

Notices for November 2021

Stockwood Free Church

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.45am ON SFC PREMISES AND ON FCC

<https://www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/sfcbristol/viewer>

14th November is, of course, Remembrance Sunday. For the rest of the month, we will finish our series with the theme "What is the church for?" We have had plenty of food for thought so far ...

28th Martin Stephens Advent Sunday

COVID SECURE ARRANGEMENTS

We are constantly trying to strike the right balance between taking the necessary steps to protect one another without becoming unnecessarily paranoid about the whole thing. Each church has to decide what feels right for them. So generally speaking, our arrangements are still:

HANDS - Please sanitise your hands at one of the dispensers as you come into the building.

FACE - Please wear your facemask as you enter and leave and move around the building. We would recommend that you continue to wear it when you sit down (and especially when we sing), but we understand if you feel awkward about this and remove it while you are sitting down (and when eating or drinking of course!)

SPACE - You will see that we have still maintained space between groups of chairs for services and other meetings and we would ask that you avoid "crowding" other people for any length of time. And please be sensitive to one another - we all have our own idea of what constitutes "close"!

We will continue to keep our arrangements under review.

BUILDING SECURITY AND HOUSEKEEPING

We have had one or two lapses of late. The building is now heavily used and so we need to be careful. So please before you leave:

- Turn off all the lights around the building
- Check that taps are turned off in the kitchen and the loos
- Make sure the key safe is closed
- Close the doors carefully (the one to the car park often doesn't lock first time, so please give the handle a good tug to check)!

NEWER & ONE-OFF ITEMS:

SPARE LAPTOP

As part of our ongoing effort to keep our services safe we are opening up the back hall as an overflow venue at least for the first part of the service. We could really do with a decent laptop to facilitate this. Do let Kris Brunt know if you have an unused laptop knocking about anywhere!

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY – SUNDAY 5th DECEMBER

We will fellowship lunch that day bearing in mind the need to keep everyone safe. Please pencil it in your diary and bring a pudding!

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We are going to organise two identical Carol services on **Sunday 19th December** so that we can safely invite family, friends and neighbours to this traditional event. Although there won't be a booking system as such, Clare will need an indication of which service you want to attend. Mandy is also looking for readers for both events – please let her know if this is something you would like to do.

CAROLS-TO-GO - CAN YOU HELP?

We are planning to take our SFC Carol Trailer out and about in Stockwood again this year:

Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd December - 6-8pm each night (weather permitting)

Our support crew needs to consist of:

- 1 Driver (Colin each evening)
- 1 Lead Safety Scout/Marshall (to walk in front)
- 1 Tech person
- 2/3 Sweet Distributors (for the children)!

If you're able to help, please contact Colin & Linda White: email colinpjwhite@gmail.com
Tel: 01275 835708

CONGRATULATIONS!

I am thrilled to be able to tell you that Ema Ghidion, Andrei's and Eugenia's eldest daughter, was married last Sunday, 14th November, to a lovely young Christian man named Ruslan. He is training to be a doctor if my memory serves me right. This is a result of a "whirlwind romance" only this year!

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

I am equally delighted to say that Connie Tipping's request to join the membership of the Free Church was enthusiastically welcomed by the Church meeting last Thursday. We will mark this event formally in a couple of weeks' time.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Ana Bonham - Ana had a stroke this week as a result of a blood clot in her brain. She is hoping to be transferred soon to the Hengrove hospital for rehab. It is still very early days and I will pass on further news when I am more certain of the details. Please pray for Spencer who is largely looking after himself at home.

Lilly Cox (Caswell) - Hot off the press! Lilly is rapidly recovering from her DVT (blood clot) but has been *injecting* blood thinning medication up to now. Her consultant has done some investigation and has come up with a tablet that she can safely take orally from now on. What great news!

Frank Kohler - Please continue to pray for Frank and the family since they have plenty of challenges right now.

Rebecca Mason - Rebecca is very frustrated that she still has little movement in her limbs and is often sick, HOWEVER the doctors are very pleased with the way that she is responding to her leukemia treatment and she is managing to do a bit more with her lower arms and fingers. Praise God!

Doreen Pugsley - Please pray for Doreen and her sons as they start to make preparations for Maurice's funeral which takes place on Tuesday 14th December.

Sandra Wright - It has been decided that she is not fit enough to return to Haberfield House so they are looking for a nursing home for her.

BRI - "Message to my Loved One"

You may not know about this super service which was introduced during the pandemic. If you would like to have a message delivered to someone at the BRI (we don't think they have such a system yet at Southmead), then just log on to the link below and it will explain the very simple process. (The relevant ward numbers are given above)

<http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/contact-us/message-to-my-loved-one/>

WHERE IS LANCE?

Lance and Carol are still very much based at home for the time being. Please feel free to contact Lance on his mobile phone - 0730 6541959 - or by e-mail on lance.c.mason@gmail.com. Note that he is very, very bad at logging into Facebook Messenger on a regular basis!

REGULAR WEEKLY/MONTHLY ITEMS:

SERVICE LINK

You have the option of downloading the video (mp4), audio (mp3) and online (mp4). The online version which was capture from live includes the presentation. ***Remember that you can still tune in to the service each week either at the time or later on, even if you have no computer access***

Sunday 21st November

Video:

Entire Service: <https://fccdl.in/yfhsUXA5Li>

Audio:

Dial: 033 00 88 1945

Access Code: 353390#

Service Ref No: 777#

HOME GROUPS

Mondays: Each week at 7.45pm on Zoom (contact Howard Penney)

Thursdays: Each week at 7.45pm – 83 Stockwood Road (not 18th)

Thursdays: Each week at 7.45pm – November meetings will be at 20 Stockwood Road (not 18th)

TODDLERS

Every Wednesday at 9.30-11.30am

(If enough volunteers can be found, a second session will start on Fridays after Christmas – please speak to Yvonne or Hilary if you think this is something you could help with).

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Each week at 2.30-4pm

MONTHLY PRAYER LIST - NOVEMBER

Fellowship:

Monica Shepherd, Peter & Pat Slee & family, Travis & Donna Speedie & family, Mandy & Martin Stephens & family

Neighbourhood:

Lacey Road, Cogsall Road, Linden Close, Thompson Road, Cornish Road, Cornish Walk, Derricke Road, Swane Road, Matthews Close

LOOKING AHEAD:

December 5th – Church Anniversary and Fellowship Lunch

December 19th – Nativity & Carol Services