

Stockwood Free Church

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.45am ON SFC PREMISES AND ON FCC

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

Easter falls in April this year, so this explains the variety of our services:

- 3rd **“The Little Folk”** – Lance will lead the final service in our series based on Luke’s Gospel (Ch18). This will also be an old-style Communion service
- 10th **Palm Sunday** – Ted is going to lead our service this morning, with a procession(!) in the first part of the service
- 17th **Easter Communion at 9am** – Please join us for our popular, early Easter morning, Communion service, this year led by Clare Bidgood
“He is risen!” – Our main Easter Celebration – the first one we have held actually on the premises for three years! – led by Lance
- 24th **“It’s not fair!”** – Over the past couple of years more than a few folk have talked to me [Lance] about their faith struggles, particularly concerning the ever-present challenge of suffering. If you want to explore questions like “Why do bad things happen to good people?” or “Where is God in all of this?”, do join us this morning. Please invite any of your friends who struggle themselves with such questions

MAY SERVICES

Just to whet your appetite, we shall be looking at the prophet Samuel, a true giant of faith, during May.

EASTER EVENTS

As well as the Sunday services we will be arranging a number of other events in the week leading up to and including Easter:

Good Friday – Friday 15th – We have three events in the morning:

9am Breakfast on the church premises

10am Walk of witness from the Church to the shops

11am Open Air service at the shops, led by Travis Speedie

Do join us for these events if you possibly can. The more of us there are, the more impact we make – it’s as simple as that!

2-4pm For the past few years, we have maintained the tradition of a silent time of prayer and meditation on the church premises. This year we might put “Be still and know that I am God” into practice? Feel free to pop in and out at any time during the afternoon.

Easter Sunday – Sunday 17th at 6.30pm on church premises. As well as our worship services outlined above, we will be holding our next Film Night showing the super film “Risen”. Our film evenings are always both encouraging and challenging and this one will be no exception!

It is just possible that we might do one or two other things over the Easter period, but they will be organised on an “ad hoc” basis.

EASTER WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

This Easter we have more opportunities than ever before to explore faith in a variety of ways with children of primary school age. I [Lance] am in Waycroft or Woodlands every single day(!) in the last week of term, either leading assemblies (including all year groups) or unpacking “Easter in a Box” with year 4 classes. Also, on Maundy Thursday, we will be holding our first “Activity Day” for a few years. I am indebted to the wider teams who help to make these events so fun, memorable and effective. Please pray for this work and especially for our advanced preparations which take a lot of time and effort.

NEWER & ONE-OFF ITEMS:

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Sunday 3rd – We are so happy to offer you all the opportunity to stay for a while after our Sunday service. Please bring along a pudding of some sort to share. A contribution to the cost of the meal would be much appreciated. I am sure that no-one will argue if we give any profit to our ongoing support for Ukraine!

A SILENT VIGIL FOR UKRAINE

Sunday 3rd from 2– 4pm, College Green, Bristol

- A time to stand with those who are suffering
- A time to mourn with the bereaved
- A time to register a protest
- A time to hope



Please come along and sit/stand/kneel and show your support for the people of Ukraine. 10 minutes or 2 hours - please join us.

Churches Together For Bristol

SUE ROWE'S FUNERAL (and Joint Celebration)

Wednesday 6th

There will be a formal committal at South Bristol Crematorium at 12.45pm followed by a joint (not very long!) service of celebration for both Sue and John back at the church at 2.30pm (and tea afterwards of course). You are all very welcome to join these special events.

MOLDOVA

Lance and Carol had the chance to have an extended video call with Andrei and Eugenia in Burlacu last Thursday. Our conversation was very wide-ranging. Generally, they are more positive about the situation in Ukraine than they were a couple of weeks ago and have said that TEN has already got some money through to them to help support refugees in the local area. However, prices are rising even faster in Moldova than they are here in the UK. Emma and her new husband are getting along really well in Chisinau. Livica, also studying in Chisinau, is talking about getting married in July at the tender age of 18. Adrian and Adriana are now at college in Cahul during the week, leaving a very quiet home in Burlacu. Andrei and Eugenia are working very hard in local schools, for 4 and 5 days each week respectively. They send their love and thanks to all of us and ask us to continue praying for their ministry.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Pauline Kelly's daughter, Kate - She has been very unwell as a result of a serious operation she had a while back and now most of her family has contracted covid. They have had a really tough few years so please pray for them all to know God's peace.

Ann Lewendon - Ann tripped badly down her stairs last week but is recovering at home.

Rebecca Mason - Last week she managed to walk a bit without her Zimmer although she still needs a siderail or an arm to lean on if necessary. The priority for her is now to do her exercises even when the physiotherapists aren't there! As I write she has just had another bone marrow biopsy - I'll spare you the details of how they do this - to see how she is getting on with her leukemia treatment. We remain ever thankful to God and to you for your prayers and constant support for us as a family.

Connie Tipping - Most of you will have heard that Connie is in the BRI with a serious infection. She has also got covid but mercifully has no symptoms of this at all. However, this means that she has been moved to a covid ward and her son Darell is not allowed to visit. This is very hard on the two of them. I told Darell that we would pray.

LANCE'S LABOURS

It is no surprise that he will be focusing on Easter events. As soon as the dust has settled, he will start to give his attention to the Queen's Jubilee weekend.

WHERE IS LANCE

Carol and I should be around again all through April (but are now beginning to think seriously about a few days away at some stage later in the year!)

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 27th March

Video

<https://fccdl.in/4qo8e2hVfU>

Audio

Dial: 033 00 88 1945

Access Code: 353390#

Service Ref No: 800#

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 April

MONTHLY BIBLE MEDITATION

Saturday 2nd at 8am on Zoom

PRAYER WALK

Sunday 10th – Meet at Lance & Carol's home, 7 Cogsall Road at 4pm to walk around this month's prayer area.

LEADERS MEETING

Monday 11th at 7.45pm

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 13th at 4pm on SFC Premises

CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

Saturday 30th – listen out for more details

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 – APRIL

Fellowship:

Ian & Carol Ferris & family, Brian Greenroyd & Hazel, Clive and Winifred Harris, Angeline Hawkins & family, Andrew & Tina Hounsom, Brian & Louise Howarth, Denise Jeffery

Neighbourhood:

Holsom Road, Holsom Close, Warman Road, Warman Close, Stockwood Lane, The Concorde, Garage, Community Centre, Lansdown Park School, Curious Hedgehogs Nursery

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHURCH OUTING

We are off to Weymouth (of course) on Saturday **16th July**. Steve Birch and his coach are booked!