.30	Christmas Day, All-age	Not Communion
31 st	10.30	All-age service	With "Big Breakfast"

Please note these for your diary. The pattern has some differences from previous years.

Thanksgiving event

Thank you to all who supported our recent Thanksgiving 'Orrible 'Istories event. A profit of £330 was made, to be split equally between the window repair work and WaterAid.

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 (youth club for 10-14s) (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 19th November

10.30 am Holy Communion
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 26th November

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.00 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 3rd December

09.00 am Shipmates
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)

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