

A Testimony about 'Ebenezer Cell Group'

'A friend in need is a friend indeed'

For those within our Church family like myself - in advancing years, living alone, with no family living nearby and no transport readily available, I have found it a real boon to be able to call upon The Ebenezer Group for help in a variety of ways to tackle those jobs around the home which have been beyond my own capabilities.

For a small Donation to The Help Fund (set up to assist those in greatest need) many of those irksome tasks can be tackled and eliminated. I have found the people in the Team to be polite, capable and good-humoured, and would recommend that you contact either Michael Piper (92-736389) or Mick Walters (92 -814599) to enquire about the help which is available.

With grateful thanks, **Thelma Winchester**

HELP! It's been said that this is one of the most powerful prayers we can utter. It's also a key word in our pattern of church membership, as Matthew mentioned in his description of the Church on 'Back to Church' Sunday. It was clear that in the early church there was a great sense of helping one another.

Our little men's group, called 'Ebenezer' because it is a Hebrew word meaning 'a stone of help', aims to interest practically minded men to share together and also to provide a small resource for the people in the church who need a little help with practical jobs in the house. I'm not sure we're into repairing washing machines as Matthew said, but we can check out what the problem may be and perhaps avoid an unnecessary call-out charge. We can also advise if some contractor is suggesting you need some expensive work doing.

The word 'help' also relates to the 'Help Fund'.

The church runs a small fund that is available for small unexpected needs, and it is administered by the Administrator under the direction of Matthew and the Churchwardens. Ebenezer tries to keep this fund healthy by encouraging people who receive help from them to make a small contribution to the Help Fund.



Arts and Crafts Extravaganza!

Friday November 11th 3- 8.30pm

Saturday November 12th 10.30 - 5pm

This is going to be an exciting couple of days and a lovely chance to invite the community into the building - as well as raising money for the Development Campaign and a great place to buy unique Christmas gifts!

We want to have lots of lovely arts, crafts and other produce such as cakes, jams, homemade chocolates, sweets etc to sell. If you would like a stall please leave a text or message on 07842134016 or e-mail jayneholland@rocketmail.com. We just ask that at least 10% of your profits are given to the Development Campaign (though you are welcome to give more!)



If you just have a few things to sell- don't worry - you can join in with a 'St Simon's Stall'. If you have friends who might like a stall please encourage them to get in contact. We would love to have lots of variety.

If you would like to help in other ways such as serving teas & coffees, setting up, clearing away, distributing publicity etc. please let us know using the contact details given above. Even if you could just give a few hours of your time at some point over the two days that would be great as many hands make light work. We also hope to have quite a lot of live music going on in the background - so musicians please let us know if you fancy doing a turn! - Jayne & Julie

WANTED for future fundraising... CLEAN old cotton tablecloths, shirts, skirts etc and buttons, sewing threads etc to be used by Julie J to recycle.

It does not matter if a bit worn as we can cut up and re-use. Please pass to Julie J or leave in the office for collection.

Marie Weir is asking for any cardboard laundry tablet boxes (i.e. Persil, 24 tablet size) to be kept and passed on to her. She is arranging a surprise to be revealed at the **Arts and Craft Extravaganza** (Friday November 11th 3- 8.30pm and Saturday November 12th 10.30 - 5pm), and all proceeds will be given to help with the building funds. She is happy to collect any from the church office, or is available to collect them herself.



St Simon's Missions



On 17th October, the Mission team (Anne Gibson, Ruth Warner, Matthew) will be meeting to consider any adjustments we need to make to the list of charities we support here at St Simon's which will then be recommended to the PCC meeting in November.

The charities we currently support are:-

- Church Mission Society (John & Rachel Waters)
- The Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (Canon Andrew White).
- Flame International (Jan Ransom)
- One Accord (Christian Marriage Network).
- Barnabas Fund.
- Outlook Trust (seniors for Christ).
- Youth at St Simon's.
- Bible Society.
- Joshua Radio – Uganda.
- Caring for Life.
- Oasis - En-Gedi (Mexico).
- Street Pastors.

As a family here at St Simon's, we ask that with us you would think and pray about this list and let us know any proposals to add to or subtract from. It may be if we had several suggestions, not all could be considered this time, but it would be good to know your thoughts about this important issue of giving, as we are all in this together.

Please could you let Anne or Ruth know your suggestions by Sunday 16th October. Alternatively inform Church office.

Many Thanks, the Mission Team.

St. Simon's Shoe Box Collection 2011 - Leaflets and boxes are now available at the back of the Church. Please distribute leaflets to friends and family. The Shoe Box Social is on November 5th from 2-5pm in the Church Centre. **Please**



Note: closing date for boxes to be brought to the Church Office is November 18th. For more information see Ruth Taylor

RENDEZVOUS @ ST SIMON'S

October 19th –Annual Meeting. Followed by 'My Happiest Day' Come prepared to share your memories. See Millie for more details.

Bubbles - Wha-wha (Baby crying!) – Bubbles needs some Volunteers! Only once a month on the 3rd Sunday, which at present is not covered, so if anyone feels they could help, please see Abigail Cook.

Slum Survivor has been postponed this year. Many Thanks to all who have offered to help; we may be contacting you in February!

Calendar

WEEKLY GROUPS:

Parent & Baby Club (Mondays 9.30 – 11am in Church Centre)

Parent Time (Cell Group for Parents with Crèche: Monday's 1 - 2.30pm tel: 92733068)

Youth Cell (Monday evenings: tel 07505 053320)

Tuesday Time Together (Praise and Prayer 10 a.m. in Church Lounge)

City Churches Prayer Meeting (Wednesdays 6.30 a.m.)

Beer and Bible (Wednesday, ask Kev or Rob)

Sunday Morning Worship with Children's Groups (see back page)

Sunday Suppers + Sunday Extra (Sunday nights 6 to 7.15pm)

There are also a variety of **Small Groups** for adults for discipleship, prayer and support. Phone Church Office on 92829440 or you can find a [list of our currently running groups](#) on our website.

Other Events:

Thurs 13th Oct: Prayer Ministry Team Meeting, Church Lounge

Wed 19th Oct: Travelling Library, LCC

Thurs 20th Oct: PCC Meeting, Church Lounge



If you would like more details of any of the events listed in 'Calendar' ... please phone the Church Office, open 10am - 12 weekdays. Or visit the Calendar on our website: www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk

Useful Contacts:

Matthew Holland (Vicar)
Youth and Children's' worker
Church Office

02392 733068
07505 053320
02392 829440



Sunday Services

Sunday, October 9th

Harvest Festival

10.30 AM Morning Praise Service

6:30 PM Sunday Supper + Sunday Extra

Sunday, October 16th

10.30 AM Morning Service and Holy Communion

6:30 PM Sunday Supper + Sunday Extra

Sunday, October 23rd

10.30 AM Morning Praise Service

6:30 PM Sunday Supper + Sunday Extra

Sunday, October 30th

10.30 AM Morning Praise and Healing Service

6:30 PM Sunday Supper + Sunday Extra

Deadline for next newsletter –October 25th 2011

Please send us your news and notices of events etc. Either phone the Church Office (92829440) Or email stsimonsnews1@yahoo.co.uk (attachments preferred.) *Would you like to read your newsletter in large print?* Please let the office know.

