


Dear friends of Southcourt Baptist Church,

Welcome to our monthly news email for Southcourt Baptist Church!




Church Calendar

| Date | Time | Event | Details |
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| All Sundays in October | 10.30am | Sunday Service in the building | <p>Sunday services continue to be in person in the building although if you are at home you can still join us via Youtube.</p> <p>Please join us via the YouTube link Southcourt Baptist Church</p> <p>or via the website https://southcourtbaptist.org.uk/</p> <p>- just click on  when you are on the website</p> <p>We still recommend that we wear masks although we can take off our masks once we are sat down. When singing we are still saying that we need to put on our masks at this point due to the continuing rise in the number of Covid cases. Please continue to bring your own refreshments until we consider that it's safe enough to start our own. These guidelines will be reviewed on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Please note that it might be breezy as we would like to keep doors/windows open to maintain good ventilation.</p> <p>Children & young people's work is now underway although the Sunday youth and Little Lifekidz children will be starting off in the church initially to join us in worship.</p> |
| All Mondays and Fridays in October except October 4th (closed for a | 9am to 12.30 pm | Bridge the Gap | <p>A big welcome to Kim Hyland who has just started working for us as the BTG Administrator to help with grant applications and other administration.</p> <p>Please ring or email the office first if you are able to donate food to the church or would like to help in other ways. Please also contact the church office if you are struggling and would appreciate some food. If you can donate, here is our current list of stock needed : <i>Washing up Liquid, Baby Wipes, Coffee, Sugar, Fruit Juice, Crackers, Custard,</i></p> |

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| funeral) | | | <i>Smooth Peanut Butter, Packet Noodles, Biscuits/Chocolate Bars, Pasta Sauces, Tinned sardines/meat, Toilet Rolls.</i> |
| All Mondays and Fridays in October except October 4th, 25th and 29th (half term) | 9.30am to 12.30pm | Bertha's cafe | Good drinks, good cakes, everyone Welcome. The place to be on a Monday or Friday morning! Note that the second Friday of every month will now include a Games morning. So for this month, it will be October 8th. |
| Tuesday October 5th | 2 to 3.30pm | Tea Break | Come and join us for our monthly afternoon tea. You are very welcome to come for the whole time or just pop in for a shorter time. It will be a time to chill and enjoy a chat, read a magazine, do a jigsaw or a board game. We will be serving tea, coffee and cake. This will be in the Jubilee Hall. Jeanette Hulcoop and Jean Finn |
| All Tuesdays in October except October 26th (half term) | 7 to 9pm | Ignite Youth Group | Ignite is our weekly youth group for young people in school years 7-13 meeting in the hut. We like to spend time hanging out together, playing a few games and discussing questions about life, God, the Bible and the Christian faith. |
| All Wednesdays in October except October 27th (half term) | 10 to 11am | The Ark | The Ark provides an opportunity for parents and carers to share and relax together whilst the children enjoy games, craft, singing and stories. We are pleased to say we will be able to offer refreshments during the morning. This will NOT be self service, but ordered from our cafe area. We will be offering tea/coffee/squash/water and biscuits. This is a term time only gathering in the main church hall. Free admission, but we are currently following social distancing guidelines. For more information, please email lain@southcourt.org |
| All Wednesdays in October except October 27th | 9.45 to 11.15am | Yada | Meeting in the upstairs lounge, this is for women to gather together, read the Bible, pray together and just support one another in real life. If you would like more information, please contact Joy B - joy.barnes2@btinternet.com |

