

Notices for May 2022

Stockwood Free Church

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.45am ON SFC PREMISES AND ON FCC

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

This month we are studying the life of the prophet Samuel:

8 th	Lance Mason	Leadership (Samuel the Judge)	1 Samuel 7
15 th	Ed Lawrance	Courage (Saul's reign)	1 Samuel 8-15
22 nd	Ted Morse	Discernment (David anointed)	1 Samuel 16 1-13
29 th	Peter Slee	A return visit from Peter on a topic of his choice	

NEWER & ONE-OFF ITEMS:

CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

A huge thank you to all those who turned up for our annual spring-clean of the premises last Saturday. It was a really fun time to boot! [Perhaps we will see a few more new faces next year]?! Speaking of which...

OLD SONG BOOKS

In the process we unearthed loads of word-only copies of Spring Harvest 1994 and Mission Praise - doesn't this one bring back memories? If you can use them, please take them fairly soon from behind the pulpit, otherwise we will send them away to be recycled.

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

This week (3rd to 7th May) you can see this show at the Hippodrome. More information and tickets can be found at: <https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/the-lion-the-witch-and-the-wardrobe/bristol-hippodrome/>

A helpful resource pack about the production can be downloaded here:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5fa94646815eb50f4e3e0915/t/615ead725b54214698fb9c87/1633594746348/LWW+Learning+Resource+Pack_FINAL.pdf

This has been at Wimbledon Theatre recently. It was a spectacular musical production and would be greatly enjoyed by adults and children aged 6+ alike.

CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETING

We have a church members' meeting on **Thursday 19th May**. Over the past couple of years we have been forced to put many of our plans on the back burner. Do join us as we consider some medium to longer term challenges.

WEDDING OF ABI & TOMMY

We are thrilled that this lovely young couple are to be married at the Free Church on **Saturday 21st May at 12.30pm**. Please pray for them both.

FILM NIGHT

This month's film, to be shown on **Sunday 22nd May at 6.30pm**, is to be "The Hiding Place" which, as most of you will know, is an extremely good film.

WEDDING OF LETICIA & RYAN

And the following **Saturday 28th May**, Leticia and Ryan are to be married at Hillfields Church. Again, please pray for them.

UKRAINE

We have just sent off another £600, this time to BMS who have good links with Baptist Churches in Ukraine and Poland. Please refer to earlier newsletters which outline further ways in which you can help if you wish.

MOLDOVA

Things go up and down. Andrei's view of things fluctuates almost daily. However, a few days ago I received the following message from Vasile Grigorita, a pastor in Brinza (about an hour south of Burlacu) ...

I write to you about the current situation related to the war in Ukraine and the situation in Moldova. Things are not going well at all. The Russian army in the meantime withdrew from the northern region of Ukraine but began a strong offensive in South Eastern Ukraine, very close to us. The situation is very tense in Moldova because of the provocateurs in Transnistria, recently someone attacked the headquarters of an administrative institution in Transnistria, it was an attack with grenade launchers, a reason for Transnistria to accuse Moldova of attacking it so that the Russian army could intervene to defend the Transnistrian citizens who mostly have Russian citizenship. I call you to pray with us especially these days for Moldova. We pray that peace will be preserved in our country and that God will stop the war in Ukraine. Please pass this information on.

The situation in Moldova, particularly in the breakaway republic of Transnistria, is tense. Many Ukrainians choose to flee to Moldova as so many people there speak Russian. The President, Maia Sandu, is doing a really great job at walking a difficult tightrope. I will update you as and when things change.

BAPTISM

We are looking forward to holding a service of believer's baptism soon, probably sometime in June. If any of you have not been baptised (by full immersion), I would encourage you to give it some thought and talk to me if you would like to consider this important step of witness and obedience. [Lance]

MEMBERSHIP

On a related note, if you have been with us for a little while and would like to consider church membership, again have a word with me. I see this very much as a way of our committing more deeply to one another. [Lance]

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT TEN

I am regularly sent information about job vacancies. The latest one is for a Finance Administrator at TEN. Look at the following link for more information: www.ten-uk.org/vacancies

WHEELCHAIR

Does anyone have a use for a wheelchair in very good condition? If so, please talk to me [Lance].

LANCE'S LABOURS

If you look through the long list of upcoming events, you can see that I will have a lot of planning to do. In addition, there are many occasions when I am engaged in a variety of activities in local schools. There won't be much spare time as a result!

WHERE IS LANCE?

For the first time in ages, we are going to try to get some time away as a family, probably from Thursday 26th May to Thursday 2nd June.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Elaine Clements – Her Mum's funeral will be on Monday 9th May

Dick Croucher – Dick, known to many of you, died at the end of last week. Ted will take his funeral on Thursday 19th May

Tina Hounsom – At almost the same time on Thursday 19th May Lance will be leading the funeral for Tina's Mother-in-Law

Rebecca Mason – Rebecca is beginning to move around at home using just a stick now. We are so thankful to God for His ongoing healing in her life

Bethany Nall & Rob Head – Remember that they are getting married at the Free Church on Saturday 18th June

Dave Reeve – Did I say that his knee operation is now finally scheduled for early July?

Please let us know if you ever want anyone included in this list. Good news is always very gratefully received!

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 1st May **Video**

Due to technical difficulties, there is no recording this week

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 May

LEADERS MEETING

Wednesday 4th at 7.45pm

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 11th at 4pm on SFC Premises

MEMBERS' MEETING

Thursday 19th at 7.45pm on SFC Premises

PRAYER WALK

Sunday 15th – Meet by Sturminster Road shops at 4.15pm, to walk around this month's prayer area.

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 – MAY

Fellowship:

Barbara & Geoff Jones, Roger Jones, Pauline Kelly, Sylvia & Joanne Langley, Edwin, Jasmine & Shaun Lawrance, Ann Lewendon

Neighbourhood:

Robin Close, Sturminster Close and the shops between them, Lanesborough Rise, Roundmoor Gardens, Amercombe Walk, Hencliffe Road, Morden Walk, Fontmell Court, Longreach Grove, Sturminster Road between these roads, Sturminster Community Centre

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUBILEE WEEKEND

Plans are in place for three "official" church events so far:

- Friday 3rd June** A games and barbecue session for youngsters in the Cottle Road Park in the afternoon
- Saturday 4th June** 2-4.30pm – A Tea Dance on our premises – including learning the "Platinum Waltz"!
- Sunday 5th June** A service of celebration in the morning – it's Pentecost as well that day! (This leaves the rest of the day for street parties)

More details will follow as soon as things are a bit more firmed up.

CHURCH OUTING

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