



St. Simon's Church Newsletter

Sunday 31st January 2016

Nave Flooring Works

The flooring restoration work is progressing well and it is hoped that this initial phase will complete at the end of the first week in February. This will be followed by work on the high south windows and then the flooring finishing works.

We hope to continue to use the nave for most Sunday services but may have to use the Church Centre in some cases. Please be aware of the dangers in the nave that will inevitably be present.

We must expect some disruption during this time – thank you in advance for your patience.

C.A.P. Job Club

Christians Against Poverty launched a CAP job club on **26th January** for Portsmouth. This is a new Job Club ideally for those longer term unemployed who have really struggled in their quest for employment. To register for this course anyone can contact CAP on 0800 328 0006 free of charge and mention the Baffins Portsmouth Job Club. Or, to discuss anything in more detail then please contact the Local CAP Job Club Manager Steve Jarvis on 07754 009 960.

SoulNET hub gathering

The next **SoulNET** hub gathering is on **Saturday 30th January**, 9:30 until 11:00 at St. Jude's Church, Southsea. Tasty breakfast, intimate worship, inspiring teaching and connecting with God through prayer... inspiring youth work and searching for God's presence in the lives of young people! Come along and meet other local youth volunteers and workers... it will be great to see you! RSVP! Check out our Facebook group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/southcentralhub/>

Ben Mizen, Youth and Children's Work Adviser, Mission, Discipleship & Ministry Team

Impromptu Grub Club

Grub Club is going to the Bodrum Greek/Turkish restaurant in Albert Road <http://www.bodrum-restaurant.co.uk/> on **Saturday evening, 30th January** and invites anyone who fancies a meal out to join them! Tables are booked for a 7.45 arrival, 8 p.m. sit down. Please contact Dinah Walters, if possible by Friday evening, if you would like to come along.

Tuesday Bible Alive – future dates

2nd February Easter Part 2 – The Traitor

“Sharing Hope in Crisis” Seminar

This seminar, partly run by Samaritans Purse, is on **Saturday 13th February** from 09.30 – 17.00 with registration from 09.00. The event is free to attend (although donations are appreciated) and lunch is provided for a small donation to cover costs. The event is being at Gosport United Reformed Church, Bury Road, Gosport, Hampshire, PO13 3UD. For further details please contact the church office or Ruth Taylor.

Second Sunday Stroll

Our strolls continue each month. Meet at 2.30 pm at South Parade Pier for a casual social stroll along the seafront. The next one is on **Sunday 14th February**. Everybody is welcome.

House Groups – Lent Course

We have agreed with St. Jude’s to repeat last year’s pattern of following a special course for Lent. We want to build on what we achieved last year by seeking to involve as many people as possible, with no other groups meeting then. To this end, leaders of the regular groups will be invited to suspend their groups for the period of the Lent Course, which will start on **Ash Wednesday 10th February**. We are also hoping that those who are not in a regular group will take this opportunity to commit to a Lent group. Flyers are available on the Welcome Table giving details.

The first “taster” sessions will be:

St. Jude’s, 7.45 for 8.00 pm on Wednesday 10th February

St. Simon’s, 11.00 for 11.15 am on Tuesday 16th February.

Walking with the Wounded event

Walking with the Wounded is a charity which works to retrain and re-skill wounded service men and women and support them in finding new careers outside the Military. They will be holding a “Massage Marathon” fundraising event at St. Simon’s on **Saturday 20th February**. A number of physical/sports therapists will be available 11.00 am -5.00 pm offering 15-minute treatments for a minimum donation of £6.

IDWAL link – Ho, Ghana

Canon David Power, the Portsmouth Deanery Link Officer with the Diocese of Ho, will be giving a presentation about his recent trip to Ho at the Church of the Resurrection on **Sunday 21st February** at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

The church electoral roll (the formal list of church members) will be revised during the period **Monday 15th to Monday 29th February**. Your name needs to be on the roll if you wish to attend the annual meetings on **Wednesday 16th March** or if you wish to stand for election as a member of the PCC, a churchwarden or a member of the Deanery Synod. You may apply to have your name added during the revision period. If your name is already on the roll and you wish to remain on it, you do not need to take any action.

The revised roll will be displayed during the period 1st to 15th March; no additions or removals are allowed during this period, although any errors may be corrected.

For any questions on this process or for forms, please contact Mick in the church office.

Quiz Night with Fish and Chips

There will be a quiz night with a fish and chip supper in the Church Centre on **Friday, 4th March**. Tickets will be available shortly from Dinah Walters.

Annual Meetings 2016

Please note that the two annual meetings (the meeting to elect the churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting) will be held on **Wednesday 16th March** this year. This date is different from the provisional date agreed at the November PCC meeting.

Nearer the time, nomination forms for churchwardens, deanery synod and lay members of the PCC will be available at the back of church or on request from the Church Office.

Nominations for churchwardens must be received by midnight on the preceding Sunday, 13th March. Nominations for lay members of the PCC may be made in advance or at the meeting.

Licensing of Rev. Susi James

The licensing of Susi as Priest-in-charge of St. Simon's is due to take place at a service at 3.00 pm on **Sunday 1st May** when his formal appointment begins. Light refreshments will follow the service.

