

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 738671
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 & Jeremy Daniels
contact via the office on:
01323 738671
email: office@stjm.org.uk

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

28 February 2016

The Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Jill Preece
Preaching: Jill Maddock
Assisting: Nick & Rosemary Bland

Epistle: Ephesians 5: 1 - 14
Gospel: Luke 11: 14 - 28

9.30am Contemporary Service
Leading: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece

11.15am Classic Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Revd Jill Preece
Assisting: Sheila MacNicol,
Nick Pendry & Patricia Kelley
Hymns: 467, 323, 496
Readings: Hebrews 11: 1 - 3, 8 - 12
John 11: 17 - 46

Next Sunday 6 March 2016

8.00am Heritage Communion
Presiding: Revd Giles Carpenter
Preaching: Jill Maddock
Assisting: Dick Thwaites & Richard Wells

10.00am Contemporary Service - Mother's Day
Leading: Revd Jill Preece/Tris Peattie
Preaching: Revd Giles Carpenter

No 11.15am service

T LOOP:

Please turn your Hearing Aid to T.



EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday	29 February
9.00am	Morning Prayer (back of church)
4.00pm	Parish Hall Committee meeting (Pauling Room)
Tuesday	1 March
10.30am	Movement to Music (Jubilee Hall)
12.30pm	Lent Series #3
Wednesday	2 March
9.30am	Quiet Prayer (chapel)
2.30pm	Diana Guthrie's Home Group
7.00pm	Dilloways' Home Group
7.30pm	Adams' Home Group
Thursday	3 March
10.00am	Parent & Toddler Group (Jubilee Hall)
11.00am	Holy Communion (chapel) <i>Presiding & Preaching: Revd David Maddock</i>
Friday	4 March
10.00am	Paperback Library & Coffee Pot Computing (Parish Hall)

After the 9.30 service today

Prayer Ministry

After the service members of the prayer ministry team are available in **the chapel** to pray with you, or any issue you wish to bring before God, or simply for a fresh touch of the Holy Spirit.

Attention Distribution Team!

Our Easter Edition of the Parish Magazine will be available next Sunday, 6 March, for collection and distribution.

Points for Prayer this week

- A good attendance at the Women's World Day of Prayer service on Friday
- Family and friends of Ivy Lade in their loss
- Preparations for the Mothering Sunday service
- Debate on the UK's future in Europe

Men's Breakfast

The next meeting will be on Saturday 26 March at the Holywell Café. We will be focusing on the Eastbourne Food Bank and it's expanding ministry in the community, with updates from a few important representatives from our local centre.

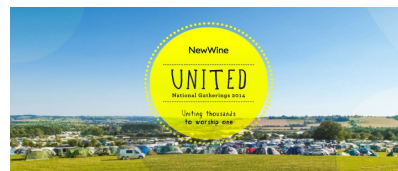
Our support at St John's emanated early on from an initial introduction to the Food Bank at one of our first Men's Breakfasts 3-4 years ago. Can we go further? Come and see!



Eastbourne Food Bank



The Food Bank is always in need of provisions, especially at this time of year. Please remember to add an extra tin or two when you're shopping and bring your donations to church for the Food Bank crate, situated in the cloister. Thank you.



New Wine Summer Camp

Saturday, 23 July to Friday, 29 July 2016
Royal Bath & West Showground,
Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

This year a group from St John's will be attending the summer 'New Wine' camp 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 both here at St John's and from our Deanery partner church of St Elisabeth's who we will be pitching camp with.

For more information see:

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

Meads Magic

After three years of organising and planning the Meads Magic event, three of the committee, Sara Evans, Hayley Raymond and Faye are standing down. Other committee members will stay on but there is definitely the need for some volunteers to take on the role of key event organisers if Meads Magic is to continue. A handover document is being prepared and they are keen to pass this on at the earliest possible date. As we are now almost half way through February the need to set a date and start planning very soon is vital.

There will be a handover meeting in The Ship at 5.30pm on Tuesday 1st March so if you would like to support the future of Meads Magic then please go along.

Women's World Day of Prayer

The annual Women's World Day of Prayer will be taking place this coming Friday, 4 March at Central Methodist Church in Pevensey Road. The service at 2.15pm is written by the women of Cuba and entitled 'Receive children, receive me'. Everyone welcome!



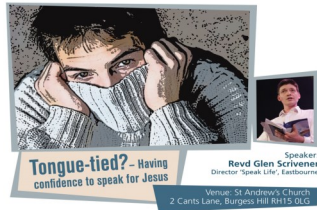
WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2016
PREPARED BY THE WOMEN OF CUBA

Spring Conference of the Chichester Diocesan Fellowship

"Tongue-tied? Having Confidence to speak for Jesus" is the theme of the Spring Conference of the Chichester Evangelical Fellowship on Saturday 12 March, at St Andrew's Church, Cants Lane, Burgess Hill, RH15 8AJ from 9.30am to 1pm. Speaker: Glen Scrivener.

All welcome. Further details: www.chichesterdef.org.uk or Sue Murray 01293 533727

Chichester Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship Spring Conference 2016
Saturday 12th March 09.30 (for 10.00) until 13.00



Bible By The Beach

DISTINCTIVE - the power of transforming grace
29 April - 2 May 2016,
Congress Theatre,
Eastbourne.

Come for a weekend of spiritual refreshment and growth in Eastbourne with an international line up of speakers including David Cook, Tim Lane, Jonathan Lamb, Mike Ovey, Emma Scrivener, Ray Evans, Paul Mallard & Chris Sinkinson.

