

This Week

Sun
26

6.00pm Big Questions: Doesn't religion just cause conflict? Refreshments for this café-style service will be served from 5:45pm.

Wed
29

Day Centre (for older people)
10am – 2.30pm

Thu
30

Spruce cutting parties. 10-11am & 2-4pm. A fun way to start the festive season, complete with Christmas music! Please bring secateurs if you have any.

Cross-Section Bible Study

(Y10-13) 4.30-5.30pm

Explorers (Y2-6) 6.00 – 7.00pm

Club 114 (Y7-9) 6.30 – 8.00pm

Fri
1

Stay and Play (baby and toddler group) 10.00am – 11.30am

Christmas Craft Evening. Doors open at 7.30pm. Sadly there are no tickets left.

Sat
2

Maintenance Day. 10.00am, meeting at St Stephens. Please bring any gardening equipment that you have.

Sun
3

Acoustic Carols by Candlelight, 6.00pm, followed by Christmas nibbles and mulled wine.

Looking Ahead

5/6
Dec

Prayer Gatherings. Tue 10-11:30am (crèche provided). Wed 8-9:30pm (7:30 for refreshments)

Sat
9
Dec

Christmas Adventure. 2-4pm. Fun for all the family – with real life nativity animals! Tickets (£5) available from Helen Buckley.

Sun 10
Dec

The Bishop of Birmingham, David Urquhart, will be preaching and staying for a Church Family Lunch afterwards.

Tue 12
Dec

Carols with Samuel Thornhill. From 7pm, starting singing at 7:15, followed by coffee and cake. Volunteers to set up chairs and bring cake very welcome. Speak to Elizabeth Barry for more info or if you plan to attend.

News and Requests

Wanted: Ministry Trainees, Sep 2018-Aug 2019. Spend a year serving the church and learning gospel ministry. You don't have to be a student to apply! Details from Chris Hobbs/Parish Office.

Can you help? For the Christmas Adventure we need: 3 gazebos, one TV and DVD player. Speak to Helen Buckley.

Please sign up to volunteer for the Birmingham Churches **Night Shelter** running for 6 weeks on Fri night & Sat morning starting on 5 Jan. Sign up forms are at the back of church, please get them in asap. ststephensnightshelter@gmail.com

Table free to a good home. Table with drawers (currently in the Whitefield Room) is free to anyone who can take it. Let Jem Huggins know if you're interested.

Refreshment help needed for the 10am service. A great way to practically serve our church family. Contact Margaret Twiss if you'd like to know more.

Thanks to the Fellowship Groups who are taking on Christmas Hampers for CAP clients. If you'd like to be involved it's not too late, speak to Richard Phillips.



ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK

26th November 2017

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

10.00am Morning Service

Redeemed by faith alone

Romans 3:9-26

Lee Gatiss

6.00pm Big Questions

Doesn't religion just cause conflict?

Andy Martin

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

Crèche and Club114 leave through the foyer.

Sunday Club: (Scramblers, Climbers and Explorers) leave through the Hudson-Taylor room at the front of church.

This morning in Sunday Club we will be learning about the Reformation.

We will see that it is faith in Jesus that makes us right with God.

This good news is for everyone!

Club114 will be learning about the Man who asked for mercy from Luke 18.

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

jem.huggins@sssw.org.uk 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:

Redeemed by faith alone *Romans 3:9-26*

Our world is a mess because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. So what hope do we have of escaping from the depressing grip of our own selfishness and the judgment to come? Shall we pull our socks up and try to do better, or has God provided a better way...? We can only stand by faith alone.

1. God is rightly angry and there is nothing we can do about it (Rom 3:9-20)

2. Acquittal must be a gift

3. Justification is a gift at Christ's expense

Missed a sermon recently? Visit www.sssw.org.uk

Morning Service

OPENING PRAYER *Chris Hobbs*

HYMN O Lord my God

CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have broken your holy laws. We have left undone what we ought to have done, and we have done what we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy on us pitiful sinners. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who truly repent, as you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a godly, righteous, and disciplined life, to the praise of your holy name. Amen.

SONG Solomon was a young man

NEWS

Children and young people leave for their activities

SONG Our only hope is you

INTERVIEW with Lee Gatiss

PRAYERS *Charlie Cook*

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 In days of peace and days of rest

BIBLE READING *Pippa Nicolson*

Psalm 32 (page 560)

Romans 3:9-26 (page 1130)

SERMON

Lee Gatiss

Redeemed by faith alone

HYMN And can it be

COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, we praise you for bringing us safely to the beginning of this new day: defend us with mighty power, and grant that we fall into no sin, nor run into any kind of danger, but govern and guide us at all times, so that we may do what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Please stay on for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Name/s

Address

Phone

Email

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Talk notes:
Doesn't religion just cause conflict?

OPENING PRAYER *Chris Hobbs*

SONGS Have you heard of a God of love
He's our rescuer

PRAYERS *Mark Fox*

STARTER DISCUSSION

TALK *Andy Martin*

Doesn't religion just cause conflict?

Including **BIBLE READING** *Dawn Evans*

Mark 7:1-23 (page 1010)

Mark 15:25-39 (page 1023)

DISCUSSION

SONG Only a holy God (by the band)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

NEWS

SONG In Christ alone

CLOSING PRAYER