Susi, Ruth and family are due to move in to the vicarage on Tuesday 29th March. He particularly asks for the following prayer requests please:

- To find a right schools for the boys
- God willing we are planning to invite my parents for my licensing (from India) would you please pray that they would get Visas
- Please pray that I will have a smooth handover here at Holy Trinity
- Please pray that we will end our ministry well
- Please pray that I will be able to strengthen all the ministry that I am leading so that it will continue to flourish after my move (specially the youth)

Social events

The initial list of social events for January – June 2016 is now available on the [website](#) and the Welcome Table.

Do you suffer from asthma?

A PhD Researcher at the University of Portsmouth would like to interview older people living with Asthma about how the condition affects their lives and what they do to manage everyday activities and cope. She is particularly interested in people over the age of 60 taking medication for their Asthma. Interviews will be done on the telephone, at a time convenient for the older person, so no travelling is needed and there will be a small token of thanks. If you are interested or would like to know more about the research, please contact Skaiste on 023 9284 4441.

Job Vacancies - Aggies

Aggies, a Christian Charity supporting the Royal Naval Service, has vacancies for three part-time Pastoral Workers - two at HMS Nelson and one at HMS Collingwood. The closing date is **3rd February**. For details, please see www.aggies.org.uk

Job Vacancy – University of Portsmouth

The University of Portsmouth Ageing Network is looking to recruit an Ageing Network Co-ordinator to support the work of the network by helping to coordinate and organise events and workshops, forge links between groups within the University and beyond and help to align university activities with national and international ageing agendas. This is a casual contract with flexible hours, but requires around 18 hours a week on average (including holidays), until the end of July. For more information please contact Amy Drahota at the University (e-mail address available from the church office). Closing date **7th February 2016**.

Crossing Cultures conference

Crossing Cultures is a yearly conference run by Friends International. This year it will be taking place in Portsmouth on **Saturday 5th March**, 10am-4pm at Kings Church. This is a great day of inspiring speakers, interactive workshops and seminars, equipping us all to minister to those from other nations. This conference is for all interested in reaching people from other cultures for Christ, right here on our doorstep. If you would like to come please register on our website: <http://friendsinternational.uk/what-s-on/crossing-cultures-2016>

News from Babette

Hello – and a happy new year to you all! After my time away it's brilliant to be back, and we have lots of exciting things planned. Firstly, a massive thank you to everyone who supported the theatre company last year – it far surpassed my expectations, with over 20 children attending regularly, and that never would have happened without my volunteer's steadfast support. I truly believe that Starlight Theatre Academy is changing lives, shaping our community, and showing the love of Jesus to the next generation!

Starlight Theatre Academy will be back, at the new time of 1 – 2:30 (6 – 10 year olds) and 2:30 – 4:00 (11 – 16 year olds) on Sunday afternoons, starting on the 14th Feb. The addition of the extra class is due to too many people wanting to come, which is a really wonderful problem to have! There will also be not one, but two half term clubs happening over the Easter half term. On the 28th & 29th March I will be inviting anyone between 6-10 year olds to come and do some drama! We'll be putting on a production of Robin Hood at the end of the 2 days. These classes will run from 10am – 2pm, with a performance for family and friends from 2pm on the 29th. This costs just £5 for both days! Then from the 6th – 8th April we will have a Shakespeare school for anyone aged 10 – 15 years old. Once again the classes will run from 10am – 2pm, with a performance from 3pm on the 8th. This only costs £10 for all three days. All of the money made from the Christmas show, and these schools, as well as the weekly sessions will be going into our Summer Production of Bugsy Malone! More information on that to follow.

For Submerge we will be continuing our Sunday morning sessions, in our soon to be refurbished youth room (finally!) as well as starting a monthly get together – Details on dates and times TBC so watch this space! All of these activities need your support to be possible. We have the next generation's giant slayers in our midst – what an honour to be able to support them. You don't need to be a qualified youth worker, or you need to be able to do is sit and have a cuppa! For any more information on any of these events, or to be involved, call me on 07850 992 721 or email me.

Thanks! Babette.

Every week

Little Shipmates (Mondays 9.30 – 11 am, Church Centre, term time only)

Youth Cell (Monday evenings. Contact Babette – see below)

Tuesday Time Together (Praise and Prayer, 10 am in the South Room)

Tuesday Bible Alive (Alternate Tuesdays, 7.30 pm in the Church Lounge)

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 Extra (Sunday nights 6 to 7.15 pm)

Rhythm of Prayer (Wednesdays at 6.00 pm and Fridays at 09.30 am)

There is also a variety of **Small Groups** for adults for discipleship, prayer and support. Phone the Church Office on 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 31st January

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 7th February

09.30 am Shipmates
11.15 am Holy Communion
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 14th February

10.30 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Sunday Supper

Sunday 21st February

09.30 am Shipmates
10.30 am Holy Communion
6.30 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:

Amy Allen (Children and Families' Pastor)
Lorna Sandland (Community Dev. Worker)
Babette Shaw (Youth Outreach Worker)
Mick Walters (Administrator)

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