

This Week

Tues 13 Jan Children's Team Prayer Meeting. 8pm

Fri 16 Jan Birmingham Churches Night Shelter starts. Every Friday from Jan 16th to March 6th at St Wulstan's. Overnight shelter for 12 homeless men. Contact Tom Lovatt if you'd like to know more or help out.

Looking Ahead

Tues 20 Jan PCC meeting, 7.45pm in St Wulstan's

Thurs 22 Jan 'The World We All Want' starts, 8.00-9.30pm. A sweeping tour through the unfolding story of the Bible: how God makes and keeps his promise of a better world. Seven Thursday evenings of informal discussion of what the Bible says. Flyers on the Information Table, or contact Chris Hobbs

Mon 26 Jan 'How People Change' starts. Twelve Monday evening sessions on how Christ's grace brings lasting change to our lives (finishes 6th July): "I wish everyone in the church could do this excellent course" (Chris Hobbs). Please speak to Chris soon if you are interested. Each session is 90 minutes, including a DVD, and there is also 'homework' between sessions.

Fri 5 Feb 'Biblical Counselling in the Local Church: How wise biblical counsel produces growth in the body of Christ' – Day conference 10.00am-4.30pm. Evening session 7.30-9.00pm – 'The heart of depression: Understanding and caring for those who experience depression'. Brochures on the Information Table.

News, Notices and Requests

Building for the Future news. As we wait to hear from the Chancellor about Phase 2, you might like to look at the ENORMOUS hole that is being made under the west window to connect with the new foyer. You can see it from the gate.

New Address books are available, see Jem Huggins if you'd like one!

Pews for sale. If you would be interested in buying a pew from St Stephens let Jem Huggins know as soon as possible.

Office changes. Gina Davies will be taking over as administrator from January 19th. The office will be open on Thursdays and Fridays, from 9am-4pm. Contact details are the same as below.

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

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ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK



taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously

Welcome

11th January 2015

If you are new, please say 'hello' and pick up a Welcome booklet at the back of Church.

10.00am Morning Service

'You're special!' (1 Peter 1:1-2) – Andy Martin

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 final song.

3-11s Will be taken to the Medical Centre across the road, and be brought back at the end of the service.

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 toilet.

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.

6.00pm Evening Service

'God so loved the world' (Genesis 11:27-12:9) – Chris Hobbs

Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after the service.

Sermon notes

God so loved the world Genesis 11:27-12:9

Abraham's God is our God. *Romans 4:5, 17, 21*

God wants to bless the world through Christ

- **God wants to bless**

*I will **bless** you .. you will be a **blessing** ... I will **bless** those who bless you ... (v2,3)*

- **God wants to bless the world**

***all peoples** on earth will be blessed through you (v3)*

- **God wants to bless the world through Christ**

***you** will be a blessing ... **all peoples** on earth will be blessed **through you** (v2,3)*

Don't you mean 'through Abraham'? No! *Acts 3:25-26; Galatians 3:8-9*

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

Evening Service

OPENING PRAYER *led by Andy Martin*

SONGS O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
God's saints of old

BIBLE READING Galatians 3:1-18 (page 1169)

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.

SONGS Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
Blessed be your name

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

NOTICES

SONG Be thou my vision

BIBLE READING Genesis 11:27-12:9 (page 13)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON God so loved the world

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

SONG See the man

CLOSING PRAYER

The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord turn his face towards us and give us peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

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