

BUL LET IN



Worshipping Jesus
Growing Together
Reaching Others

JAN 2019

Weekly Service Times

Sundays

Sunday	9:00am	Traditional Service
	10:30am	Informal Worship
	6:30pm	Open to God or Evening Prayer

Weekdays

Monday	8:00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	8:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	9:30am	Communion
Thursday	8:00am	Morning Prayer
Friday	8:00am	Morning Prayer

For more information on items mentioned in
this bulletin please go to our website
www.ststephens-ealing.org

A Welcome Note from the Vicar



Happy New Year!

Welcome to St Stephens – we are delighted that you are here today. As we begin a new year and a new decade there is a full programme of activities at St Stephen's. As you read the Bulletin you will see details of some of the key events and we hope you will join us.

St Stephen's has existed as a church for many years and in different locations. We may have been around for a long time but we strive to ensure that we are a fresh and welcoming community where everyone is made welcome and everyone knows that they matter, both to us and to God.

You will find St Stephen's alive with vibrant worship, intimate prayer and growing friendships. We value both the traditional and contemporary and you will find that our different services reflect a variety of ways of worship. Our desire however is that whatever the style, as people meet together they encounter the presence of our living God.

As a Christian community we are committed to following and trying to live like Jesus. We look for ways to love and serve each other and our wider community and seek to provide for those who are often forgotten by society at large.

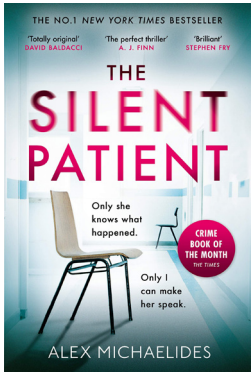
We hope you will find a spiritual home at St Stephen's and find your place in this community as we seek together to discover more of God's love for his people.

Steve Neubold

Notices

First Tuesday Prayers and Praise at 8pm

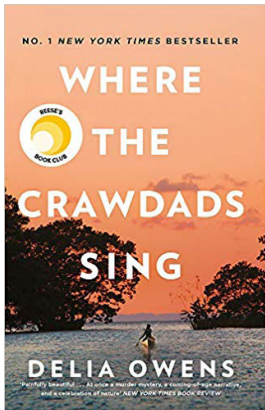
Come along to Pray and Praise with us on Tuesday **7 January** as we pray for the mission of our church and what God has to say to us.



Book Club

Here are the next two books we will be discussing at Book Club. On **Wednesday 8 January** we will discuss 'The Silent Patient' by Alex Michaelides - A best selling Crime/Thriller.

On **Wednesday 12 February** we will discuss a 'heartbreaking coming-of-age' story 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens.



The Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month (apart from August) and is open to everyone. There is no obligation to come each month and we usually

have light refreshments and cake.
If you would like any further information
please contact Morgen Edwards in the
church office via email
admin@ststephens-ealing.org.

New Year's Party

9.30-00.30

Be a 2020 vision- so glam up your glasses and dust off your dancing shoes! Bring a bottle(s), finger food, your family and friends. Queries to Caroline Jamieson on 02088401971

Whole Life Worship

As we begin a New Year we are starting a new sermon series on Sunday mornings. We will be looking at what it is for our whole lives to be offered back to God whether at home, work, with friends or at church. The themes are:

12th Jan Worshipping engages our whole lives & offers us fresh insight

19th Jan Worshipping transforms our ordinary actions

26th Jan Worshipping inspires our ordinary speech

2nd Feb Worshipping focuses on Jesus

9th Feb Worshipping focuses our hearts

16th Feb Worshipping – our response

23rd Feb Worshipping at St Stephen's



Friday Jan 24th

from 7pm for a 7.30pm prompt Quiz start. Tickets for the quiz are £10 each (includes nibbles and cake). You can buy them on Sundays at church or reserve on our website. Bring your own drinks. Why not organise a table?

All profits will go to Tearfund

St David's Home

Epiphany Hymns of Praise on **Sun 12 Jan.**
Starts at 3pm contact Sally Horattides
8840 6047 or Pete Devereux 8579 7884.

Reuse/Recycle

If you have jam jars or pudding basins you no longer want, please leave on the pigeon holes opposite the office door for Sue Charlton. Marmalading begins this month and jars are needed! Recycle used stamps, empty ink cartridges, old mobiles & broken jewellery in the same place. These will all be sent for guaranteed professional recycling and make money for Christian Aid.

