

Saint Laurence Staycation 2017

Info Pack



Welcome

Hi!

Each year, the community of St Laurence gathers together for a weekend of worship, teaching, food & fun. It's a great opportunity to get to know one another better, to build deeper relationships and to be encouraged in your journey of faith - we are so glad that you've decided to join us!

This handy info pack should provide you with everything you might need to know but if you have any questions, then do drop Claire a line in the office: admin@stlreading.org, or post your query in the St Laurence Church Facebook group.



Where & when



St Laurence Church, Friar Street, Reading, RG1 1DA

Due to a lack of availability at our usual venue Youlbury Scout Camp, and having explored all other options, this year Church Camp will look a bit different. We will be having a **stay-cation**, St Laurence style!

Whilst it's a shame that we won't get to go away this year and are aware of the drawbacks of a home location, we hope there might be some practical benefits of being at St Laurence too and we are still really excited to see what God wants to do as we gather together during this time.

We will do our best to make the space look very different and even more beautiful and inviting, so it's church but not as you know it! We want to encourage everyone to come to as much as they are able to and would please ask that you commit to being here avoiding the temptation to duck into town instead.

We will gather together from 7.30pm on Friday evening to kick things off and draw to a close on Sunday at around 1.30pm.

Please refer to the full schedule of the weekend with more specific timings.

Speaker



Chris Lane

Our speaker this year is Chris Lane. You may remember him from Church Camp 2014 & 2016 and he has kindly agreed to visit us yet again. Chris has been the minister at Langworthy Community Church, Salford, since 2004, when it started as a church plant from the Soul Survivor Church in Watford. Before doing this he lived on the Langworthy estate in a small missional community as part of the Eden project, and also spent some time as the drummer in the Christian worship band Heat.

He is a member of the board of the Soul Survivor organisation, and is involved in speaking at the festivals most years. Chris is married to Esther and they have three children, Daniel, Rebekah and Hannah. He grew up in Salford, and is an avid fan of Man United.

Chris will be coming to speak to us on the theme of Jubilee from Luke 4 and will explore the subjects of money & possessions, community & freedom. He will be joined by his wife, Esther and their children as well as some of the members of their church community. We are really excited to hear what God might be wanting to say to us as a community through Chris.

Children's work

Creche (0-2 yrs)

There will be a creche available throughout the weekend, set up in the usual place as we normally have during church service. There won't be a rota for this, but please do offer to look after someone else's child during a session in return for them looking after your child for a different session if you feel comfortable to do so and would find this helpful. Please be mindful that nursing Mums will be using this space for feeding.

Little Sheep (Pre-school)

MORNING SESSIONS

During the two morning sessions, there will be particular children's work activities provided for this age group co-ordinated by our Lead Children's Worker, Connor.

EVENING SESSIONS

During Saturday evening, it's likely that little sheep and creche-aged children will be in bed. Given that we are unable to provide on-site accommodation this year, we are really aware that a number of parents will need to head home for children's bedtimes, which is why we have made dinner slightly earlier. We will be trying hard to live stream the evening session, so that for those unable to be here in person can still access the teaching that evening and we will also make sure that all main sessions are recorded and podcasts uploaded online.

Cheeky Monkey's & Top Banana's (KS1 – Yr 7)

MORNING SESSIONS

During the two morning sessions, there will be particular children's work activities provided for this age group co-ordinated by our Lead Children's Worker, Connor.

EVENING SESSIONS

During Saturday evening, we will stay all together for the main session.

Activities



Pub Quiz

This is a new addition to the usual time table as we felt it was important to provide opportunities for fun activities that enable us to hang out together as family with no other agenda. We also intentionally didn't want to have taught content during this evening, so that those only able to attend from the Saturday wouldn't have missed out on this. We would love as many people as possible to gather together for a friendly (competitive) pub quiz evening with varied teams made up that are representative of the church family. There will be snacks to eat and prizes to be won.

What more could you possibly want for a fun night out?!

Sessions

During our main morning sessions, we will have 45 minutes of inclusive sung worship and activities for the whole family. During the other 45 minutes, we will invite Chris Lane to speak while Children and Young People go to their separate groups; all will be exploring the same theme just in the most accessible and relevant ways possible. We then gather back together for the remainder of the day. (On Saturday evening, we will all stay together for the main session. If there's demand we'll happily provide a film for older children staying on for Saturday evening. Just let us know when you register online if you are intending for your older children to stay on and if this would be helpful.)

