

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

February 2018 E-News

Please publicise the items below - and forward to editors for inclusion in church magazines, newsletters and service sheets. Also let us know about YOUR forthcoming events and activities - email to web@ct-farnham.org.uk

Dear friends,

As we begin the season of Lent, may it be a time for everyone to renew or deepen a connection with God.

I would particularly draw your attention to several events and activities:

Love in Action is particularly important now, as the future of our schools work in Farnham is in a precarious position unless more financial support is found. On a more positive note, Women's World Day of Prayer is an excellent opportunity to join an act of worship which has been prepared by a different country each year, and in which we are joining in prayer with people all around the world. The word "Women's" is in the title because the material is prepared by women, and the service organised by women, but it is open to everyone.

It will also be a delight to welcome the new Vicar at Wrecclesham on 13 March, which ends a series of successive vacancies in the Anglican parishes in and around Farnham.

Looking ahead, there will be our usual Walk of Witness on Good Friday, starting at 12 noon in The Hart, and ending at St. Andrew's

with best wishes,

Michael Hopkins (Chair)

NOTICES

BRING THE FAMILY "LOVE IN ACTION" PRAYER EVENT - Children and teenagers are particularly welcome at this event for all ages which is taking place at St Andrew's Parish Church from 4pm till 5.30pm on Sunday 25 February. Prayer and worship will be followed by a mixture of prayer, project updates, and news. Children can take part in high-energy games, worship and prayer activities in a nearby room. "Love in Action" is an initiative calling all Christians in Farnham to support and pray for collaborative church projects. For more information go to FCCT support website or phone 01252 444393.

WRECCLESHAM'S NEW VICAR WILL BE JOINING US NEXT MONTH We much look forward to welcoming the Revd Jacqueline Drake-Smith to St Peter's, Wrecclesham. Bishop Andrew will conduct her Induction and Installation service on Tuesday 13 March. Jacqueline is currently curate at St John the Evangelist, Merrow.

COULD YOU HELP WORSHIP TEAM? Farnham ASSIST urgently needs volunteers to join their Praise and Worship Team. The team leads short services at care homes and the Gostrey Day Centre. Volunteers can offer as much or as little of their time as they are able. Having recently lost three team members through relocation and illness, ASSIST would love to hear from anyone who can help. Email june.trantom@farnham-assist.org.uk.

CHURCH SEEKING ONCE-A-MONTH ORGANIST- All Saints, Tilford, is looking for someone to play the recently restored church organ or a keyboard for 10am service one Sunday per month when the regular organist is not available.

LENT EVENTS – As usual, we have much to look forward to during Lent. The Midday Music for Christian Aid series of Tuesday recitals by talented artists, with soup, cheese and bread lunches to follow, provide an annual treat for many. Several churches will be following the Stations of the Cross and planning other special devotions as we prepare for Passion Week, Good Friday and Easter and there are numerous lenten study courses and other activities to choose from. These are too numerous to list here so please see individual church websites (find links on our CTF website) for details.

The Midday Music recitalists at St Thomas' will be - 20 February: Emmanuel Bach, Violin and Jenny Stern, Piano; 27 February: Jim Cozens, Singer & Songwriter; 6 March: Heather Golding, Singer & Flute and Paul Cerigo, Dulcimer & other instruments; 13 March: Andrew Harrap, Piano; 20 March: Music Students from King Edwards' School, Witley; 27 March: Nicola Sharkey, Soprano and Brian Cotterill, Piano & Organ.

WALK OF WITNESS – All Christians are urged to join in Churches Together in Farnham's Walk of Witness through the streets of the town on Good Friday 30 March, starting from the top of The Hart at 12 noon.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Men too are extremely welcome at this inspiring annual service to be held this year at Farnham Methodist Church on Friday 2 March at 10.30am. Beth Davenport writes: This year the service has been prepared by the women of Suriname and is entitled 'All God's Creation is Very Good'. Suriname lies in the north-east of South America and is the greenest country on earth with almost 94% of the country being pristine, tropical rain forest with high biodiversity. Refreshments will be served following the service, which will last for about an hour. There will be a crèche and facilities for children. Contact beth.davenport22@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

READ ALL ABOUT IT - The Minutes of Churches Together in Farnham's Annual General Meeting in October 2017 are now available on the CTF website via this link: <http://together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/farnham/docstore/448.pdf>

DIARY Some special events in the next few weeks. Go to the CTF website via link below for more details of these and other church events, including posters to download for your noticeboard.

Thursday 15 February– 3pm – Farnham Methodist Church – Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for over 60s – a non-denominational service - followed by tea and cakes provided by the church. Contact ASSIST if transport is needed.

Tuesday – 20 February - 11 am - St Joan's Centre, Tilford Rd – Churches Together in Farnham Ecumenical Monthly Prayer Meeting – reflective readings, prayers and intercessions - refreshments served at the start of the meeting. Everyone welcome – just come along!

Tuesday 20 February (and weekly during Lent) - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church - Midday Music for Christian Aid - today's recital by Emmanuel Bach violin and Jenny Stern piano. Followed by a soup, bread & cheese lunch in the Cobbett Room 12.45-2pm. Donations to Christian Aid.

Wednesday 21 February at 3pm – Vineyard Centre – Beetle Drive arranged by Farnham ASSIST - £5 per person with refreshments - all welcome for this fun game.

Sunday 25 February – 4pm till 5.30pm – St Andrew's Church, Farnham - “Love in Action” Family Prayer Event – see more details under **NOTICES** above.

Tuesday 27 February (and weekly during Lent) - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church - Midday Music for Christian Aid - today's recital by Jim Cozens singer & songwriter. Followed by a soup, bread & cheese lunch in the Cobbett Room from 12.45 till 2pm. Donations to Christian Aid.

Wednesday 28 February – 7.30pm - St Andrew's Church Farnham - 'Where Adventure Begins' – New Wine partnering with Riding Lights Theatre Company to put on a performance about parents passing on their faith to their children. Tickets cost £10 and are available from the Parish Office.

Friday 2 March – 10.30am – Farnham Methodist Church – Women's World Day of Prayer – everyone, including men, very welcome. Refreshments to follow. See more details under **NOTICES** above and on CTF website.

Saturday 3 March – 10am till 1.30pm - Farnham United Reformed Church – March Fayre. Get a taste of Spring. There will be something for everyone.

Tuesday 6 March (and continuing weekly during Lent) - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church - Midday Music for Christian Aid - today's recital: Heather Golding, singer & flute and Paul Cerigo, dulcimer & other instruments. Followed by soup, bread & cheese lunch in the Cobbett Room from 12.45 till 2pm. Donations to Christian Aid.

Wednesday 7 March - 1pm Farnham United Reformed Church – Music at Lunchtime - The Ishi Ensemble is returning by popular demand. One of the few professional viola quintets in the country. They give regular concerts at home and abroad.

Saturday 24 March – 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church - VOX, Farnham Chamber Choir presents 'IN FLANDERS FIELDS' a powerful and moving concert of music and poetry to commemorate the end of WW1. Conducted by Robert Lewis, with guest cellist Mikhail Lezdkan and organist Julian Cooper, featuring music by Howells, Jenkins, Bach, Haydn among others. Tickets £15 on the door (u/18s free). More details on St Thomas' or Vox websites.

More about these and other activities on the CTF website at <http://www.churchestogether.org/farnham/> where you will also find links to our member churches' and associates' individual websites, with details of services and other activities.