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Our FREE annual children's new year party, (ages 3-11 years), will take place on **Saturday 8th February** 3pm-6pm. There will be fun, games, food and a magician entertainer. If your children would like to come please sign up on our website so we know numbers. Please invite friends and family. Helpers are needed to assist with tea and to speak to visiting families. For more information please speak to Celia Manwaring or Morgen Edwards or email admin@ststephens-ealing.org.

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Do you know someone living with dementia?

Would you welcome the opportunity of sharing your experiences with others as a means of helping and supporting one another? If so, please contact Rosemary Beardow who is looking to set up a support group at church.

rosemary@ststephens-ealing.org

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2020 Dates for your Diary

8 Feb – New Year Children's Party
26 Feb – Ash Wednesday
29 Feb – Church Big Clean and DIY Day
1 Mar – Families' Bring & Share Lunch
22 Mar – Mothering Sunday
4 Apr – Palm Sunday
9 Apr – Maundy Thursday
10 Apr – Good Friday
12 Apr – Easter Day
8 May – VE Day
10 May – Ascension Day
31 May – Pentecost
21 Jun – Father's Day
5 Jul – Community Fete

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Show the Love Campaign

We plan to celebrate Show the Love in mid February, offering Green Heart Badges to all. Tea & cakes on Sunday 12th January from 2pm to help make badges (require little skill, all materials supplied!). Speak to Sue Charlton for venue details if you can come.

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Ealing Food Bank

EFB have offered HUGE thanks for raising £4,422 at our Christmas Fair. EFB sometimes struggles to meet the needs of those in food crisis and has to buy food, so this money will help in lean times.

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Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter

We host Night Shelter on Fridays from mid February to the end of March - providing a hot evening meal, a warm, safe bed for the night and a cooked breakfast next morning. We have a lot of fun working together to welcome and help our guests feel comfortable. Speak to Sue Charlton (8997 8236) if you'd like to know more or volunteer to help. A short training session will be held on Sunday 9th February after the 10.30 service for all interested.

connect groups

Our mid week Groups for worship, prayer, Bible Study and Fellowship. For further details for each group contact the group leaders as detailed below.

p&p small group

Meets fortnightly on Monday evenings. More info from Dinos Horattides (8840 6047) or Peter Charlton (8997 8236)

Tuesday Group

Alternate Tuesdays at 8pm at the Vicarage. For more info call Steve Newbold (8810 4929)

Jigsaw

Meeting alternate Tuesdays 7pm (for food), 7:30-9:30pm (meeting). Call Caroline or Ian Jamieson 8840 1971.

Daytimers

Meets every Wednesday at 11:00am in the Church Centre for cake, coffee, fellowship, Bible reflection and prayer.

Vine

Meets Wednesday's (not first of the month) at 8pm in different group member's houses. Contact Sam Sanya 020 3844 0387 or Barbara Luland.

Film Group

Film Group meeting is on Thurs Dec 5 for our Christmas social. Our next film 'On the Basis of Sex' will be view on Thur 9 Jan and discussed on Thur 23 Jan. Rosemary Beardow (07733 441 431).

Chinese Group

Meets Fridays - contact Weihua Zhang or Youwen Yang for more information.

ECO CHURCH



We may still be suffering from post-Christmas overindulgence, but our garden birds need a helping hand in the dark days of winter. Leave out bird-seed, fat balls, protein rich scraps and fresh water for them, especially if you plan to take part in The Big Garden Birdwatch taking place from 25th - 27th January. Search RSPB website to register for this huge Citizen Scientist activity, spotting birds in your garden or local park for an hour over that weekend. Join us to see what birds visit the Church garden on Sunday 26th.



Shining Stars

Runs on Tuesdays during term time from 10am - 11:30am. We will be back on Tuesday 7 January

shiningstars@ststephens-ealing.org



Tea Timers drop in cafe

Runs most Fridays
2.30-4.00pm at church.
Contact Jane Maffett

Events@ststephens-ealing.org

27 Dec and 3 Jan - NO TEA TIMERS
10 Jan - Fun time
17 Jan - Flavours of the month
24 Jan - Chinese capers
31 Jan - Quiz time

People's Stories

Eleanor Tao



I have always been very interested in church culture, for instance, church music, church songs and Bible stories, which are a big part of source of literature and source of life for people around the world. Wherever and whenever I see a church, I can't help entering and enjoying the beauty, the tranquillity and the atmosphere there, but it was not until I came to St Stephen's Church thanks to my friend Huiru and it was not until I started my Alpha course right here, that I found myself entering a thoroughly fresh and new world.

