

Today

This week in Sunday Club there is holiday cover, all groups will be together.

This Week

Wed 3 Aug **Prayer Gathering**, 8.00-9.30pm in St Stephen's – with coffee, tea and cakes 7.30-7.55pm. **(No Tuesday Prayer Gathering this month.)**

Looking Ahead

Tues Aug 9th & Sept 6th **CAP Prayer Meetings** at 7:45pm, Christ Church Selly Park

Wed 10th Aug **Pudding Party at the Twisses**, 8pm. All welcome. Bring a drink if you wish.

Sat 13 Aug **Summer Church Family Walk**, meeting at the Needle Museum car park in Redditch at 2pm for a 3 mile walk. An information sheet will be available at the back of church with more details. Any questions contact Mark Checketts.

Wed 17th Aug **Songs with Samuel Thornhill**, 7pm A relaxed evening of singing a few hymns / songs together, listening to a testimony or two & eating some cake! RSVP to Elizabeth Barry, (volunteers to make some cake or help move chairs or share their testimony very welcome.)

Wed 24th Aug **Another evening in China**, 8.00pm. Stories from the Devas's visit this summer, hear what God has done, with pictures, music and snacks!

Mon 19th 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 22 Oct **Midlands Women's Convention**, Solihull, starting at 10.00am. let the Parish Office 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

Books of the Summer Term: 'A New Name' (£7) and 'Seeking Allah Finding Jesus' (£8). To order one through church please sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

Holiday club needs your help! Can you lend or donate any packs of Hero top trump cards? Can you give plain/ light coloured bed sheets (we're making capes!)? See Helen for more details.

Samuel Thornhill will be in respite, Mon 25 July – Mon 8 Aug. Visitors are very welcome, The Sheldon Unit,

Toilet Twinning Update: So far we have raised enough money for 4 1/2 toilets! We want to twin 7 toilets, so keep going!

ST STEPHENS AND ST WULSTANS SELLY PARK



taking Jesus seriously, taking the Bible seriously

Welcome

31st July 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

'Thanklessness' (Romans 1:21) – John Ruck

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

Creche leave through the Foyer to go to their rooms. **Scramblers, Climbers** and **Explorers** leave through the Hudson Taylor Room at the front of church. There is no **Club114** over the summer.

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

6.00pm Evening Service

'When we need God's mercy' (Psalm 41) – Tom Bryant

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 toilets.

Vicar: Chris Hobbs (on sabbatical until mid-August) **Assistant Minister:** Andy Martin

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

0121 472 8253 office@sssw.org.uk www.sssw.org.uk

Sermon Notes

Introduction..... Emotional heart disease!

1. Romans 1:21 (cf 18-32) Thanklessness in the world at large
2. Thanklessness amongst God's people
3. Help to become whole-heartedly thank-full people.....
 - the Bible is full of thanksgiving and reasons for it!
 - patterns from the past - the "General Thanksgiving" – main points:-
 - (a) we don't deserve any of this but God has graciously given it anyway
 - (b) be thankful he has made us and everything good for us to enjoy
 - (c) above all, be thankful for Jesus our great Redeemer. Through HIM we are forgiven and transformed from being thank-less into being thank-full
 - (d) pray that God will make this real in our hearts, so that we truly thank him
 - (i) with our lips
 - (ii) with our whole lives

Thanklessness *Romans 1:21*

Morning Service

OPENING PRAYER *led by David Twiss*

SONGS At the name of Jesus
Creation sings

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

PRAYER

The Lord our God is a forgiving God, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of love; because of his great compassion he will not abandon us. We were disobedient and rebelled against him, yet from heaven He hears us in our distress. He forgives our sin and delivers us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SONG All through history

NEWS *after which children and young people leave for their activities*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

SONG I hear the Saviour say

BIBLE READINGS Deuteronomy 8:10-20 (page 187), Romans 1:18-32 (page 1128)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON Thanklessness

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.

SONG The grace of God has reached for me
Please collect your child 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 in every part be always pleasing in your sight, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

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

OPENING PRAYER *led by Oli Huggins*

SONGS Praise my soul the King of heaven
You died in my place
Who could know your thoughts

CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

SONGS He wraps himself in light
My hope is built on nothing less

APOSTLES' CREED

NEWS

BIBLE READINGS Psalm 41 (page 567), John 13:1-30 (page 1081)
(This is the word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**)

SERMON When we need God's mercy

INSIGHTS AND QUESTIONS

SONG Who, O Lord, could save themselves

CLOSING PRAYER

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.