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| (half term) | | | |
| All Wednesdays in October except October 20th (AGM) and October 27th (half term) | 7-8.30pm | Open House | A lifegroup for young adults (school leavers and those in years 11+) meeting weekly to explore faith, read the bible and pray together. Please contact Matt Burrige for more information (matt@southcourt.org) |
| All Mondays in October except 4th and 25th (half term) | 9.30 to 10.30am | English Conversation | Would you like to improve your spoken English? If so, join us in school term time at Bertha's cafe for friendly conversation. For more information email engconv@southcourt.org |
| All Fridays | Flexible! | Friday Prayer Group | Although the title is <i>Friday prayer group</i> we know that many use the prayer suggestions at a time which is convenient to their week. The suggestions are available on Wednesdays for hard copies to be posted to friends and then are emailed to the team on Thursday evenings. If you would like to join the team email Friday.prayers@southcourt.org or contact the Church Office if you are not on email. Tim and Jean Howlett. Carl Brettle from the Neighbourhood Prayer Network says: " <i>Prayer has such an investment in life</i> " and he continues with this statement by saying "Prayer launches everything". (from Faith in Later Life Conference September 2021) |
| Wednesday October 20th | 7.30 to 9.30pm | Annual General Meeting | All are welcome to come along to celebrate what God has been doing over the last seven months since the last AGM (which had been postponed from the previous year). |
| Saturday October 30th | 6 to 8pm | Bertha's Cafe host a Board Games evening | All are welcome to come along which will be held in the main church. An opportunity to get together as a community and have fun. |

Covid and other church admin


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| Test and Trace Covid 19 App | When visiting the church, if you can, please continue to “check-in” via the App. The QR code is on the side, Jubilee Hall and front doors. |
| Coronavirus advice | In case you've missed the latest advice, here's a link to the government site Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance and support . Most restrictions have been lifted across the country although individual venues, public transport, workplaces etc are keeping their own controls where applicable. We have a supply of lateral flow testing kits in the office so please ask Liz if you need/want one. There will be a supply available on Sunday mornings too. |
| Access to the office | Please note that all essential visitors to the office must wear face-masks although in meetings and whilst sitting down you are welcome to remove them. |
| Access to the building | If you are a volunteer or heading up a particular group, please ensure that you sign in and out at the desk at the bottom of the office stairs. This is for fire procedure purposes. Please also wear a mask and keep a 2m distance from anyone else in the building whilst walking around. |
| New Toilets project | We now have toilets in the main church.  Thanks to Graham and the team for all their hard work. The new elevated tech desk should be finished within the next week or so. |
| Exit Gate | The new fence is now up meaning that the exit lane and gate are now accessible. Please use it on the way out on a Sunday morning. |

Getting Involved

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| Volunteering | We would love more volunteers to get involved on a Sunday morning or at other times during the week. There are vacancies for Stewards, Refreshments (when we start having them), Little Lifekidz, Lifekidz and Youth work volunteers. In addition, now that the room bookings are starting to pick up again, if you can help in any way, such as tech, unlocking or locking up, or just being in the building at the time, I would be so grateful. Just grab one of the stewards on a Sunday morning to ask for more details or to sign up for a monthly team. |
| Prayer | If you would like to be able to send out prayer requests to our people and also to receive requests to pray for, please let Liz know and she can add you to the mailing list - prayer@southcourt.org . |

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| Lifegroups | If you are not already part of a small group, which is where we do real life together and support each other as church, please contact liz@southcourt.org or ring the church office for more information. |
| Mark on Finances | <p>I want to thank you for your continued support towards the work of God here at Southcourt Baptist Church.</p> <p>If you are new to the church and wonder how you can get involved financially, we have a donate page on our website which tells you how you can give which includes a new 'Donate' button to make it even easier. If you wish to give regularly to the church please set up a standing order. All the details you need to donate to the work of the church, whether as a one off or a regular donation, can be found at Donate. If you have any questions about the church finances please feel free to contact me at mark@southcourt.org.</p> |

