

St James's Church, Piccadilly

197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL • Tel: 020 7734 4511 • www.sjp.org.uk

A Sukkah for All

Tuesday 7th - Wednesday 15th October 2014

A celebration of Harvest and Sukkot



This October, St James's Church is collaborating with the Jewish Social Action Forum, West London Synagogue, The Trussell Trust, and Gift to run a series of events, celebrating the festivals of Harvest and Sukkot.

At this time of abundance, we are mindful of the hunger in our society and the dramatic rise in the numbers of those receiving support from emergency food-banks and other agencies.

Our celebration of Harvest and Sukkot will, therefore, feature a series of debates on food justice, social action, and climate change.

One of the highlights of the week will be the building of a Sukkah in the church garden. A Sukkah is traditionally a fragile booth, built outside, with a roof made of leaves and branches, and walls without doors. It is open to all, strangers and friends alike, and is a place to share what God has given us.

The time of harvest is celebrated in both Christianity and in Judaism. The abundance of the crop, the blessings of seed, soil, rain and sun, the deep sustenance of life before a cold winter, and a caring community in which to share the bounty. In Christianity, we call this the Harvest Festival or Celebration and in Judaism it is called Sukkot.

Programme of events:

Tues 7th Oct: from 1.30pm
Decorating the Sukkah in the church garden with Soho Parish School

Sat 11th Oct: from 8.00pm
Pop-up soup kitchen in the courtyard serving food and drink: open to all

Sun 12th Oct: 11.00am
Harvest Eucharist in the church

Sun 12th Oct: 1.00pm
Open Community Lunch with guest speaker Alex Howell from The Trussell Trust. Alex will lead an interactive workshop, 'Eat Well, Spend Less', explaining the secrets of food pricing and the smart choices we can make in order to stay healthy on a budget

Mon 13th Oct: 6.00pm
Scriptural Reasoning with Professor Laurie Zoloth, Professor David Ford, and Nadiya Takolia of the Cambridge Interfaith Programme. Places limited. Registration essential at: marylebonesr@gmail.com

Tues 14th Oct: 6.00pm
Hope in the face of climate change
A debate exploring issues of food security, pro-poor management of the environment, and the landscape that will shape climate change over the coming 18 months. Speakers include Yamikani Dakalira from the Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy in Malawi. Music in the Sukkah afterwards.

The cost of admission to any of these events is one item of non-perishable food. Donations will be distributed by the Trussell Trust to people in crisis in our city.

Learn, Share, Pray, Hope, Give this Harvest and join us as we celebrate in our church and in our fragile Sukkah, both of which are open to all.

See our website for event details: www.sjp.org.uk

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