Bible By The Beach 2016 will focus on what the Bible teaches about being distinctive as Christians, and will challenge us all to live for Christ. Music by Andy Fenton & Stuart Townend. A full youth programme runs alongside the adult seminars, celebrations and bible readings, making this a great weekend for the whole family. Visit www.biblebythebeach.org for all the latest updates and book tickets at: www.thegoodbook.co.uk/biblebythebeach2106.



The Early Bird ticket deadline is 29 February. There is a saving of £10 for adults and groups. Groups of 10 or more can purchase tickets for the entire weekend for just £80.



BIBLE BY THE BEACH

Mid Week Lent Reflections

A series of five weekly reflections starting Tuesday 16 February 12.30pm (Bring lunch to eat together at 1.15pm). I'd like to invite you to take a step through the 'Door of Mercy' this Lent!

Following Bishop Martin declaring 2016 a Year of Mercy, our midweek Lenten reflections will explore what it means for us to live generously, reflecting the mercy that God has shown to us to others.

Whether you have made time for Lenten reflections in the past or considering it for the first time, you are invited, through a quiet act of worship, bible reflection and prayer, to walk through this 'Door of Mercy' to go deeper in your faith and your response to God's extravagant mercy. **Giles**



Coming up this term!

The season of Lent (starts on 10th Feb) marks a pivotal point in the history of the church, when Jesus prepared to give himself up as a sacrifice. Traditionally we mark Lent by giving something up, but what if it could be more than that? What if Lent was a preparation for a lifetime of **big-heartedness**? With this thought in mind, both in the build-up and during Lent, we will be embarking on a different take this season by focussing our teaching on a series of sermons about generosity. Alongside the series each of us is invited to participate in a **generosity challenge** to undertake forty simple acts of generosity, which will challenge us to 'do Lent generously' in 2016. Small acts of generosity, performed by thousands of people across the UK and beyond, have the power to make a big change to our communities, to our churches and ultimately, to our world.

Resources, including a daily prompt to your smart phone, are available at www.40acts.org.uk but we will also have paper resources available nearer the time.

Home groups that would like to reflect more on the series can also access small group resources on line or get paper copies via the church office. Using the material in a small group setting, people can examine each sign by looking at some study questions that build to a recurring vital question: 'What do these signs say about Jesus?'

God has given so much to each of us so let's all do Lent generously this year! **Giles**

Lent Box Appeal

This year's appeal will be in aid of the charity "Open Doors" which supports persecuted Christians in many countries and particularly those in Iraq and Syria who have shown the faith and courage to remain in those countries.

Please collect a Lent Box from the back of the church and return a full box at Easter. Thank you.



Open Doors
Serving persecuted Christians worldwide



New to St John's? - Connexions

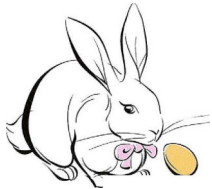
CONNEXIONS

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 (by invitation) with a cream tea 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.

Mad March Fayre, Saturday 12 March, 10am - 2.30pm



A 'Mad March Fayre' will be held on Saturday 12 March in the Jubilee Hall between 10am - 2.30pm. There will be a gift stall, "Katie's Marmalade", "Bargain Hunt" area, and refreshments also available. Most of what is on offer is provided from Katie England's estate. The proceeds will be supporting

Katie's two dearest wishes, ReVive and the cross installation at the front of church. Please come along and spend generously!

'Green fingers' needed!

Do you have any house or garden plants that you could take cuttings from, pot up and grow on in readiness for the Church Summer Fete on Saturday 4 June?

The garden stall is generously supplied every year by Maurice Taylor and despite other donations we sold out in record time last year. Thank you.

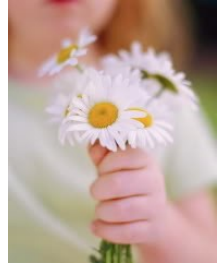
Neil Waterston

Living the Christian Story

Would you like to join an on-line course to learn more about the Bible and the Christian faith? Catherine Butcher will be linking St John's participants on this free course which is running until 17th June. You can find out more at <http://wtctheology.org.uk/courses/openwtc-theology-without-walls/> or email Catherine on cathbutcher@live.co.uk. The course is ideal for people who can't get to midweek meetings but can watch the on-line video course in their own time.

Church Flowers

On Saturday 5 March at 10am there will be a working party in the Jubilee Hall. This will be to assemble the posies needed for Mothering Sunday on the following day. I would be most grateful if as many ladies as possible from the Flower Team could lend a hand with this task. The flowers will be provided, but some 'small' greenery would be appreciated. It will also be an opportunity to make arrangements for dressing the church for Easter which will be on Saturday 26 March. Please phone me - Jean Tucker on 01323 370760 if you feel you can help. In return I can offer free coffee, biscuits and friendly chat!



Jean Tucker



Children's News

Mother's Day Service, 10am, Sunday 6 March

Friends of St John's Meads Quiz Night

Friday 11 March at 7.30pm for 8pm start
St John's Meads School Hall

Teams of 6 people needed - all welcome!
Raising money for school playground equipment.
Ticket details to follow.

Coming up!

May Camp 27 May - 30 May 2016,
Plumpton Race Course.

Weekend camping trip for
Streetwise coming up.

For more information speak to
Tris Peattie or email him:

tris@stjm.org.uk



Rotas

Rotas for the next quarter are now available in the pigeon-holes for those of you not on email. Please pick yours up today. Thank you.