



Staple Hill

Local ... Lively ... Loving



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Sunday 31st July & 7th August 2022

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Spreading the Infection

After almost 2½ years of avoiding it, Tracey and I both finally succumbed to COVID last weekend. I am thankful that I didn't catch the virus during one of the earlier phases where the infection was more deadly or before I had been fully inoculated ... I really haven't enjoyed the experience much at all!

Although in this case, I would have preferred not to experience it, it did bring home to me the impact that real life experience has. I have read about the fevers, the fatigue, the coughing, the loss of taste and smell in the papers and on-line ... but I had no actual knowledge of what it was like - I couldn't fully understand without experiencing it for myself.

Over recent months, we have been challenged repeatedly to invite our family and friends to join us at various church services and events. Those friends may have pre-formed views of what worship at the Salvation Army is like, but without actually experiencing it – do they really know? Of course not! So we need to keep asking, keep inviting, and keep believing that eventually they will respond.

The joy of worship is infectious. As more people experience worship within our fellowship, more people will come to know God. That is one infection that will be well worth spreading!

Paul Heath

THANKS:

Thank you to all those who helped last weekend. We had a really lovely Coffee Morning last Saturday, which was well attended, and on Sunday a great time of fellowship at the Barbeque. Neither of these events would not have been possible without a team of willing volunteers, so a big thank you to all those who helped.

BIG COLLECTION:

A massive thanks to everyone who took part in our Big Collection Altar Service. With these donations along with fundraising events such as the recent band concert and several coffee mornings, we now stand at an impressive total of £4,257.67. However, we are still fundraising to achieve our target of £6,000, and so if you have any fundraising initiatives, please let us know. Our next scheduled events are

BIG COLLECTION FLAG DAYS:

Morrisons in Fishponds have kindly made 2 dates available for us to fundraise for the Big Collection. The dates are Thursday 29th and Friday 30th September. If you are able to collect for an hour or 2 on these dates that would be great – we will put a sign-up sheet on the notice board at the beginning of September, but put the dates in your diary now please. Thank you.

JOSEPH SERIES OVER THE SUMMER:

During the summer, each Sunday there will be a short take-home sheet for you to reflect on the week's theme – don't forget to pick yours up and if you want to, meet up with others to have a chat.

PEOPLE:

- We continue to remember Harry Dryden (Claire Blowers' father) Harry is very poorly and we pray both for him and his family at this time. Olive is making good progress and hopes to be home soon. There are a number in our fellowship who are poorly, living with serious health conditions and experiencing difficulties. We try and contact most, but during this holiday period, please let us know if you need our support.
- Naomi has been at Territorial Music School, Noah is currently at Junior camp and we have 18 young people preparing for Summer Camp next week. Please pray for our young people as they go or have been to camp, that they will be blessed and encouraged.
- Joice Pillinger from Kingswood Corps, known by some in Staple Hill, has been Promoted to Glory. Her funeral service will take place on Friday 19th August at 1pm at Kingswood Salvation Army, followed by an interment at Mangotsfield Cemetery at 2.15pm. The family invites anyone attending to remain at the Kingswood corps for refreshments when family members return from the cemetery.
- On a happier note - Andy Elliott will be celebrating his 30th birthday on the 7th August, so a very happy birthday to you!

FLOWERS:

Our thanks to Charlotte and Gary for providing the flowers at the front of our hall today.

We still have a few dates in August available, should you wish to provide some flowers to enhance our Sunday worship. Please speak to Viv if you can help on any of these dates:

- August 7th, 14th and 28th

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday 3rd September	Coffee Morning (Hosted by Mary & Nick Dunk)
Sunday 11th September	Page Park Praise
24th – 25th September	Harvest Weekend
29th & 30th September	Flag Days at Morrisons (Fishponds) in aid of The Big Collection
Saturday 8th October	Coffee Morning (Hosted by Lynette Price & Pauline Perkins)
Sunday 16th October	YP Annual Celebration Meeting (at 10am)
Sunday 16th October	Divisional Welcome to Divisional Leaders in our hall (at 4pm)
Saturday 5th November	Coffee Morning (Hosted by Jo Risdale & Rachel Wallis)
Saturday 12th November	Kenya Trust Concert
Sunday 13th November	Remembrance Sunday

BULLETIN:

The next issue of this newsletter will be published on Sunday 14th August (covering 3 Sundays), and then there will not be another issue until the 4th September (when the weekly format will be resumed).

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Sunday 31st July:

10am

All Age Worship

'Joseph the slave and the prisoner'

[Genesis 39 - 40](#)

Severn & Somerset Junior Camp starts

Sunday 31st July to Friday 5th August: Divisional Junior Camp

Please pray for Noah

Thursday 4th August:

12.30pm

Lunch Club

Saturday 6th to Friday 12th August: Divisional Summer School

Please pray Jessica, Emily D, Harry, Jeovany,

Thomas, Isobella, Gracey, Victoria, Vimbai, Senan,

Karen, Natalie, Aston, Jacob R, Emily R, Matthew,

Joshua W, Joshua C. Staff: Tash, Phil & Joe

Sunday 7th August:

10am

All Age Worship

'Joseph the royal interpreter'

[Genesis 41](#)

Thursday 11th August:

12.30pm

Lunch Club

Sunday 14th August:

10am

All Age Worship

'Joseph the long-lost brother'

[Genesis 42 to 45 v 15](#)

During August, please check with your Extra Slice group leaders as a few different things have been planned