



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 17th December 2017

Christmas Services

Christmas services in December that are particularly suitable to invite your friends to are:

Nativity Service, 10.30 am Sunday 17th

Crib Service, 4.00 pm Saturday 23rd

Midnight Communion, 11.30 pm Sunday 24th

All-age Christmas Day Service, 10.30 am Monday 25th



Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

9th January Journey of a lifetime: Part 1 - A Changed Man
23rd January Journey of a lifetime: Part 2 – Encouraging and Sharing

All meetings are at 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge.

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). Tickets, £5, are available from the church office.

Carol Singing

CHIMES (CHurches together in Milton, Eastney and Southsea) is organising a Carol Singing event in Tesco Extra by Fratton Park on **Tuesday 19th December** 3-4 pm and 6-7 pm. Everybody is welcome.

All-Age Service, 31st December

The 10.30 service on **Sunday 31st December** will be an All-Age Café-style Service with breakfast to begin and the opportunity to worship together in fellowship with the whole Church Family. Join us at 10.30 for Tea, Coffee, Bacon Rolls and Pastries.

New Year's Day Walk

Come and get some 2018 fresh air! We will be holding our annual walk along Southsea promenade on **Monday 1st January**. Meet at 2.00 pm at Speakers Corner near Rocksby's restaurant. We will walk along the prom and finish with tea/coffee/cake at a local cafe.

All-Age Traditional Games and Tea Party

Traditional fun and games for everyone, 3-5 p.m. on **Saturday 6th January** in the Church Centre. Join us for an hour of fun and games, followed by a traditional party tea! Tickets £4 for adults, £2 for under-16s, under-fives go free. Tickets available from Dinah Walters or the church office. Please book by Thursday 4th January.

Burns Night

Members of St. Simon 's and St. Margaret's churches are invited to St. Jude's on **Saturday 20th January** for a Burns Supper with Live Caller, Piper, Sing-a-long, Scavenger Hunt, Sporrans Competition, Scottish and Greek Dancing. Tickets £7.50/£4 with food or £3/£2 without food. 6.00 pm arrival to eat at 6.30 pm, dancing until 10.00 pm.

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.

Chinese Grub Club

Save the date – **Thursday 1st February** – Details to follow.

Christmas office closure

The office will be closed during the week **25th-29th December inclusive**. E-mails and telephone messages will be monitored on an occasional basis during this time.

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

Whole Church Day Away 2018

A Day Away for the whole church is being planned for **Saturday 9th June 2018**. Please put the date in your diaries. Further details will follow.

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.

If you are able to offer to volunteer for any of the shifts (Evening 6.30 pm - 10.00 pm, Night 9.30 pm – 6.45 am, Morning 6.00 am – 8.30 am) for any of the dates (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd February) please contact the church office or Mike Taylor.

Volunteer registration forms and further information are available on the church [website](#). You can now complete a Volunteer Registration Form [online](#).

Shoe Box Collection 2017

Many thanks to everyone who helped with this year's collection. At the Pack and Wrap Party 66 boxes were packed and wrapped and are now on their way to children around the world. The PCC has agreed to continue to pay for the postage, so we will do it all again next year! So, keep knitting and collecting items for the boxes during the year. Thank you all again, and well done! Ruth Taylor

Choir walk gate

As usual, the choir walk gate near the north door will be locked for 24 hours on **31st December/1st January**. This date is chosen each year in order to minimise inconvenience to users.

Empty Bowls

Thank you to all who supported the Empty Bowls event. A total of £453 was raised for our community work.

Sunday Suppers, 24th December

We are planning a party-style meal for Sunday Suppers on Sunday 24th December. We would be grateful for donations of party food for this please. Please bring non-perishable contributions on **Sunday 17th** or perishable contributions on **Sunday 24th**. Mike Taylor would be pleased to know in advance if you are planning to bring anything on 24th please so that the necessary shopping to make up any shortfall can be arranged in time. Mike's contact details are available from the church office if you need them.

Personal Christmas Cards

Various personal Christmas cards are accumulating at the back of church. Any that are uncollected by **Tuesday 2nd January** will be recycled.

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 17th December

10.30 am Nativity Service

6.00 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 24th December

10.30 am Morning Praise

6.00 pm Sunday Supper

11.30 pm Midnight Communion

Saturday 23rd December

4.00 pm Crib Service

Monday 25th December

10.30 am Family Service

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)

Lorna Sandland (Community Dev. Worker)

Bryn Jenkins (Youth Pastor)

Mick Walters (Administrator)

023 9242 1745

c/o 023 9282 9440

c/o 023 9282 9440

023 9282 9440



StSimonsChurchSouthsea



@StSimonsSsea