

This Week

Wed 9 Sep **Vision Evening**, 7.30pm at St Wulstan's, for the whole church family. 7.30pm dessert and coffee, 8.00pm Vision and prayer. There is no charge. Please see Gina if you're planning on coming and haven't signed up yet.

Sun 13 Sep **First service back at St Stephens**, 10.00am. Do come and join us.

Looking Ahead

Mon 14 Sep **Fellowship Group Leaders**, 8.00-9.30pm.

Tues 15 Sep **Youth and Children's Team Prayer Meeting**. 8.00pm at St Stephen's. If you are a part of the team of leaders it would be great to see you there.

Thu 17 Sep **Explorers and Club I 14 are hoping to be back!** St Stephen's 6.00pm and 6.30pm respectively. Lots of exciting things are planned this term!

Mon 21 Sep **Women's Book Group** 8.00-9.30pm at Joanne Butler's house. Discussing "When People are Big and God is Small" by Edward T Welch. All women welcome! Speak to Linnet Harvey or Chris Stonehouse for more info.

Fri – Sun 2-4 Oct **Church Open Weekend**, with various events across the weekend for the whole church family and local community. Please pick up some invitations from the Information Table to give to neighbours and friends.

Sat 17 Oct **The West Midlands Women's Convention** 'FAITH like this – encouraging women to live for Christ' : Clare Heath-Whyte. Leaflets on the Information Table. Now in Solihull! Please email Helen Buckley.

News and Requests

Building for the Future News and Re-canting: We are still expecting the site to be returned to us on 10th September. On the 11th and 12th we will be very busy re-canting; please contact Richard Phillips if you can help. The office will therefore be closed on Fri 11th, and possibly further into the next week - it all depends on BT!

equip. Speak to Chris if you are considering this training. Flyers on the Information Table.

Bernard Stonehouse's funeral will be on Sat 12th Sep at West Bromwich Crematorium (B71 3SX) at 11.00am followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St Wulstan's at 1.00pm, with refreshments from 12 noon and after the service. The collection is on behalf of Christian Aid.

CAP prayer meeting at 8pm – 9.15pm on Tue 8th Sep. Would anyone be willing to run in the Birmingham Half Marathon for CAP? See Sarah Underwood if that's you!

The Christian Institute has 2 meetings coming up on 'Protecting Gospel Freedom'. See flyer on Information Table.

If anyone can **offer a short lift up the hill** to St Stephen's on Sunday mornings for an older member of the congregation, would they please contact Margaret Twiss.

Vicar: Chris Hobbs **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

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ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK



Welcome

6th September 2015

If you are new, you are especially welcome. Please help yourself to a Welcome Booklet and, if you have time, introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have.

10.00am Morning Service

'What are we waiting for?' (Acts 1) – Chris Hobbs

Children and young people will go to their activities part way through the service:

0-3s Crèche is in the back room, please collect your child during the last song.

3-11s Are taken across the road and brought back during the last song.

11-14s will meet at the back and be taken to 9 Serpentine Road, they will be brought back at the end of the service.

Toilets are in the foyer, baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilets.

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.

6.00pm Evening Service with Holy Communion

'Running from God' (Jonah 1-2) – Andy Martin

Coffee, tea and cakes are served after the service.

Chris Hobbs, Senior Minister (Vicar)

Talk notes

What are we waiting for? Acts I

Four essential elements of Christian mission:

1. The command to witness (v6-8)

2. The ascension of Jesus (v9-11)

3. The completion of the apostles (v12-26)

4. The power of the Spirit (2:1-13)

More on this next time!

Missed a sermon recently? Please visit www.sssw.org.uk to hear or download an audio version.

OPENING PRAYER *led by David Twiss*

SONGS Before the throne of God above
There is no other name

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

COLLECT

SONG I give thanks

NEWS *after which, children and young people go to their activities*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

(Lord in your mercy; **Hear our prayer**)

SONG Holy Father, rich in mercy

BIBLE READINGS Luke 1:1-4 (page 1025); Acts 1:1-26 (page 1092)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON What are we waiting for?

HYMN O Lord my God

Please collect your child from crèche during the final song

CLOSING PRAYER

May God, who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who worked a miracle with loaves and fishes, and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, and work in us; and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator, now and through all eternity. Amen.

COLLECTION *Gifts may be placed in the Gifts box at the back*

Sermon notes

Running from God Jonah 1-2

Evening Service

The Lord God is the Creator who rules...

i) over Jonah

ii) over Nineveh

iii) over nature

iv) over chance

v) over unbelievers

vi) over the animal kingdom

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OPENING PRAYER *led by Chris Hobbs*

HYMN Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

BIBLE READINGS Jonah 1:1-2:10 (page 927); Matthew 12:38-42 (page 978)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Running from God

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

THE NICENE CREED

SONGS When trials come
Lord I come before your throne of grace

PRAYERS

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Lord, we have come to see that our lives fall far short of your glory.

Have mercy and forgive us.

Lord, you have given your life for us, and poured out your Spirit,
yet we fail to return your love with all our heart. **Have mercy and change us.**

Too often we are selfish and proud, ignoring you, Lord, and neglecting others.

Have mercy and cleanse us.

Lord, when we do not truly trust and obey you,
we are overwhelmed by self-pity, fear and worry.

Have mercy and deliver us.

In Christ we are given a sure hope and secure love,

yet we follow the false hopes and desires of this world. **Have mercy and forgive us.**

Father, through the redeeming death of your Son on the cross, by your Spirit and through your
word, transform and renew us to follow you with joy.

All this we ask, confident in your unchanging faithfulness. Amen.

SONG How deep the Father's love for us

COMMUNION (*see insert*)

NEWS

HYMN Amazing grace

DOXOLOGY

**Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and
glory for ever. Amen.**

COLLECTION Gifts may be placed in the Gifts box at the back of church