

# FEBRUARY @ ST LEONARD'S

24th February 2020

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH / 7.30PM

## COLLABORATION

How do home and church fit together? What can we do when the world is so attractive to our youth? What can we do when they're not interested or too busy?

Parents are invited to share dessert and ideas, so that we can work better together in leading our teens to love Jesus.

### CENTREPOINT

*Prayer* MEETINGS

Wed 5, 19 February 9.30am & 7.45pm

THURSDAY *Communion*

6 February, 2.30pm

INFO ON ALL OTHER  
*midweek groups*

on the TERMCARD and WEBSITE  
[www.stleonards.church](http://www.stleonards.church)

### LENS

*Monday*

GROUP

10 February, 2.00 pm,  
A Musical Afternoon

24 February, 10.30 am,  
Bringing hope and  
transforming the lives  
of refugee families.

**Dad & Co**

Sat 29 February 9.30am



St Leonard's  
Church Exeter



# SIMON WRITES....

Dear Friends,

The year is already well under way. The many bible study groups seem to be running well, we've trialled the new Hope Explored Course, which was very encouraging, and we rejoice in the weekly opportunities to make disciples. Thank you for your partnership in this gospel work.

In the Church of England, clergy are encouraged to take Sabbaticals every few years, for study and spiritual refreshment. This month I celebrate seven years as Rector of St. Leonard's (which has, and remains, a great privilege) and in July it will be the 26th Anniversary of my Ordination. As I chatted with the Diocesan Director of Ministry about Sabbaticals a few months ago he strongly recommended that I take one in 2020. Both the staff team and the PCC were extremely supportive of the idea and as a result I shall be spending three months away from the parish from Easter Monday, 13th April, returning to work officially on 13th July. During that time I will be studying, both here and elsewhere, and seeking to re-charge my spiritual batteries for the next few years of ministry. Full-time ministry is a huge

privilege but it can also be emotionally draining. It will be a privilege to step back for a few weeks – and I am very grateful for those who are making it possible.

We will now all be aware that on 14th June Ed and Sally will be leaving St. Leonard's to take up a new role in Western Australia, heading up a pioneering work with Cruwest. It is a tremendously exciting opportunity for which Ed is ideally suited. I am not at all surprised that he was head-hunted for the job. We will miss the Surrey family very much but hope and expect that we can keep in touch with them as a form of mission partner – we will support them by prayer as others in Australia support them financially.

In due course I will be able to share more about the staffing plans for the later part of the year – but in the midst of change I have been reminded again that God is sovereign and does not let us go. He is wonderfully faithful in all he has promised to do for his people through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Simon Austen

## TO ENCOURAGE YOU

We give thanks for a wonderful opportunity to explore the theme of Hope with a number of people following our Christmas services. Praise God that, as we held out the good news over Christmas together, many wanted to find out more. Please do pray on as those who came to our Hope Explored sessions in January continue thinking through this glorious message of true hope that Jesus offers us all.



## ELECTORAL ROLL

Ahead of our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (8th April) we are updating the Electoral Roll. If you are not already on it and would like to be included, then please complete and return an application form, available at the back of church, before 15th March. Inclusion on the roll is a more formal way to acknowledge your membership of the Church of England and enables you to vote at our church meeting. It is different and separate from our church database (Churchbuilder). If you have any questions do get in touch with Mel in the church office. [mel.mullen@stleonards.church](mailto:mel.mullen@stleonards.church)

## SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



Choices Pregnancy Centre is looking for more caring compassionate people to join their great team of voluntary practitioners who support people through pregnancy related difficulties and loss.

Training is given to work through our Step By Step programs which we use with clients at our Exeter and Teignmouth centres. Once qualified, volunteers work in pairs, and time given to the charity can be very flexible. For more details and an informal chat please phone Sue 07826715377 or email [choicespregnancyexeter@gmail.com](mailto:choicespregnancyexeter@gmail.com) before 15th February 2020.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Christian Vision for Men event: 10 Mar, 7.30pm.

This evening will be a perfect opportunity for men to hear about who Jesus is, why millions follow Him, and to hear about why we believe 'it's time for a new kind of man.' Early bird tickets £6, £10 on the door.

Go to [www.stleonards.church/news](http://www.stleonards.church/news) to book.

## Confirmation Service 6.30pm Sunday 1st March



ALL AT SEA  
Book your pre-school up to end of primary school aged children in now, or sign up to help at <https://www.stleonards.church/whats-on/news/>

# IN OUR PRAYERS THIS MONTH

FEBRUARY 2-8



Our short term mission partners: **Eleanor Sansbury** serving in the Gambia with the Crosslinks gap year team, **Jamie Boddington** working at St Thomas' church, North Sydney, **Daisy Hawkins** leading Christian activity camps run by Crusader Union

near Sydney; The work of **UCCF and IFES** and ministry among students in Exeter: **ECU Events week** happening this week; **Friday evening football** and outreach through **Sports ministry** and **Christians in Sport**; **Our church office staff**; The residents of **Watson Place, Deepdene Park, Bull Meadow Road and Dean Street.**

FEBRUARY 9-15



**Roger and Jos Sharland** (Kenya) leading the work of Rural Extension with Africa's Poor; **The ICE team** working in schools and with young people in Exeter; **Our team of Welcomers; Babies, children and leaders in Scramblers** (our crèche for under 0-2s); The residents of **Friars Walk, Lucky Lane Coleton Crescent and Coleton Hill.**

FEBRUARY 16-22



**Andrew and Helen Curry** working in Senegal with SIM; **Ed Surrey**, our Youth Minister; **Children and leaders in Diglorers (aged 3-7); Our technical team**; Our Ministry Assistants, **Tom Marsh, Becca Turnbull, Jonathan Betts, Anna Bevington and Jo Evans**; The residents of **Kimberley Road, Holloway Street, Lansdowne Terrace and Larkbeare Road.**

FEBRUARY 23-29



**Steve and Anna Griffiths** working with OMF based in Brazil; **The work of Exeter Street Pastors; Matt Rowland**, ministering in **Modbury; Volunteers** who clean and maintain the church buildings and grounds and the flower team; The residents of **Roberts Road, Temple Road, Radford Road and Franklin Street.**

*"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers." 1 Thessalonians 1:2*