



Staple Hill

Local ... Lively ... Loving



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Sunday 31st October 2021

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An Answer to Evil

Today is Halloween. It isn't something that is 'celebrated' much within the UK, and probably most Christians in this country (including myself) will give it a wide berth. Although we don't tend to get trick-or-treaters knocking on the door where I live, I still find myself getting a little nervous.

We tend to think of Halloween as being an American invention, but it actually has roots firmly on this side of the Atlantic. The carving of pumpkins, for example, originates from the Scottish and Irish tradition of carving turnips or swedes into ghoulish faces in order to ward off evil spirits, and the wearing of masks is supposed to allow evil spirits to be controlled.

However, as Christians we need no other protection from such things than our belief in Jesus Christ. In [Mark 1 vs 21-27](#), an evil spirit called out to Jesus whilst he was teaching in a synagogue: "*What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?*" Jesus simply rebuked the spirit and ordered it to leave. And it did – such was the power of Christ!

That power is still with us today, so if we feel threatened by evil this evening – then we just need to pray and invoke the name of Jesus. We are under His protection.

Paul Heath

PRAYER DIARY:

We invite you to pray for the following members of our fellowship during the coming week:

1st	Paul & Roz C; Peter H; Bill & Freda M; Elaine & Peter R; Anne & Rob L
2nd	Hilton & Lilian B; Alison & Steve C; Colin & Nicola H-J, Senan H; Alan T; Harry D
3rd	Pat B; Peter & Mary J & James; June W; Viv W; Graham & Julie W; Linda P
4th	Mary Ba; Mark & Michelle D; Jess, Matt, Charlie & Harry J; Kay & Marc W; Marcus B
5th	Hilary & Mike D; Sally P; Rebecca S; Claire & Michael B; Dennis H; Daisy U
6th	Jon B; Kirsty, Mark, Oliver, Freya & Henry F; David Jo; Alison C; Karen P
7th	Beryl & Spence G; David L; Andy, Emily, Grace & Archie E

FLOWERS:

- The flowers today are provided by Viv Wallington

SAFETY MEASURES:

As you will be aware, cases of COVID are rising. For your safety and the safety of others we would remind you that when entering and moving around the building you should be wearing facemasks, regularly sanitising your hands and being conscious not to get too close to one another. This should be for all activities that you attend within our facility. As the weather becomes colder, please wear an extra layer, as whilst we have just turned on the heating, we will continue to open the windows for improved ventilation. If you can help by complying to these guidelines, we would be grateful.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS:

- We continue to think of Ivan and his family in our prayers as they prepare for the funeral of Iris's funeral that will take place at 12:30pm on Friday 12th November at Westerleigh.
- There are a number of our fellowship who are unwell at the moment, or are under the care of the NHS. Please continue to support them all.
- Brenda Hussey sends her love to everyone. She misses the army and all her friends. Please continue to remember all those who are unable to join us in worship on a Sunday.



Always surprising!

**The Salvation Army
Staple Hill
Tots on
The Hill
Toddler Song &
Story Time**

A new group for toddlers aged 0 to 3 featuring Song, story and snack time
Starting Wednesday 3rd November
9.30am and 11am at £3 per session.
Please scan the QR Code to book your child's place as places are limited

Tots on The Hill is run as part of our church outreach and will include some Christian Rhythms, songs and stories.

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HARVEST 2021:

Fantastic sum was raised for this year's Harvest collection - £2,964 (way up from last year's total of £2,112.80).

The amount raised will be used with 75% supporting our corps mission and 25% to the Mission Opportunities Fund for the division.

THE WEEK AHEAD:

TODAY Sunday 31st October

10am All Age Worship – led by Paul Heath
Followed by tea & coffee

11:30am Youth Group

~12 noon Worship – online

‘A whole life’
[Psalm 32](#)

Tuesday 2nd November

10:30am Extra Slice Group at the hall (Kelvin)

6:15pm YP Band Practice

7pm Singing Company Practice

8pm Senior Band Practice

Wednesday 3rd November

9:30am & 11am Tots on the Hill

3.30pm Extra Slice Group online (Gerry)

7pm Extra Slice Group online (Linda)

8.15pm Extra Slice Group online (Beth)

Thursday 4th November

12:30pm Lunch Club

7:45pm Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola’s

8.15pm Extra Slice Group online (Ian & Rachel)

SUNDAY 7th November

10am All Age Worship
Followed by tea & coffee

11:30am Children’s Church and Youth Group

~12 noon Worship – online

‘Live in Suffering’
[1 Peter 4:1-19](#)

FURTHER AHEAD:

Sunday 14th Nov. Remembrance Sunday

- 10am Morning Worship in our hall
- 10:15am Remembrance Parade followed by service at Page Park
- 5pm Festival of Remembrance featuring our band (in hall)