

Sunday gatherings @ 10am

Please continue to be sensitive to those around to maintain a safe environment. Let those serving refreshments handle the equipment, and avoid crowding near the coffee bar.

On Summer Sundays in August we'll be looking each week at

People Jesus met with

7 August - Altogether Worship *with communion*

14 August - Trinity 9: Holy Communion

Children in the service, activities in bags

21 August - Trinity 10: Service of the Word

with Cinema Sunday, and youth group

28 August - Trinity 11: Holy Communion

Children in the service, activities in bags

Katie, our organist, is having a break this month

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 2nd Aug **Churches Together in Southmead** prayer meeting 7:30pm at PHC

Saturday 13th Aug **Southmead Festival** - 11-4 at the Greenway Centre (see notice over)

Tues 6th Sept - **Churches Together in Southmead** prayer meeting 7:30pm at URC

Next PCC

Is Thursday 15 September. If there's anything you'd like to bring to our attention or ask, please speak to a PCC member.

How to contact us

Emails and telephone messages are checked at least 3 times a week. Please email or phone and if no answer, leave a message - 0117 9591250
enquiriesststephenssouthmead@gmail.com
There is also a contact form on our website
<https://www.ststephenssouthmead.co.uk/>

Who's who

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Find us online

Facebook Keep up to date with latest events and news by joining our group or by following our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/ststephenssouthmead/>

Website **<https://www.ststephenssouthmead.co.uk>**

St Stephen's Southmead Bulletin August 2022



*A warm welcome -
whether it is your first time visiting
or you are a regular - we are glad to see
you as we gather as a church family*

*Please ask if you have questions or are
unsure about anything*

*Our prayer is that as you spend time here
you find you meet with the Living God*

Prayer - changes things

Please pray for

- the body of Christ at St Stephen's to be built up, in Spirit and numerically
- children and families, for summer provision, rest and rejuvenation
- church leaders locally, nationally and internationally, for wisdom to see God's way forward – the Lambeth Conference
- our changing national political leadership
- those caught up in human trafficking - particularly vulnerable girls as identified by the Bristol Diocesan Ugandan link group
- those who are grieving: comfort and hope
- the sick: peace and healing

Bible Study groups

Monday Bible study group is taking a summer break. Contact Jenny if you are interested:
revjennylow@gmail.com

A **Thursday evening** group meets at the Hamilton's. Details from Steve, Jo, or Rev Jon

If you'd value belonging to a small group speak to Jon, as we're keen to build a network of supportive, prayerful, fellowship groups.

Toddler Group



... takes a break, but term-time runs every Monday 9.30 – 11am

All pre-school aged children

welcome! Snacks and drinks provided

Just come along whenever you can

Details from Tenna

Saint Stephen's Southmead



Southmead Festival

Saturday 13 Aug 11-4 at the Greenway Centre Southmead Churches Together are running the tea tent with children's crafts and are looking for volunteers. Please contact Tenna to offer to come along and help.

Friendship Cafe

Open every Wednesday 10am -12noon
This will continue throughout the summer holidays. Massive thank you to everyone who is helping to keep this running to well :-)
All very welcome!

Christian Climate Action

Training Day: Sat 3rd Sept, 10- 4pm
St Werburgh's Community Centre, BS2 9TJ

The extreme hot weather this summer has probably made us all think about the climate crisis. If you think you'd like to get involved in encouraging the church and state to act, this training day is to find out more about CCA, and the kind of peaceful action they take part in, with the opportunity to go deeper into the Biblical basis for non-violent protest and reflect on the challenges of staying non-violent in action. Free, although donations welcome to help cover costs. Booking is via Eventbrite: contact the church office if you need the link.

Buildings Team

In 2021 the PCC approved a small team to focus on church building maintenance. This currently consists of John G, Jo H, Michael, Gill, Terry and Jon. Please contact a member of this team if you have any concerns or questions regarding the church building.

From the Vicar

Dear friends,

I'm writing this in a heat wave; and the highest temperature ever recorded here has been smashed with a massive new record high. Just one of many trials we're facing more and more due to unprecedented man-made climate change. If, like me, you worry about our future, whether it's the cost of living crisis, war, or the global environmental crises we face as humanity, then how on earth are we supposed to enjoy the time we have here on earth, let alone enjoy our summer?

In 1 Thessalonians 5, Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." What Paul is saying, is to always show gratitude for what we have, for all that is good in our lives. Particularly to say thank you to God on a regular basis. Not only was this Paul's advice 2,000 years ago, but its advice given today, proven to boost self-esteem and self-value, helping us to live more content and productive lives now. No matter what's in the news, or worrying us, try to practice gratitude for what you have, say thank you to our loving Father for what He has done for us through Christ Jesus.

I'm off on annual leave until August 15th; I hope if you're going away at all, you have a blessed time. If you need anything at all over these weeks, please do get in touch with the churchwardens or church office.

May God bless you with peace, rest and joy this summer.

Rev Jon