

Notices for March 2022

Stockwood Free Church

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.45am ON SFC PREMISES AND ON FCC

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

During this month we will finish our series based on Luke's gospel, looking at some of the major themes of Jesus' ministry.

6 th	Lance Mason (Communion)
13 th	Ted Morse
20 th	Lance Mason
27 th	Martin Stephens

COVID SECURITY UPDATE

As you all know, since we held our first service some 18 months ago, we have worked very hard to keep everyone safe in services while trying to make the experience of being together in church as meaningful as possible. Little by little, as has seemed sensible to us, we have loosened up as we have reviewed the prevailing situation. Over the past few weeks, the local picture has changed a lot for the better and so we are seriously considering whether we might make the wearing of facemasks in services still encouraged but optional - perhaps we might wait just for a few weeks until the weather gets a bit better. We would welcome your thoughts on this. Please let Lance know.

NEWER & ONE-OFF ITEMS:

UKRAINE

Judged by any standards, the Russian invasion of Ukraine is a dark and unbelievably painful tragedy. I am not even going to attempt to stray into areas that I know little or nothing about. However, the question is: "what can I do about it?" So here are three things that I would tentatively suggest:

1. The men of Issachar, as the Bible tells us, "understood the times and knew what Israel should do". Jesus Himself often told us to "watch and pray". This implies a responsibility to be informed. Try, though, to understand that things aren't always as straightforward and simple as they may first appear.
2. And so to prayer. We will all be called to pray in personal ways but I often end up praying for God's grace, peace and mercy at times like this. Families all over that part of Europe, ordinary folk like you and me, are being caught up in an event that is not of their making and are hurting badly. We beg God for His grace, peace and mercy.
3. The other thing that most of us will want is to "do something to help". Gwyn, the vicar at Christ the Servant, via the Romanian church that meets there, is going to offer practical support. You might want to respond to the attached poster that he sent to me at the weekend.

So, in three simple words, what I suggest is that we:

1. Watch
2. Pray
3. Give

MOLDOVA

I am in regular, daily contact with Andrei. The situation is currently very challenging in Moldova. Last Thursday the Government declared a state of emergency. The influx of refugees, many from the Odessa area, will challenge this, the poorest country in Europe. Andrei and Eugenia have already taken in a Ukrainian family with two boys. Their church youth team, led by Ghenadie whom many of you know, went up to the border crossing to help out at the weekend. I am working with TEN to see how we might most quickly and easily help Andrei by getting some money to him if he needs. I will update you as soon as I can.

LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

Last call! We have one vacancy on the Diaconate. This Sunday is the closing date for nominations... and remember that you need to give people time to think about it!

YWAM FUNDRAISER EVENT

A friend of mine, Kyle, who works locally for Youth with a Mission - super organisation! - are holding a fundraiser event on **Friday 25th March**. At the moment they are doing some great work down in the Ashton Vale area. You may want to come along to this event (details attached).

LANCE'S LABOURS

I am putting some thought into our Easter events. Don't we just need to celebrate this most significant time of the Christian calendar properly for the first time in three years?!

WHERE IS LANCE?

Yet again, no great surprise here ... Lance & Carol are still around all month.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Frank Kohler – Thank you so much to everyone who worked so hard to make Monday a wonderful celebration of Frank's life and faith.

Sue Rowe – By now most of you will have heard the very sad news of Sue Rowe's completely unexpected death last Wednesday morning. They are doing a post-mortem, as it was all so sudden, but her daughter Carolyn said that Sue looked very peaceful when she found her. Please pray for Carolyn and Steve, her brother.

Sandra Wright – Please remember Sandra's son, Peter, as we take Sandra's funeral at Canford next Monday morning.

Christine Cowley – Further to my last mailing, I have some good news in that Christine will be treated with medication rather than by fitting a stent.

Rebecca Mason – After well over 5½ months in the BRI, Rebecca is moving on Tuesday to the South Bristol Hospital for rehab. This is yet another sign of God's never-failing goodness and faithfulness. We thank Him.

Connie Tipping – Connie would so love to be with us in person week by week but is really struggling health-wise at the moment.

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 28th February

Video

<https://fccdl.in/oMRxMCiglb>

Audio

Dial: 033 00 88 1945

Access Code: 353390#

Service Ref No: 794#

HOME GROUPS

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

Thursdays: Each week at 7.45pm – 83 Stockwood Road

Thursdays: Each week at 7.45pm – meetings are continuing on Zoom during March

LEADERS' MEETING

Wednesday 2nd at 7.45pm on Zoom

BIBLE MEDITATION

Saturday 5th at 8am on Zoom

PRAYER WALK

Sunday 13th – Meet at Linda & Giovanni's home, 20 Stockwood Road at 4pm to walk around this month's prayer area.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 16th at 4pm on Church premises

AGM

Thursday 17th at 7.45pm on Church premises

FILM EVENING

Remember those?! We will be holding our first return film evening on **Sunday 20th at 6.30 pm**. The title is yet to be decided but you might just want to make a note in your diary to keep the evening free!

TODDLERS

Every Wednesday & Friday from 9.30-11.30am.

They could still do with a bit more help on either day – if you think you could spare some time, please speak to Hilary or Yvonne

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Each week from 2.30-4pm

MONTHLY PRAYER LIST – FEBRUARY

Fellowship:

Ryan Collins, Christine Clothier, Alan & Christine Cowley, Bernard & Christine Crabbe, Barbara Dore

Neighbourhood:

Hollway Road & shops, Hollway Close, Selden Road, Harden Road, Eaton Close, Bluebell Gardens, Haberfield House, Waycroft Academy, Medical Centre, Dentist, Materman Road, Goslett Road, Woolley Road, Battson Road