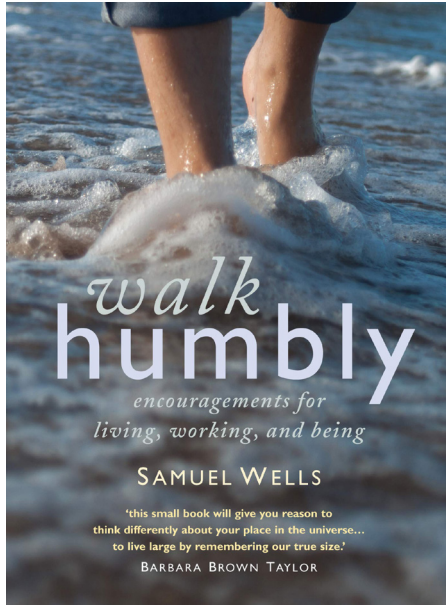
Through the Alpha course, I have gained a more comprehensive understanding of Christianity. Although this understanding is still very basic, it is a new beginning and bright start for me. I have gradually started to understand why so many people in the world follow Lord Jesus. During the course, we have discussed and talked about life, faith and how God leads us in our daily life and important issues of life. This inspirational course has provided me with a friendly and relaxing atmosphere that helps me open up my view toward the wide world and given me opportunities to explore the meaning of life in an open and friendly environment. I have learned so much about Jesus Christ and learned so much from Him. I am determined to put my trust in Jesus Christ because He makes me thorough, strong and peaceful. He makes me become a better person with a more enriched life.

I decided to get baptised recently because I wish to become a person of God and live the rest of my life in Christ. I want to turn away from the evil, get out of the darkness, get into His light, rise to new life in Him and be reborn by His Holy Spirit. I would love to quote my starter prayer learned from my Alpha course 'Why Jesus' booklet, "Lord Jesus Christ, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. Please forgive me. I now turn from everything that I know is wrong. Thank you that you died on the cross for me so that I could be forgiven and set free. Thank you that you offer me forgiveness and the gift of your Spirit. I now receive that gift. Please come into my life by your Holy Spirit to be with me forever. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Amen."



Bookstall

We have a selection of books to gently help you with those New Year resolutions. Come and have a look on the Bookstall



In the spirit of the popular poem 'Desiderata', world-renowned ethicist, theologian and preacher Samuel Wells offers eight exhortations in this extended meditation on being alive in the world and making our way through life.

Each exhortation is simple and direct - be humble, be grateful, be your own size, be gentle, be a person of praise, be faithful, be one body, be a blessing - and accompanied by thought-provoking comments that speak to our deepest needs for meaning and for belonging.



This year-long devotional for girls aged 10–13 is packed with inspiring Bible readings, relevant thinking points and life-changing prayers – all while being engaging, simple and up-beat.

The topics included are particularly relevant to girls and range across both Old and New Testaments. Subjects such as the leading ladies of the Bible, the Holy Spirit, the life of Esther, and the armour of God are covered.

Please visit the Bookstall. As well as books to sell we have a selection of books you can borrow.

Monthly Diary



January		
Sunday 5	11:45am	Cafe Extra
Tuesday 7	10:00am 8:00pm	Shining Stars Returns First Tuesday Prayers and Praise
Wednesday 8	8:00pm	Book Club
Sunday 12	3:00pm 6:30pm	Hymns of Praise at St David's Open to God
Friday 24	7:00pm	Tearfund Big Quiz
Sunday 26	12:30pm 6:30pm	People & Planet Gathering Open to God
Monday 27	7:45pm	Church Council Meeting

February		
Sunday 2	11:45am	Cafe Extra
Tuesday 4	8:00pm	First Tuesday Prayer and Praise
Saturday 8	3:00pm-6:00pm	Cool Christians New Year Party
Sunday 9	4:00pm 6:30pm	Communion at St David's Open to God
Wednesday 12	8:00pm	Book Club
Friday 21	5:00pm	Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter Starts at St Stephen's
Sunday 23	12:30pm 6:30pm	People & Planet Gathering Open to God

