



Church e-Bulletin 31st July 2022

To receive this bulletin by email each week please send your email address and name to theoffice@smsso.org.uk

DIARY

<p>Upcoming Services:</p> <p>Sun 31 July: 10.30am Holy Communion. Phil 1:1-11</p> <p>Tues 2 Aug: 10.15am Holy Communion. Luke 12:13-21</p> <p>Sun 7 Aug: 10.30am Morning Worship. Phil 2:1-11</p>	<p>Events this Week:</p> <p>Sun 31 July: Picnic in the Vicarage Garden (weather permitting)</p> <p>Tue 26 July: 12.00 Make Lunch at SMB 11.00am Connexions 1.30pm English Language Class</p> <p>Thur 28 July: 12.00 Make Lunch at SMB</p> <p>Sun 7 Aug: After the Service: Picnic in the Vicarage Garden (weather permitting)</p>
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GOD DEPENDENT

Children's Church Summer Specials: Throughout the summer our normal Children's Church will be taking a break. However, our children and youth team will be running "Summer Specials" in the marquee for simple activities and games along the theme of "Running the Race" which fits with the sermon series on Philippians in church. In order to do this each Sunday we will need **one parent helper** on the day, so please be willing to offer help if you are able.

September 2022 Pop-Up Groups: This September we will be closing our evening Connect Groups for six weeks to enable a series of Pop-Up groups to run. The application forms for the groups can be found in church. We hope to have an online booking system working shortly too.

Weekly Prayer Points: are one of the ways that we can pray the same things together through the week. Remember that as well as being on the bulletin, you can ask the office to include you on the WhatsApp which shares the points each Monday. theoffice@smsso.org.uk

Taught Communion: How we distribute bread and wine at communion was not controversial until the COVID19 pandemic, but attitudes to infection have changed and we need to find our way forward from here. If you missed last week's "Taught Communion" and would like to express an opinion, please watch the service on our YouTube Channel and then let Alan know your thoughts. You can jump to the relevant parts of the service using the chapter markers below the video (click "more" to open up the chapter options).

MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

Church Facebook Account: As part of a review of our communications strategy, we are looking for someone who is prepared to spend some time keeping our Facebook feed relevant and engaging - both to church members and those in our community. You need to have a good working knowledge of Facebook and the ability to create appropriate images etc for the message we want to send. You will be given guidance on what we want to achieve and be sent some input from church leadership, but mostly it will be your creativity. If that is a ministry you could take on, please talk with Alan Hulme.

Photos Needed: We are creating a new church website and urgently need more photographs of church activities. If you have (or could take) pictures of any church activities you are involved in, please send them to theoffice@smsso.org.uk. If the photos have children in them, please confirm that you have the parent's permission for it to go onto our website.

SERVING GOD IN HIS WORLD

Make Lunch: Our award winning Make Lunch summer programme begins on Tuesday and Thursday this week at St Matthew's Bloxam Primary School.

CHURCH BUSINESS

Side Hall Development: We will officially open the refurbished church lounge on Sunday. Remaining jobs include trimming doors to accommodate carpets, racking in the store room and a stand alone sound system.

Communications Survey: Thank you for your responses to this survey. We would still value more replies from those of you who do not have access to email. Hard copies of the survey are on the table at the back of church. The lessons learned from what you have said are being integrated into our communication plans.

CHURCH FAMILY

Summer Picnics at Vicarage: FIRST ONE TODAY! After the services on Sunday July 31st, August 7th, 21st and 28th, (weather permitting) you are invited to come and picnic in the Vicarage garden. Bring your own picnic lunch, drinks and ice-creams will be provided, as will outdoor games and football. We would love to give you the opportunity to get to know a few more people in the church a bit better. The garden is enclosed and so safe for children. Disabled parking in the Vicarage drive. Street parking is usually available on Ploughman Street or walk from church. **If you are new around and didn't know it was happening we have sandwiches for you, so do come.**

PRAYER POINTS FOR W/C MONDAY 1st AUG:

1. For the Lord to provide more leaders for the Tea n Toast group, Children's Church and Coffeebreak Toddler Group.
2. For strength and wisdom for the Make Lunch team as they seek to address holiday hunger and isolation this week.
3. For the picnics taking place in the Vicarage after the morning service, that we would grow in our love for one another.
4. For the work going on behind the scenes to prepare for the next building projects, that the Lord would provide all that is needed.
5. For the Holy Spirit to preside over the Lambeth Conference, that the Lord will be glorified through the decisions made there.

Church Office: The church office at 1a New Street is open from 9.30am - 1.30pm Mon - Thursday. To keep office staff safe, we are still asking visitors to remain in the foyer and not enter the offices.

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Missed Something?: We try not to repeat too much in the e-bulletins, so if you missed a week, pick up last week's sheet too.

JUST FOR FUN

I hired a handyman and gave him a list of tasks. When I got home, only items 1, 3, & 5 were done. Turns out he only does odd jobs.