

SUNDAY 17th March 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

Mistakes

I suppose everyone can say how often we make mistakes. I posted a letter 3 weeks ago only to discover I had stuck a stamp on it upside down – I felt I had insulted the King. What a mistake! Everyone is prone to making an error.

In a recent Extra Slice group we were asked the question “What mistake have you made today?” I thought of Jonah who was swallowed by a big fish because he made the mistake of disobeying God. Yet, God renewed his faith eventually and Jonah returned to do God’s will. Our mistakes may be small, but they are known by the Lord and we are given a 2nd chance like Jonah.

Our forgiveness often qualifies for greater service. I believe (and no doubt you do too), that forgiveness is always available. As the old children’s song suggests:

*Come listen to my tale
Of Jonah and the whale
Way down in the middle of the ocean.*

...

*But God forgave his sin
Salvation entered in
Way down in the middle of the ocean.*

Doris Pearce

Corps Officers: Majors Colin & Nicola Hylton-Jones Tel: 0117 9565232
Hall Address: 21 Broad Street, Staple Hill BS16 5LN Tel: 0117 9569733
More Information: www.staplehillsa.uk / contactstaplehill@gmail.com
Prayer Fellowship: staplehillprayers@gmail.com
Bulletin: staplehillbulletin@gmail.com

People

There are a number of families connected to the corps who have experienced the loss of a loved one in recent days.

- Andy & Hilary have been bereaved of their son-in-law, Heidi of her husband and Blake & Brandon of their father. Paul's funeral will take place on Tuesday 26th March at GreenAcres Kemnal Park Cemetery and Ceremonial Park, A20 Sidcup Bypass, Chislehurst BR7 6RR at 2pm.
- Marion, who prior to COVID helped in our toddler group, has sadly passed away. Her funeral will take place on 28th March at Westerleigh Crematorium. Please pray for Stephen and their family at this time,
- Thank you for praying for Terry who was mentioned in the notices last week, who has since passed away. Please pray for Marlene and their family.

At the time of writing, we are only aware of Carol being in hospital in the UK and Jen who is visiting family in Australia has been in hospital, but has now been discharged. Please uphold our friends, along with those in our fellowship who are poorly, in prayer.

On a more positive note, Yanni and the Gloucestershire table tennis team have finished second in the county championships - congratulations to both Yanni and the team.

Easter programme

Easter is early this year so it is fast approaching. It's always a special time of the year so we look forward to everything that is planned:



- Sunday 24th March: Palm Sunday
 - 10am - All Age Worship
 - 4pm – 6pm Messy Church
- Tuesday 26th March
 - 7pm - An Evening of Easter Music
- Wednesday 27th March
 - 2pm – 4pm
 - 7pm – 9pm } Walk Through Easter (drop-in)
- Thursday 28th March
 - 11.15am - Easter Worship (anyone welcome)
 - 7pm - Fellowship Meal & Reflection
(sign-up sheet to book)
- Friday 29th March: Good Friday
 - 10am - All Age Worship
 - 11.30am - Band on the Square
- Sunday 31st March: Easter Sunday
 - 8.30am - Easter Breakfast (sign-up sheet to book)
 - 10am - All Age worship

Sign-up sheets for the Thursday evening meal and Sunday morning breakfast are on the notice-board – please add your details. There are also leaflets available if you want to take a few to give out on your Frontline!

Flowers

Our thanks to John and Sue for the flowers on the Altar table today. They are placed in memory of Sue's dad as it would have been his birthday today.

General Farewell

On Thursday, farewell orders were issued to those officers who will be moving appointments in the summer. In due course the 'list' of moves will be published, but please remember both the officers and corps affected at this time. Just to confirm, neither Nicola nor myself received a letter/email - we'll leave you to decide whether this is a good thing or not!

Kitchen

Whilst we try to be hospitable to everyone and not wanting to be grumpy, could we ask that there is some consideration given to taking food from of the kitchen. On Tuesday, I bought the 'snack' food for toddlers, but when we came to prepare the food on Wednesday morning, a packet of Babybels had been opened. This is just one small example, but it is frustrating!

