

Children's Sunday Groups at St John's

These are the groups we run for children and young people during the 9.30am service each Sunday:

Rising Stars - Ages 0-5 in the Pauling Room

The Big God Space - Ages 5-10 in the Jubilee Hall

Streetwise - Age 11+ in the Lodge

We'd love to see you, come and join in the fun!

Attention families!

For services where there are no Sunday Clubs, or if you come to church without your child, please use the 'sign in' book at the back of church so that you are registered as attending. Thank you.

Contacts at St John's Church

Vicar: Revd Giles Carpenter
01323 739679
email: vicar@stjm.org.uk

Assistant Minister & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Revd Jill Preece
01323 638020
email: jill@stjm.org.uk

Children & Families Minister: Tristram Peattie
01323 738671
email: tris@stjm.org.uk

Church Administrator: Joanne Naunton
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

Church Wardens: Margaret Kowszun & Tony Mottram
contact via the office on:
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

Office opening hours
Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 12.30pm

1 January 2017

New Years Day

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd David Maddock
Preaching: Jill Maddock

Epistle: Romans 4: 8 -13
Gospel: Luke 2: 15 - 21

10.00am Combined Communion
Presiding: Canon Michael Cole
Preaching: Jorj Kowszun
Assisting: Rowena Adams, Sheila O'Hanlon, Phyllis Hall, Diana Guthrie, Margaret Kowszun

Next Sunday 8 January 2017

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

9.30am Contemporary Communion
Presiding: Revd Peter Pickett
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter
Assisting: Clive & Kate Dilloway, Roy Orchard, Carolyn Lacy, May Harris & Nick Pendry

11.15am Morning Prayer
Leading: Sarah Hassell
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

3.00pm Epiphany Meditation with the Renaissance Singers (church)

5.30pm Prayer & Praise
for 6pm Led by Catherine Butcher (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday Clubs for the children return on Sunday 8 January 2017



T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Monday 2 January - Office closed**
- Tuesday 3 January - Office re-opens**
- Wednesday 4 January**
9.30am Quiet Prayer (chapel)
- Thursday 5 January**
11.00am Holy Communion (chapel)
Presiding & Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
- Friday 6 January**
10.00am Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing
(Parish Hall)
2.30pm Funeral - Lyn Crippen (Crematorium)
- Saturday 7 January**
10.30am Re-ordering of the church - update meeting
(Jubilee Hall)

Sermons Online

You can now find the Sunday Sermons online on our website, on Facebook or on YouTube. A great way to keep up to date with the current messages.



Jean Mumford

Dear Church Family
Jean returned with Julie and her husband Tom to their home in Kent, and will be living there whilst they look for a suitable home for her near to them.

It is hoped that she may be able to return one Sunday for a church visit but in the meantime Jean's contact details are as follows:

Mrs Jean Mumford
C/o Tom and Julie Sheldon
Court House
Fairseat
Nr. Sevenoaks
Kent TN15 7LU
Tel: 01732 822622



New Wine Summer Camp,

Sunday 30 July to Saturday 5 August 2017, Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

Billed as an 'unforgettable week with acclaimed teaching, passionate worship and life-transforming prayer', can you afford NOT to be there?!

A group from St John's will again be attending the summer 'New Wine' camp again next year, at the Royal Bath and West Showground.

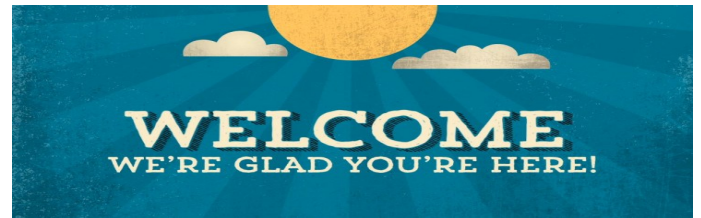
The week-long programme includes morning and evening celebrations, seminars, teaching, and a great opportunity to get to know other members of the church family. There are plenty of fun activities and groups for children and young people of all ages.

For more information see The New Wine website: <https://www.new-wine.org> or contact Giles or Jill Preece.



Eastbourne Day of Prayer - Saturday 21 January

The theme is 'So Much More ...!' (check out Ephesians 3: 20-21). Speaking on the day is Debra Green OBE, inspirational founder of Redeeming our Communities. We will focus on praying for key local leaders representing, for example, the Police, Commerce, Health, Community Life, Housing and Education. At Kings Church, Edison Road, 9.30am - 5pm. Come and go as you are able. Stay all day if you can!



CONNEXIONS

New to St John's? - Connexions

A very warm welcome from us all if you are new or visiting St John's for the first time. We hope you enjoy being part of our church family. If you are looking for a church and would like to find out more about us, Giles our vicar, and his wife Rachel, regularly host an informal afternoon with tea and cake at the vicarage. This is a great chance to find out more about the vision of St John's church and our mission to make disciples and to serve the community of Meads. For more details please complete one of the Connexions/Welcome cards (usually available in the pews) and return it to one of our welcome team. Another way in which we like to reach people is through our 'Keeping In Touch' email list. To be included in the mailing list please sign one of the forms on the Welcome Desk. You'll then receive regular updates and news.

