

## Today

**This week in Sunday club** we will be sharing our summer and new school year news and meeting our leaders and groups!

## This Week

- Tues 13 Sept** **Youth and Children's Prayer Meeting**, 7.45pm in the Tyndale Room.
- Wed 14** **Toolbox begins!** Meet at church for 7.45pm for refreshments and time together before breaking into seminar groups for the evening. Finish by 9.30pm.
- Sun 18** **Church Family Picnic**, directly after church. Please bring enough food for you and a little to share.

## Looking Ahead

- Wed 21, 28** **Toolbox continues**, 7.45pm start with refreshments.
- Mon 19 Sept** **Women's book club**. Reading 'Joni & Ken: An Untold Love Story' over the summer. Speak to (Mrs) Chris Stonehouse or Elizabeth Barry for more info.
- Sat 1 Oct** **New-ish to church?** Please come to the **Welcome Meal**, 7.30pm, and find out what St Stephen's is all about. Further details from Chris and Helen Hobbs or the Parish Office.
- Wed 5 Oct** **Vision Evening**. 7pm at Church for dinner, 8-9.30pm for the Vision Meeting.
- Sat 15 Oct** **Autumn Church Family Walk**, starting at 2pm. It is a 3 mile flat walk starting at Baddesley Clinton (National Trust property near Solihull), further information will be available in the Information Table in the coming weeks.
- Sat 22 Oct** **Midlands Women's Convention**, Solihull, starting at 10.00am. Let Helen Hobbs know if you'd like to go so that we can do a group booking.
- Sat 5 Nov** **Midlands Men's Convention**, Nottingham, starting at 10.00am. Let Rob Davies know if you'd like to go so that we can do a group booking.

## News and Requests

**Equip**. Our in-house one-year training course designed 'to equip the saints for the work of ministry'. This is for anyone wanting to teach the Bible better in whatever setting. Starts October 12<sup>th</sup>. Flyers are on the Information Table. Speak to Chris Hobbs if you are interested.

**Fellowship Groups** are being reshuffled, we'd love to know what type of group works for you, please fill out the questionnaire and return it to us by September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Explorers and Club 114 need:** buttons, old CDs and cylindrical jam jars. Please do get collecting and give to Helen Buckley. Thanks!



## Welcome

**11<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

*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

'Purity' (Acts 4:32-5:11) – Andy Martin

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

**Creche** and **Club114** leave through the Foyer to go to their rooms. **Scramblers, Climbers** and **Explorers** leave through the Hudson Taylor Room at the front of church.

**Coffee, tea and biscuits** are served after the service in the foyer.

## 6.00pm Evening Service

'The weirdness of grace' (2 Kings 5:1-8) – Chris Hobbs

**Coffee, tea and cakes** are served after the service in the foyer.

**Toilets** are adjacent to the foyer and upstairs; baby-changing facilities are in the disabled toilet

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

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**Purity**  
*Acts 4:32-5:11*

OPENING PRAYER *led by Chris Hobbs*

HYMN Crown him with many crowns

SONG Holy Father rich in mercy

NEWS

SONG Sing Jesus name

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

INTERVIEW with Chris Hobbs

SONG Holy Spirit living breath of God

BIBLE READINGS Acts 4:32-5:11 (page 1096), Ephesians 5:1-20 (page 1176)

(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Purity

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.**

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.**

HYMN Stand up stand up for Jesus

*Please collect your child from crèche*

CLOSING PRAYER

.. A growing church has the gospel at the centre (32-33)

. A growing church is marked by great generosity (34-37)

. A growing church is a dangerous place (1-11)

. God's sovereignty is total ...

.. and yet our responsibility is clear

. God's servants can be outstanding ...

.. and they can also be pathetic

OPENING PRAYER *led by Andy Martin*

HYMN Glorious things of thee are spoken

SONG Creation sings

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**O Lord our God, you know us better than we know ourselves. As we come before you now, believers and doubters alike, we all share a deep need, for we are all lost without your grace. Search us, O God, and know our hearts, test us and know our troubled thoughts. Give us true repentance. Forgive us all our wrongs. Transform us by your Spirit to live for you each day, to learn to serve each other and, through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord, to come at last to heaven. Amen.**

INTERVIEW with Chris Hobbs

NEWS

SONGS Through all life's sorrows and despairs  
God of grace, amazing wonder

BIBLE READINGS 2 Kings 5:1-8 (page 373), Luke 4:14-30 (page 1031)  
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON The weirdness of grace

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

SONG I once was lost in darkest night

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.**

HYMN Yes, finished, the Messiah dies

BLESSING