Thank you for your understanding of this matter.

Building

This week, more work was undertaken to resolve the problems in the installation of the glass screens. Whilst there has been some progress, unfortunately, one of the glass doors is catching on the floor so we are waiting to find out how this might be resolved.

There has also been a problem with the loop system. We have made some progress on this over the last week and think we know where the problem might be. Fingers crossed, it might be resolved by Sunday (which Sunday, I'll not specify).

We are trying our best to sort out some of these last niggles and your patience is appreciated.

Employment Plus

We are excited to confirm that The Salvation Army's Employment Plus service has begun work in Staple Hill! It offers tailored support aiming to help job seekers to get a job and stay in work. They empower individuals to overcome obstacles they face professionally and personally, and to fulfil their life ambitions. Every Tuesday daytime, Tyrone Simpson will be working in our building, meeting with people to help with employment and employability. If you want to contact Tyrone directly for advice or help, please email tyrone.simpson@salvationarmy.org.uk or phone 07548 313 767.

If you see Tyrone around please say hello, it's great to welcome him as part of our team. If you want to find out more about Employment Plus take a look at: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/employment-plus

Prayer Teach In

On Saturday 23rd March, Bath Citadel are having a Prayer Teach-In with Major Gary Lacey at their hall in the upper room between 10am and 4pm. The morning session will start at 10am. Lunch break will be at 12 noon till 2pm. You are invited to bring your lunch or you can eat in the Bath Citadel café. The afternoon session is from 2pm to 4pm. This is a free day. Bath Citadel car park can hold up to 20 cars and if you are intending going and would like to park in the car park please let Majors David or Denise Wise know. The Prayer Boiler Room will also be open on this day.

End of the financial year and Gift Aid

For those who Gift Aid, it is important that the details we hold for you are still current and correct. Please take a moment to read the below regarding Gift Aid and that you let me know if

- You no longer pay income tax
- You no longer pay enough tax for us to reclaim your Gift Aid (You must make sure that you have paid enough income tax to HMRC in the tax year in which you make your donation, at least equal to the amount that we will reclaim)
- Or you would like more information

If you have, or do move house a new form will need to be completed as your current address must be updated to meet HMRC regulations.

Thanks

Jen and I would like to say a big thank you for all the messages and assurances of prayers received since Jen became ill. We have been overwhelmed and are truly, truly grateful to each of you. We would ask for your continued prayers, however.

Les Palfreman

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Sunday 24 th March	Palm Sunday Messy Church
Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th March	Holy Week & Good Friday - see <i>earlier in Bulletin for details</i>
Sunday 31 st March	Easter Sunday Clocks change
Saturday 13 th April	Coffee Morning
Monday 15 th April	Mission Council Meeting
Sunday 21 st April	Messy Church

The Week Ahead

TODAY Sunday 17th March:

10am All Age Worship

Including the enrolment of Karen Parkes and Aston Laity as Senior Solidiers

'Shaped for a Purpose: Using your Shape'

[1 Corinthians 13: 1-7](#)

11.30am-12:15pm Children's & Youth Activities

Monday 17th March:

7pm Pastoral Care Council *in our building*

8pm CAMEO Craft Group

The Week Ahead [Continued]

Tuesday 19th March:

10am	Keep Fit Class
11am-12noon	Extra Slice Group - (leader: Kelvin) – <i>10:30am for coffee</i>
12pm-2:30pm	Open Doors
6:30pm	YP Band Practice
7:15pm	Singing Company Practice
8pm	Senior Band Practice

Wednesday 20th March:

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 21st March:

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	Extra Songster Practice

Friday 22nd March:

10am-12:30pm	Open Doors
4pm	Cleaning Hall

Sunday 24th March: **Palm Sunday**

10am	All Age Worship
11.30am-12:15pm	Children's & Youth Activities
4pm-6pm	Messy Church