Prayer Requests

Give thanks for:

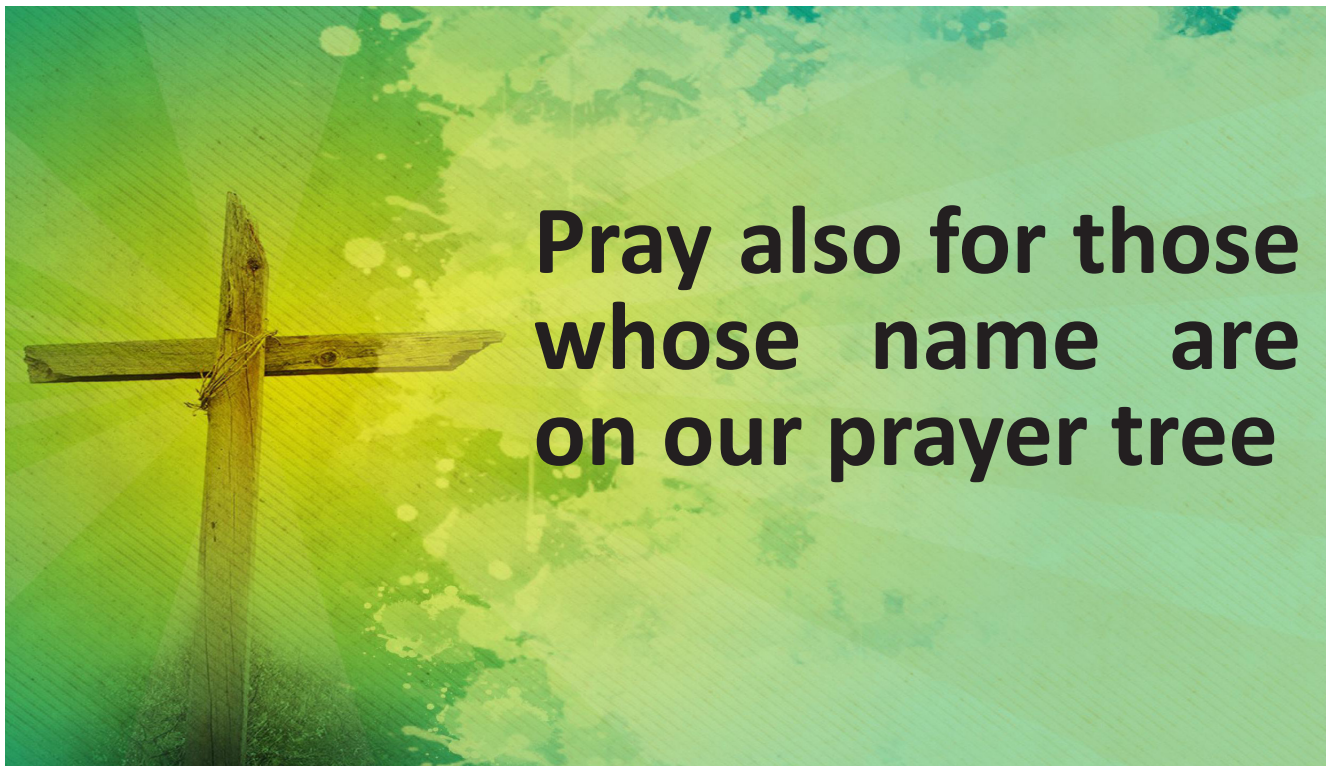
- The birth of Jesus Christ who continues to be the Light of our world!
- The many people from our local community who joined our Christmas Services
- Everyone who contributed to the Christmas Services in any way
- Those who have completed the Alpha course and are continuing their journey with Christ

During this month please pray especially for:

- The year ahead as we all seek to dig deeper in our faith in Jesus Christ
- The Grove Missional Community
- That our new sermon series would help us to connect more deeply with God

Those who are sick and in special need:

Simon Beards, Gordon Couch, Pat Devereux, George Dunkley, Alan and Jane Hanley, George Hore, Caroline Jamieson, Maisie Poulton, Ken Taylor and Ann, Fiona, Lorraine, Daisy, Denise and Nell.



**Pray also for those
whose name are
on our prayer tree**

Contact Details



www.ststephens-ealing.org



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Children & Youth



JAN 2019

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