Seminars

On the Saturday, individual members of the community will be leading a set of 3 seminars, each lasting up to 45 minutes and relating to one of the topics covered by Chris during the weekend (money & possessions, community, and freedom). These will be repeated to enable childcarers or those serving in other capacities to take turns in attending.

Workshops

Running concurrently to the seminars, there will also be a range of workshops taking place throughout Saturday that will appeal to a range of ages. Once these are confirmed, we will let you have further details but to give you a taster, previous workshops have included: face painting, photography, story writing, magic, craft, sword fighting and much more! If you would be interested in running a workshop, then do get in touch!

Free Time & Soft Play

Throughout the weekend, there will be opportunities for free time to grab a coffee and sit down on a comfy sofa to chat with other members of the community. There will be a small dedicated soft play space for pre-school aged children, which can be utilised during seminars and workshops if this type of activity might work best for you and your little ones. If you aren't a pre-school aged child then please don't use this equipment - there will be lots more available for you to join in with.

Danish Long Ball

It just wouldn't be the same without a game of Danish Long Ball (it's a lot like rounders if you haven't come across it before!). We will walk over to Kings Meadow on Napier Road on the Saturday afternoon, leaving here at 3.30 pm, to return for tea at 5 pm. The church will remain open for anyone wanting to stay and make use of the soft play space or to grab a coffee, a comfy sofa and a chat instead. But if you can join in, do, it's usually quite fun!

Food

The lovely Naomi Brown (sister of Ben Brown) has kindly taken on the catering duties for the St Laurence Staycation to enable members of the community to engage in the various activities across the weekend. If you have any particular dietary requirements, do please let us know via the online form when registering and these will be catered for. Bear in mind that you might want to bring extra snacks for pre-school aged children.



You need to...

Register

If you haven't already, please go online to register your attendance, let us know about any dietary needs and consider making a contribution towards costs:

www.stlreading.org/sscinfo

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS ARE:

£20 per adult

£15 in full-time education (Year 7+)

£10 in full-time education (Reception – Year 6)

£5 2-5yrs (pre-school)

FREE 0-2 yrs

We don't want cost to be an issue for anyone, so if that's not realistic for you then please contribute what you can.

Bring with you

As we will be based at St L's this year, there are just a few things you might like to bring with you:

Cake to bring & share

Bibles & notebook

Cushion

Mug for hot drinks

Water bottle for cold drinks

About parking...

We've approached Davison house who manage the Carluccios car park to ask if we can use this across the weekend and we're just waiting to hear back. As soon as we have further details we'll confirm arrangements.

God,

Thank you for the wonderful gift of community and the family of St Laurence.

Thank you for this opportunity to gather together to hear from your word, to be inspired, challenged and spiritually fed.

Thank you for those who will be serving the community in various ways across the weekend.

Please bless our time together. May we know your presence with us and by your spirit be changed.

Amen.

Schedule

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
08:00		08:15–09:15 Breakfast	08:15–09:15 Breakfast
09:00		09:15–11:00 Session #1 (All-age for 45mins)	09:15–10:15 Session #3 (Children & YP to groups)
10:00			10:15–10:45 Danishes
11:00		11:00–11:30 Tea & Cake	10:45–11:45 Family communion & worship (All together)
12:00		11:30–12:15 Seminars A & B / Workshops	11:45–12:15 Free time
13:00		12:15–13:30 Lunch	12:15–13:30 Lunch
14:00		13:30–14:15 Seminars A & C / Workshops	13:30 The official Staycation Photo
15:00		14:15–15:00 Seminars B & C / Workshops	& Goodbye's
16:00		15:00–15:30 Tea & Cake	
17:00		15:30–17:00 Danish Long Ball @Kings Meadow	
18:00		17:00–18:30 Dinner	
19:00		18:30–19:45 Free time	
20:00	19:30–21:30 Pub Quiz Social & Snacks	19:45–20:00 Snacks	
21:00		20:00–21:30 Session #2 (All together)	
22:00			