

Notices for April/May 2022

## Stockwood Free Church

### **SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.45am ON SFC PREMISES AND ON FCC**

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

May 1<sup>st</sup> Ted Morse (includes Communion)

### **NEWER & ONE-OFF ITEMS:**

#### **CHURCH SPRING CLEAN**

Yvonne is going to open up at 9am this Saturday (30<sup>th</sup> April). Please join us any time after then and pitch in! This is always a great fun event. If you prefer to do your pitching in beforehand, there is a notice in the main church beside the side door that lists what needs to be done! Thank you all in advance.

#### **UKRAINE – HOST FAMILIES**

I have been in contact with one of my friends who works closely with Bristol City Council. He has sent me a few bullet points:

- Through the Government's Home for Ukraine scheme, and some great work in Poland by a team from local charity Love Bristol, a significant number of refugees have now been matched with hosts living in Bristol
- As of the end of this past week around 200 refugees had been successfully matched, and are now starting to arrive in the city
- It is expected this number may rise to 500 to 600 over the coming weeks
- Churches across the city have come together to create a network of 'Welcome Hubs', ten in all. Bristol City Council are commissioning these Hubs, supported by local charities Bridges for Communities and Bristol Hospitality Network
- Each Hub will support refugees from up to 10 hosts, and create a safe space to gather once a week, with a meal, and support provided across a range of issues
- More Hubs will be created as the need arises
- This is a unique multi-agency / multi-sector collaborative effort, with church at the heart of it.

Carol and I are simply not in a position to be able to host a Ukrainian family right now – we have our hands very full as you are aware – but for those who have been thinking about it, now would be a great time to register your interest knowing that there is a strong and supportive partnership between the council and local churches. Please let me know if you want to go ahead. I can make links with the council, our local health centre and schools as my contribution to the effort. [Lance]

#### **UKRAINE – OTHER NEWS**

We have agreed to send another gift of £600, this time to BMS who have good contacts with Baptist Churches in Ukraine and in Poland. For those who want to get more involved you might be interested in any of these pieces of up-to-date information that have been sent to me from an extremely reliable source:

1. **For all those who are interested in or in need of clarification regarding the Bristol response to Ukrainian refugees**, Christian Action Bristol has created a blogpost with information regarding the general situation, matching, volunteering, the initiative of Church Welcome Hubs across Bristol, and sources for support. In order to limit misinformation and increase engagement and volunteering, **we would ask you please distribute the page among your congregation or people that approach you with questions:** <https://www.christianactionbristol.org.uk/ukraineresponsebristol/>

2. **LoveBristol** is currently doing great work at the Polish-Ukrainian border. One of their main tasks is informing refugees about the visa process if they want to come to the UK, helping them with forms, matching them with hosts, and ensuring their accommodation and transport are organised. **They are looking for volunteers to join them, who can commit to one week, and who are emotionally and physically resilient.** It is an incredibly hard, but very rewarding experience. If you know of anyone who may be interested in helping, or someone suitable you can reach out to, you can find more information on the opportunity here: <https://www.christianactionbristol.org.uk/news/love-from-bristol-to-ukraine>
3. **Bristol City Council** will be partnering with local charity **Refugee Welcome Homes** in offering training for hosts city-wide. The training will be offered from mid-May until mid-July on Thursday evenings. **We are currently looking for people willing to be Zoom facilitators for this training.** The individuals would be given plenty of instruction beforehand but should be happy to bring together people in a conversation. We are looking for people to commit to every Thursday evening for this time period. Expenses will be paid. If interested, please email [stefania.knecht@goodfaith.org.uk](mailto:stefania.knecht@goodfaith.org.uk)

## HONG KONG REFUGEES

Of course, there is an ongoing stream of refugees coming here from Hong Kong. Sam has already forwarded to you an invitation to a city-wide event on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

## FREE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING TRAINING FROM THRIVE BRISTOL

Thrive Bristol is pleased to offer free training to staff and volunteers in the VCSE sector in Bristol. I (Lance) have already attended my first event (all about financial issues) which was very good indeed. A range of courses is available, covering mental health awareness, psychological wellbeing tools, trauma-informed approaches, suicide intervention, and financial issues and wellbeing. Places can be booked here: [Thrive Bristol Events | Eventbrite](#). This programme has been funded by the ICE and South Bristol Integrated Care Partnerships and Public Health.

## FELLOWSHIP NEWS

**Abi Clements & Tommy Dyer** – Please remember to pray for them as they prepare for their wedding on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

**Elaine Clements** – For those who missed this, Elaine's Mum died during the week before Easter.

**Tina Hounsom** – And, in a similar vein, Tina's mother-in-law died on Easter Saturday.

**Rebecca Mason** – Rebecca has now been home for a little over 3 weeks. She is now down to twice-a-week arsenic injections. She is getting on OK with her Zimmer frame.

## MAY CALENDAR

Please note that we will go for publication very early next week!

## 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 captured 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 17<sup>th</sup> April**

**Video** – Easter Sunday  
<https://fccdl.in/OGLpy3slmL>

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

**Video** – please note there are some sound issues at the start of the service, but it does settle down  
<https://fccdl.in/irvJTAqVUr>

## **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

## **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 **16<sup>th</sup> July**. Steve Birch and his coach are booked!