Inspiration

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| Music choice | <p>This is an opportunity to share a single piece of music from any genre that's had a significant impact on us. I would love to hear from you so that I can share from across the church community. Another way of helping us remember that we are one.</p> <p>This month it's from Iain Nash: <i>"Those of you who know me well will know I have a very eclectic music taste. Folk music is one of my favourite genres and Ralph McTell is one of my absolute musical heroes, perhaps it is because he is a guitarist, but more than that he is a wonderful English song-writer whose songs are beautiful, poetic and reflective. Barges is no exception. This is a song about a summer's walk along the canal with his brother and as they walk, McTell describes what he sees. There is something magical about the simple life he describes. This song has helped me a lot as I have taken walks this summer, reflecting and marvelling at God's gorgeous creation and has helped me escape the chaos of everyday life. As you listen, I really hope this song helps you to be still and reflect in the same way it has for me"</i>.</p> <p> Barges</p> |
| Quote | <i>"Christ prayed that all people might become One as He is One with His Father, in the Unity of the Holy Spirit. Therefore when you and I become what we are really meant to be, we will discover not only that we love another perfectly but that we are both living in Christ and Christ in us, and we are all One Christ."</i> Thomas Merton |
| Good News | The good news for October has to be that our premises are now being fully used again after such a long break. Room bookings such as Bucks Council, Slimming World, Potter's House church, Winslow Activity Club and others are now in the building as well as our own events such as Tea Break, Youth groups, Bertha's and others. It's so wonderful to see so much life in the place again. |
| Prayer Resource | Since we are only producing a monthly email, we have changed the prayer resource to be the monthly prayer diary from the Baptist Union. Please click on this link for the October diary. https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/618897/BU_Prayer_Diary.aspx |

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| Creation Care Tip | The big Tesco's on the Bicester road now has a crate just inside the entrance on the left hand side to recycle soft plastics (that can't go into our normal plastic recycling) like crisp packets, cling film, plastic bags etc. This means that we no longer need to collect crisp packets in the church office but we can all take our recycling to Tesco's. However, if this is a problem, please continue to bring crisp packets to church and Liz will take them. |
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Church Contact Information

| Name | Area of work | Email |
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| James Henson | Youth and Central Leadership Team (CLT) | james@southcourt.org |
| Lou Clarke | Bridge the Gap, Pastoral Care & CLT | lou@southcourt.org |
| David Graham | Lead Pastor | david@southcourt.org |
| Liz Zealey | Operations/Office & CLT | liz@southcourt.org |
| Iain Nash | Children, Pre-school and CLT | iain@southcourt.org |
| Michelle Geering | Little Lifekidz, Bertha's cafe and CLT | michelleg@southcourt.org |
| Graham Clarke | Buildings, CLT and BTG Leader | graham@southcourt.org |
| Jenny Rogers | CLT | jenny@southcourt.org - on sabbatical for the autumn term. |
| Mark Rogers | CLT, Finance Vision Leader, Health and Safety, Sunday tech, Safeguarding | mark@southcourt.org |
| Viv B | Finance Admin | sbcfinance@southcourt.org |
| Chris B | CLT | chris@southcourt.org |
| Matt B | Young Adults and Open House | matt@southcourt.org |
| Tim and Jean H | Friday Prayers | friday.prayers@southcourt.org |
| Church office | Church administration | office@southcourt.org or ring 01296 480080 |

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| Howard James | English Conversation | engconv@southcourt.org |
| Treehouse Pre-school | | rachel.neal@thetreehousepre-school.org or ring 01296 434541 |
| Website | | https://www.southcourtbaptist.org.uk/index.html |
| Twitter Account | | Click here Southcourt Baptist (@SouthcourtBC) for a link to our account. Our username is @SouthcourtBC. |
| Facebook groups/pages | | https://www.facebook.com/southcourtbaptistchurch https://www.facebook.com/groups/bridgethegapaylesbury https://www.facebook.com/BerthasSBC https://www.facebook.com/groups/messychurchaylesbury For SBC Children and SBC Youth, you will need to contact Iain or James. |
| Global Mission | | Contact Lydia, Our Global Links Coordinator at gmission@southcourt.org . |
| Aylesbury Churches | | If you would like to get any emails that we receive into the office, please let me know and I will add you to the list. |
| Baptist Union | | If you would like to get any emails that we receive into the office, please let me know and I will add you to the list. |

The next news email will be produced on **October 27th** for the month of November.

Blessings and peace to you all,

