

SUNDAY 24th March 2024



Local ...
Lively ...
Loving

The Equinox

On the walk home from the train station this week, I noticed the council workmen out cutting the grass on all the verges around Yate. – a sure sign that Spring has now arrived.

This past week has also seen the spring equinox on the calendar. This is the date when the number of daylight hours matches the number of nighttime hours, when the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere are aligned in the number of daylight hours received. It makes me think of the story of creation in Genesis, when on the very first day God separated light from darkness. In my mind, it would have made no sense to do that in anything other than equal portions – so perhaps the spring equinox also marks the exact anniversary of creation itself!

Spring is a wonderful time of year – full of promise and renewal. We see it in the garden with the spring bulbs in flower and the blossom starting to come into bloom. We hear it in the singing of the birds, and the bleating of little lambs in the field. We feel it in the warmth of the sun, and the lengthening of the days. And we experience it through the Easter story.

Paul Heath

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-By-Pass, Chislehurst BR7 6RR at 2pm. The service can be viewed on line with the following link: <https://watch.obitus.com/hq4k5a>
- 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,
- Terry. Terry's funeral will take place at Westerleigh Crematorium on Tuesday, 26th March at 4.15pm. Please pray for Marlene and their family.

We have also been sad to learn of the passing this week of:

- Aubrey Chappel. Aubrey's funeral will take place at Westerleigh Crematorium on Monday, 15th April at 1pm.
- Tegwydd Jenkins. Our thoughts are with Les (who marked his 90th birthday this week), Hywel, Delyth and their respective families.

At the time of writing, I am not aware of anyone being in hospital, but we remember Emily, Carol, Jen and Peter who are all recovering from stays in hospital, along with those of our fellowship who are experiencing ill health or who are living with long term health conditions.

General Farewell

The list of officer moves was released on Monday, there is a paper copy which is available on Sunday should you be interested.

Easter Playlist

Salvationist Radio have compiled a playlist of worship songs for Easter – it's really good, so why not take a look? Click on this link:

https://www.salvationist.org.uk/articles/salvationist-radios-contemporary-easter-worship?dm_i=7D92,5P5W,109L8F,OUK0,1

Flowers

Paul and Tracey have provided the flowers at the front of the hall today.

Dates for the Diary

Here are some dates that are coming up soon:

Saturday 13 th April	Coffee Morning
Monday 15 th April	Mission Council Meeting
Sunday 21 st April	Messy Church

The Week Ahead



TODAY Sunday 24th March: **Palm Sunday**

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

Tuesday 26th March:

All day	Employment Plus with Tyrone
10am	Fitness Club
12:30pm-2:30pm	Open Doors
7pm	An Evening of Easter Music

Wednesday 27th March:

9:30am-11am	Tots on the Hill
2pm-4pm	Walk Through Easter (drop-in)
7pm-9pm	Walk Through Easter (drop-in)

Thursday 28th March: **Maundy Thursday**

11:15am	Easter Worship (anyone welcome)
12.30pm	Lunch Club
7pm	Fellowship Meal & Reflection - <i>sign-up sheet to book</i>

Friday 29th March: **Good Friday**

No Open Doors today (Slimming World will still be meeting in our building)

10am	Good Friday All Age Worship
11:30am	Outreach in the Square

Sunday 31st March: **Easter Sunday**

Please note: Clocks go forward 1 hour

8:30am	Easter Breakfast - <i>sign-up sheet to book</i>
10am	Easter Sunday All Age Worship

No Children's & Youth Activities today

Please check with your Extra Slice Group leader about when your group is meeting this week.