



Welcome to Stoke Green Baptist Church

'The Church on The Green'

www.stokegreenbaptist.org.uk

Notice sheet for week commencing Sunday 7th January 2018

A happy new year to all, and a very warm welcome to our service this morning. If you're visiting or if it's your first time here, we do hope that you will enjoy your time with us as we gather to worship.

What's Happening Today

This morning's service is being led by our moderator Rev Jon Bates

Our readings today are as follows:

Psalm 19:1-6 (pg 552), Isaiah 40:25-31 (pg 726), and Rev 21:1-5 (pg 1249)

After a time of all age worship there will be an opportunity for our younger folk including any visitors to go out to their own groups.

Crèche for children under 3 years old

Bubbles for children over 3 up to School Year 1

Splash! & **XSTREAM** for School Years 2 to 5

 for school Year 6 and above

If you'd like to give flowers on any particular dates in 2018 then please add your name to the calendar which is now in the front porch.

Jeannie Barker will be pleased to help you if requested.



Please do join us in the Loaves and Fishes area in the halls complex behind the church for light refreshments and a chat after the service.



For best results please sit in the rear half of the church and set your aid to T

Evening Prayers and Communion in the L&F's at 18:30 led by Roly Elliston

Text of the Week

... but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31[NIV]

Prayer and Healing Team:

If you have an illness, or other problem and would like to talk to somebody, we have people who would be happy to have a chat and perhaps pray with you. If you'd like to do this, please speak to Roly or one of our stewards after the service.

How To Catch Up With Past Sermons:

- **Printed transcript:** Sorry, there are no sermons available in printed format at the moment.
- **Electronic copy:** Please speak to Di if you wish to be included on the email distribution list.
- **Stream or Download:** Using the links from our website www.stokegreenbaptist.org.uk

What's On At SG This Week:

Please pray for the activities and meetings taking place this week

Mon 8th	No Meetings today	
Tues 9th	Welcome Break - Social group for the over 50's	10:00-11:30
	Lunch Break - Open to all for a Lite Bite or a full midday meal	11:30-13:00
	Women's Fellowship	14:30
	Deacons meet ministerial candidate (see Interregnum Update below)	19:30
Wed 10th	Ladies Keep Fit	09:30
	Home groups meet as arranged	
Thu 11th	Home groups meet as arranged (Not Brian and Mary's)	
Fri 12th	Jelly Tots - Group for parents/carers & pre-school children	08:45
Sat 13th	Prayer Breakfast – All welcome (Lasts about an hour)	08:00
Sun 14th	Morning Worship – Led by our church secretary Michael Clark	10:30

Details of activities, future events, things of interest, and events farther afield are posted on the main notice board by the door in the L&Fs.

Wanted For Messy Church

- Bottle tops from sports drink/mineral water bottles (the pull up type).
- Unwanted CDs/DVDs
- Boxes of all sizes, **especially those smaller than a tissue box** (but please keep them until nearer the 27th Jan Messy date).
- Long cardboard tubes. eg. the sort Christmas paper is wrapped around.

Could you please let Karen or Joyce have any of the above. Thanks, Joyce

Deacons Election

Voting forms for the election of Deacons will be available from Michael next Sunday the 14th Jan.

BMS Birthday Scheme

Many happy returns to Jeanette Storton who celebrates her birthday this week.

Next Week's Notice Sheet: Please let me have anything you want included in next Sunday's notice sheet by **Thursday evening**. Many thanks. Steve.

Interregnum Update

The deacons will be meeting another potential candidate for the ministry here at SG on Tuesday the 9th Jan at 19:30. Please pray for clarity and discernment during this meeting and that God's will for His church here will be made clear both to the candidate and to the deacons.

Day of Prayer

We are holding a day of prayer on **Thursday 25th January**. Please see letter overleaf.

John Gale's Funeral

There will be a service of thanksgiving for John's life at 12:30 on Thurs 1st Feb here at Stoke Green. Committal is at Seven Hills at 11:15.

After Service Refreshments – Help

We need another group of three people to serve the refreshments after morning services. This would be on a fortnightly basis. If you can help in this way then please speak to Wendy. Many thanks

A Letter from Jon Bates, our Moderator

Dear Friends,

During 2017 the Deacons and I were reminded of the privilege, power and purpose of prayer. The Devil's greatest fear is that God's people should take this weapon of prayer seriously today and apply it confidently to their lives.

The Deacons and I want to encourage you all in this year of 2018 to increase your efforts in prayer in particular corporate prayer. The spiritual dynamic of brothers and sisters, uniting to cry out to the Lord together, is so often underestimated in our busy lives.

With this in mind we are planning to call everyone to a **Day of Prayer** on **Thursday 25th January**. Jan and I will lead most of the sessions. Our aim is to engage with as many in the congregation as possible by opening the church for four sessions during the day.

Prayer times will be:- 8.30-10.00 am; 12.00-2.00 pm; 4.00-5.00 pm.

We will complete the day with **Praise & Celebration in the evening from 7.30 - 9.00pm**, when we will hear what God has been saying to us.

Our focus for the day will be:

- Seeking God's new vision and direction for Stoke Green Baptist Church
- Seeking His choice for our new minister
- Seeking His wisdom for Part-time help with Youth & Children's work

At each session there will be a book for people to record what they feel God has said to them.

There will be a leader present but we will not impose a structure. People will be encouraged to come in and leave as their schedules allow. We will expect people to be free to pray quietly, or out loud, or as they feel led by the Spirit. We are God's people, meeting in His presence, expecting His intervention and blessing.

Finally, we hope everyone will come but particularly those of you who do not normally attend corporate prayer meetings. Be assured that simply your presence will make a difference we also want the children to know that they will be welcomed to be with us.

Looking forward to seeing you on 25th

Your Moderator *Jon*