

## This Week

TODAY

### Church Family Lunch jointly with

**Church of the Light** 1pm at St Stephen's. After lunch, they will share briefly their stories of coming to faith in Jesus.

**Slides from Bolivia.** The 1<sup>st</sup> of our summer socials: Come along to 55 Selly Wick Drive at 8pm to see slides of Maurice's recent trip to Bolivia and enjoy Bolivian nibbles.

*Maurice and Gill Sinclair*

Wed  
9<sup>th</sup> Aug

## Looking Ahead

Tue  
29 Aug

**Holiday Bible Club,** Tue 29 Aug – Fri 1 Sep and Sun 3 Sep. For children in Reception through to Yr 6, inclusive.

Fri/Sat  
22/23  
Sep

**Women's Weekend: 'Finding Contentment'.** A chance to spend time together and learn from God's word. See flyers for more info and to sign up. This is for all women, regardless of age or how long you've been coming to St Stephen's.

### August Summer Socials

**16<sup>th</sup> Local Evening Walk**  
Meet at 7.50pm at the MAC, Cannon Hill Park (by the lakeside entrance), for a 1-hour circular walk followed by a drink at the bar. Parking available at the MAC.  
*Mark Checketts*

**23<sup>rd</sup> Cheese n Wine/Coffee**  
Come along to 7 Selly Wick Road 7.30-9.30pm for cheese and wine. All welcome!  
*Liz and Adam Simcox*

**30<sup>th</sup> Pudding Party**  
7.30pm start at 92 Elm Road, Bournville, bring a drink if you wish.  
*David and Margaret Twiss*

## News and Requests

**Church Weekend Away,** 10-12 Nov. Please find all necessary info in the leaflet.

**Holiday Club leaders** please find your handbook in your pigeon hole.

**Holiday Club needs** clean, empty yoghurt pots, fishing nets, metal detectors, and a free standing garden parasol. Please would you bring them to church if you can help? Please register your children!

**Wanted: Your Story:** we are putting together a book of short stories from members of the church family. These could be about how you became a Christian, or of God's work in you at a significant moment of your Christian life. If you'd like to contribute (300-500 words), please get in touch with Nicky Sammons (07554 418703).

**The Church Office will be closed** from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> August. Please do send any necessary info to Gina before this time.

**GAFCON,** "gathering faithful Bible-believing Anglicans around the world to guard and proclaim the one true gospel." Pick up a leaflet and see if you would like to become a supporter.

**Sunday morning refreshments** need more help in serving coffee. Please contact Margaret Twiss 4722639 or [damptwiss@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:damptwiss@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Can you lend a car to the McNeills?** They are back from 4-16<sup>th</sup> Aug and would love to borrow 'a wee run-around' for that time.



ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK

## 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017

making and maturing disciples of  
Jesus Christ in Birmingham  
and for the world

### 10.00am Morning Service for All Ages

'The secret of Samson's strength'  
Judges 16 *Chris Hobbs*

### 6.00pm Evening Service with Holy Communion

'The promise of eternal life'  
John 6:35-40 *Nick Devas*

**Children and young people** will stay in the service today.

There is a **Crèche** available for 0-3's. this can be found off the Foyer in the Cranmer Room.

**Refreshments** are served after the services.

**Toilets** are in the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilets.

**Senior Minister (Vicar):** Chris Hobbs

**Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

**Parish Office** St Stephen's Church,  
Serpentine Road, Selly Park,  
Birmingham B29 7HU

0121 472 8253

[office@sssw.org.uk](mailto:office@sssw.org.uk) [www.sssw.org.uk](http://www.sssw.org.uk)

## New? Welcome!



You are very welcome – whether you are looking into Christianity for the first time, have been a Christian for years, or are looking for a church in Birmingham.



Please complete the tear-off slip overleaf and give it to one of the staff or welcome team wearing a badge, or place it in the Gifts Box in the foyer. We will get in touch with you shortly. Please also help yourself to a Welcome Booklet from the display in the Foyer.

Name/s

Address

Phone

Email

I would like to know more about:

- Being a Christian
- Newcomers' events
- Small Groups
- Pre-school activities
- Children's / Youth Work
- Student events
- Giving to the church
- Other

Sermon Notes:  
The secret of Samson's strength  
Judges 16

**OPENING PRAYER** *David Twiss*

**SONG**  
Creation sings the Father's song

**OUR CONFESSION and GOD'S ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
**If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just; he will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.**  
 God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.  
 For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;  
**Father forgive us, save us and help us.**  
 For behaving just as we want to without thinking of you;  
**Father forgive us, save us and help us.**  
 For failing you by what we do and think and say;  
**Father forgive us, save us and help us.**  
 For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;  
**Father forgive us, save us and help us.**  
 In your great love for us, and because Jesus died for our sins;  
**Father forgive us, save us and help us.**

In his first letter to Timothy, Paul says that we have a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners". So we say:  
**Heavenly Father, we thank you that you forgive all who truly turn to you. May your Holy Spirit give us strength to love and serve you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**GAME**

**SONG**  
You have called us out of darkest night

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**BIBLE READING** *Charlie Cook*  
Judges 16:1-31 (page 259)  
This is the word of the Lord;  
**Thanks be to God**

**TALK** *Chris Hobbs*  
The secret of Samson's strength

**SONG** My God is so big

**PRAYERS**  
ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**NEWS**  
**HYMN** Yes, finished, the Messiah dies  
*Please collect your child(ren) from crèche*

**CLOSING PRAYER**  
**Be with us Lord, as we go out into the world. May the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth; may the ears which have heard your Word listen only to what is good and may our lives as well as our worship be always pleasing in your sight, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please stay on after the service for tea/coffee and biscuits.*

Name/s

Address

Phone

Email

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**Sermon Notes:**  
**The promise of eternal life**  
 John 6:35-40

1. What are you looking for?

2. What does Jesus promise?

3. What authority does he have to make such a promise?

4. What do you have to do?

Missed a sermon recently? Visit [www.sssw.org.uk](http://www.sssw.org.uk)

**OPENING PRAYER** *Chris Hobbs*

**SONGS** Come people of the risen King  
Up to the hill of Calvary

**CONFESSION**  
 Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**SONG** See the man

**BIBLE READINGS** *Peter Richardson*  
 Exodus 16:1-16 (page 73)  
 John 6:25-40 (page 1070)  
 This is the word of the Lord;  
**Thanks be to God**

**SERMON** *Nick Devas*  
The promise of eternal life

**INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS**

**PRAYERS** *Mark Fox*  
 ending with **THE LORD'S PRAYER**  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**SONG**  
How deep the Father's love for us

**COMMUNION** (see insert)

**NEWS**

**HYMN**  
Guide me O thou great Redeemer

**CLOSING PRAYER**  
*Please stay on after the service for tea/coffee and cake.*