Points for Prayer this week

- All those facing disruption to their travel plans over the Christmas period, due to the planned strikes designed to affect air and rail travel, and that these disputes will be satisfactorily resolved.
- Those who have been bereaved following the terrorist attack at the Berlin Christmas Market.
- In this Christmas period, for the continued work of Matthew 25, Crisis, The Salvation Army and other organisations among the homeless and the needy.
- For those among us who are facing the challenges of advancing years and for those who are unwell or bereaved at this time.
- The work of the Beachy Head Chaplaincy at this time of year.
- That the evacuation of families and all other civilians from Eastern Aleppo will continue unimpeded, and especially for the sick and those caring for them.
- For the ongoing preparations for Open the Book, due to begin on 6th February and for the completion of the police check procedure for the final few storytellers.



Sylvia Jefferson

Sylvia would like to thank so many kind friends who prayed for her and visited her in hospital. She will never forget their kindness.

She is so delighted to be home in time for Christmas and would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Into 2017....

Church re-ordering meeting, Saturday 7 January 2017

Everyone is invited to come along to the Jubilee Hall on Saturday 7 January 2017, at 10.30am - 11.30am, to hear an update of the plans for the church re-ordering.

Please take a look at the enclosed Proposed Internal Re-ordering sheet

Bring Your Bible to Church, Sunday 8 January

On Sunday 8 January, bring your bible to church to help us mark the launch of The Year of the Bible.

Epiphany Meditation, Sunday 8 January

The Renaissance Singers will be delighting us once again with their annual Epiphany Meditation in words and music on Sunday 8 January at 3pm. They are widely regarded as one of the finest small choirs in the area, as was shown in the moving Advent Meditation that was greatly enjoyed by a large audience in the Church a few weeks ago. Refreshments will be available afterwards, and the event will be the perfect way to "round off Christmas".

Prayer & Praise, Sunday 8 January, 6pm

Join us for an hour of prayer & praise in the Jubilee Hall. Come along at 5.30pm for tea & cake before we start.

Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing

The team return on Friday 6 January, same time, same place! Parish Hall, 10am - 11.30am



Lunch Club, Monday 9 January

Monday 9 January 2017, 12 noon. Come and join us at the Parish Hall for a light lunch and good companionship!

No need to book just turn up. Last orders for food is 1.30pm, £3.50 per head. See you there.



Men's Breakfast, Saturday 14 January 8am at the Holywell Café

Come and enjoy a full English breakfast, fellowship and friendship.

Ian Ford will be sharing a thought with us on the morning.

If you cannot attend but have ticked to say you are going then please contact Dennis Thompson on 749329, so he can let the café know the correct numbers.



Baptism Preparation Course, Saturday 14 January, 10am

We are very excited to be having some adult Baptisms on Sunday 29 January 2017 at the 10am Service. We will be holding a short course on the morning of Saturday 14 January in preparation for the Baptisms. If you are interested in finding out more about Baptism and the preparation course please speak to Giles, Catherine or Tris.

Invitation to the Coffee Team, Sunday 22 January

Sally Scott-Ralphs has taken over as Coffee Team Leader and would like to invite everyone on the coffee rota, and anyone who is interested in joining the team, to her home for tea on Sunday 22 January at 3.30pm. Please let Sally know if you can attend by either phoning her on: 01323 732504 or speaking to her in church.



Open the Book

Children love stories - especially Bible stories when they're interactive, engaging and fun!

That's what Open The Book is all about, bringing the Bible to life for every child in every primary school. Teams of between four and eight storytellers tell Bible stories in primary schools, using drama, props and costumes - to bring the stories to life. We want to start Open The Book at St John's Meads School, in the New Year with folk from St John's as the storytellers.

Open the Book update

Thanks to everyone for their brilliant response so far! But are there any more men who would like to become part of this?

If you are interested in learning more, and perhaps becoming involved - either as a storyteller, or behind the scenes with props and costumes, please let Sarah Hassell know: 07904302887 or 01323 301695, email: sarah.c.hassell@gmail.com

Dates for your diary....AMENDMENTS!

Tuesday 10 January 2017 –Team Leaders ONLY

11.30am Open the Book meeting in the Pauling Room

Please note that the meeting on 10 January is for Team Leaders only.

There will be a meeting for all Storytellers later in January - date yet to be announced.

Tuesday 31 January 2017

9.30am - 3.30pm (times to be confirmed)

Open the Book Training Day (church)

Urgent for Open the Book Storytellers!

If you haven't yet done so, could you please complete the DBS (police check) form and return it to Sarah Bull at the church office, so that she can then tell you the next step, leading to the certificate.

Without that certificate it won't be possible for you to take part.

If you have mislaid the form Sarah Bull gave you, please let Sarah Hassell know (07904302887 or 01323 301695) So she can get another form to you.

If you need help in completing the form, again please let Sarah Hassell know, and we'll arrange this.

Very many thanks!

