

Monday 29 November 2021

Serving, Central Focus,  
Safeguarding audit and overall review, UK mission, international.Leading **Phil Hudson**

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!  
<sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.  
<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!  
Psalm 67:3–5 ESVUK

## SERVING

### Serving at St Helen's

Serving: A dangerous distraction or gospel imperative?

Enabling Team: Jason, Yingchu, Anson, Shirley, Beccy, Abraham, Claire, Hannah, David, Alan, Hetti, Deborah, Andrew, Elspeth, Phil, Alejandro, Kabir, Alex, Mark, Lydia, David, Anita, Troy, Brian, Ella, Nat

PCC and Sub-committee

Food teams (Tea and coffee, Food@5's, After 8's etc)

Stewarding

## CENTRAL FOCUS

Thanks for:

- The letter to the Hebrews giving us the chance to be considering Jesus together all year.
- God giving us such a wonderful king and high priest—one who is ruling and yet able to be alongside us, bringing many sons and daughters to glory.
- Many being able to go on the weekend away (19–21 November) and for the chance to deepen our appreciation and understanding of what a great salvation we have.
- God's clear warnings to us, to listen with faith, not to harden our hearts, to drift, or be sluggish in our hearing and lives.
- The Lord bringing new members along to Central Focus on both Tuesday and Thursday.

Please pray:

- For earnest and careful listening, particularly as we move into the chapters explaining how perfectly appointed Jesus is as our high priest, able to save to the uttermost, because he lives.
- For many opportunities to be taken to exhort one another to keep looking to Jesus and to hold onto the amazing hope we have. Pray on for cultures to flourish on both evenings in this way.
- For full assurance of hope and for confidence to draw near to the throne of grace, to ask for mercy and help to keep trusting and listening.
- As term's gone on, groups on Tuesdays in particular, have been a little smaller. Pray for the Lord to remove barriers to people being able to come; pray for those working at home or back in the office to be able to leave work and make it to studies.
- We'd be good at keeping in touch with and encouraging those who are unable to join us because of illness or COVID concerns at all this year. Pray Hebrews would spur us on to do this.
- That the Lord would use Hebrews to help us press on so that we all enter his Sabbath-rest.
- As we grow in assurance and confidence in all that Jesus has done and is doing for us, pray we'll want to share this great salvation with others, especially over the next few weeks.

## **SAFEGUARDING AUDIT AND OVERALL REVIEW**

### **Thanks**

for Andrew (outgoing safeguarding officer) and the safeguarding committee and for the strengths that were identified in the report including:

- Clear commitment to safeguarding by the leadership at St Helen's
- Proportionate, proactive and effective support provided by the Safeguarding Officer and by the Diocesan Safeguarding team
- Effective policies, procedures and systems that have been developed for the church.
- Organised and clear record keeping
- Regular and practical safeguarding training for St Helen's staff
- A clear culture of safety where concerns are raised and where there are multiple routes to raise concerns.

### **Prayers**

for the safeguarding committee as we implement the recommendations of the safeguarding review. These include:

- improving record keeping so that we are able to more easily identify patterns in the kinds of safeguarding concerns that church family members raise.
- developing a more integrated approach to our safeguarding arrangements—that focusses on outcomes as well as process.
- developing the safeguarding training for staff members and for small group leaders to ensure that we are able to support one another well

for those in our church family who are victims and survivors of abuse or who are in complex, painful or difficult situations

for the safeguarding team: Beccy (safeguarding officer), Abraham (safeguarding administrator), safeguarding committee (Andrew, Jason, Will, Matt, Anna, Tracey, Alison), Andy (Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor)—for a prayerful trust in the Lord, that we would keep a watch on ourselves, for carefulness, gospel-mindedness and wisdom as we help those who are experiencing trials of various kinds.

for William, for the churchwardens, for the PCC, for ministry area leaders, staff members, small group leaders and for all of us as church family—that we'd all play our part in creating a healthy church culture that makes St Helen's a safe and caring place for all.

### **UK MISSION: St Mary's Basingstoke**

- Give thanks for the way the gospel has gone out across Basingstoke and beyond over many years, for the congregation and those who have been sent to other regions.
- Give thanks for the church's desire to hear the truth, be devoted to the Lord Jesus and each other.
- Pray for St Mary's to grow not just number but depth of insight to know God better.
- Pray for our small group leaders as they seek to adopt a more "training" approach with their members—that they would share this vision and be equipped to do so.
- Pray for our evangelism. In particular: open-air carol services, new school opportunities, Passion for Life and workplaces.
- Pray for me to "set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12
- Pray for ReNew Basingstoke Hub. In particular, ministers seeking to revitalise churches. Pray for greater partnership and gospel-advancing opportunities.

### **INTERNATIONAL MISSION: Sub-Saharan Africa**

- Mission partners
- Regional partners
- See the booklet

### **Please clear your tables at the end of the meeting. Thank you**