

SUNDAY 28th January 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

staplehillbulletin@gmail.com

Getting A Bit Breezy

What a lot of wind we have had over the past couple of weeks! I can't help being a little awe-struck by strong winds. It is difficult to believe how something that you can't see has the power to strip the roof off a house, move complete sheds across the garden, destroy fences and uproot trees. It is, to me, remarkable.

Imagine if all that power we have seen over recent days were concentrated *INSIDE* our church this morning, focussed entirely on us. It could happen! In Acts 2, we read "*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.*" That was the coming of the Holy Spirit which utterly transformed the first church and resulted in thousands being saved. O for some gale force winds in our church today!

*For the mighty moving of thy Spirit
In our hearts and minds from day to day,*

...

We adore thee, heavenly Father.

[The Songbook of The Salvation Army, No. 319]

Paul Heath

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People

We continue to remember those in our fellowship who are mourning the loss of loved ones, especially those who are preparing for funerals. In particular we remember:

- Mike, Ian, Carron and family following the promotion to glory of Elsie. Elsie's funeral will be on Friday, 2nd February at 2pm in our hall, and at 3.30pm at Westerleigh, after which there will be a reception at the hall.
- Marion and her family following the loss of her daughter, Sally. The celebration of Sally's life will take place on Monday, 5th February at Abbots Morton Village Hall followed by the committal at Westall Park Natural Burial Ground. We will confirm the timings in next week's bulletin.

Band League

We thank our Band League members for their support in the last year and those who have already renewed membership. The Band League concert (for which you will have a ticket to as part of your membership) will be on Saturday June 8th.

I am sorry but I not here again this week, so if you wish to join or renew your membership of the Band League, please give your money to my Mum Beryl, or Jon Dickens.

Becky Gardner, Band League Secretary

Cleaning

A massive thank you to those who have been coming to clean at 4pm every Friday afternoon, it has really been appreciated. This coming Friday (2nd Feb), we will be starting at 10am so that we can get the hall ready for Elsie's funeral. Please help if you are able.

Celebration Meal

Friday, 9th February 2024

We are looking forward to our Celebration weekend, which will start with our Celebration Meal on the Friday evening. Invitations are now being distributed - it was a massive task to collate, but if you don't get one, it's not because we don't love you – it is just that we didn't get it quite right – please just let us know. There is an RSVP by Sunday, 4th February as we need to know numbers for catering.

Building

We have contractors on site for the next couple of weeks installing the 'track' for the folding doors, so please be careful as you come into the building. To facilitate this, we will need to stack the chairs after worship on Sunday. There is still a problem with the heating, which we are trying to manage.

World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March 2pm – in our building

It was good to unite with other local churches in the pulpit exchange last week and we have another opportunity to be united on 1st March. The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome all Christians to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. Each year the local churches in our area join together for a special service of worship and prayer. Each year the material for the service is prepared by a group of ecumenical Christians from a different country of the world. This year is particularly poignant as the resources have been prepared by Christians in Palestine. We also have the privilege of hosting our local service this year. If anyone would like to help with this event – including preparing the building, serving refreshments, welcoming people, reading in the service etc. - Please see Nicola. Thank you

Celebration Weekend (9th – 11th February)

We are looking forward to celebrating our new facilities and 140 years of the Salvation Army in the Staple Hill community at our Celebration Weekend. We are so grateful to God and to the many people who have participated in, or supported, our corps in this part of Bristol. Hopefully you have already prioritised this in your calendar, here's some more details of the programme:

Celebration Meal – Friday 9th (7pm)

A chance for our congregation to begin the celebrations with a meal together (invitation only)

Celebration Day @ The Salvation Army – Saturday 10th (10am-2pm)

Everyone is welcome to join in the celebrations which will include a café, table-top sale, art & craft activities, children's activities, live music, exhibitions, interactive activities, guided tours of our refurbished building and more.

Celebration Concert – Saturday 10th (7pm)

Our bands and singing groups are providing a musical concert, giving us an opportunity to celebrate 140 years and our newly refurbished building and thank those who have made it all possible.

Celebration Worship – Sunday 11th (10am)

A very special worship meeting for all ages led by Colin & Nicola.

Celebration March – Sunday 11th (11.45am)

Our band will lead us on a march through Staple Hill.

Celebration Lunch – Sunday 11th (12.30pm)

An opportunity to join together at lunchtime – please bring food to share, everyone welcome.

It's not too far away now – so if you haven't already, invite your friends and family to join us. For those of you who receive our bulletin, but don't usually attend or live far away – we'd love to see you – why not plan a visit?

It would be good to hear from those who watch our worship online but are unable to attend due to distance – please send us a message and we will put any messages on screen during the weekend, thank you.

Please pray for this event, that it will be a time of celebration but also an opportunity to reach out to our community.

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Friday 9 th – Sunday 11 th February	Celebration Weekend (Please see more details elsewhere in bulletin)
Sunday 11 th February	Divisional Youth Section
Sunday 25 th February	Messy Church
Monday 26 th February	Mission Council Meeting CAMEO
Friday 1 st March	Women's World Day of Prayer
Saturday 2 nd March	Coffee Morning First Aid Training Course
Sunday 3 rd March	Self Denial Altar Service

The Week Ahead

TODAY 28th January:

- 10am All Age Worship
'Shaped for a Purpose': Getting to the heart of it
- 11.30am-12:15pm Children's Activities (**No Youth today**)
{YP Band leading worship at Weston-Super-Mare}

Monday 29th January:

- 8pm CAMEO Craft Group

Tuesday 30th January:

- 10am Keep Fit Class
- 11am-12noon Extra Slice Group
- (leader: Kelvin) – 10:30am for coffee
- 6:30pm YP Band Practice
- 7:15pm Singing Company Practice
- 8pm Songster Practice

Wednesday 31st January:

- 9:30am-11am Tots on the Hill
- 3:30pm-4:30pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry)
- 7:45pm-9pm Extra Slice Group at Kelvin & Linda's house
- 8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth)

Thursday 1st February:

- 12.30pm Lunch Club
- 7:45pm-9pm Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house
- 8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)
- 8pm Senior Band Practice

Friday 2nd February:

- 10am** Cleaning and Setting up hall
- 2pm Elsie Dyer's funeral

Sunday 4th February:

- 10am All Age Worship
'Shaped for a Purpose'
- 11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities