

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

Mid-February March 2019 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,

Within the next couple of weeks we will be entering the season of Lent. During this time many of us will be 'giving up' something such as chocolate or alcohol or social media. Even outside the church many people 'give up' something, using it as a time to detox. Many people don't know the religious meaning behind this period of self-denial but do it anyway. In the past I have also 'given up' various treats or indulgences. A number of years ago I was struck by the idea of taking something up during the season of Lent. I came across a resource called "Love life, Live Lent: Be the Change". This little booklet encouraged me to take on activities such as feeding the birds, doing an act of kindness and donating to charity. It had an activity for each day of Lent. Using this model of take something up, I have been encouraged during Lent to try different prayer resources or bible notes or Lent reflections. In Matthew 16.24 we are encouraged to deny ourselves, and take up our cross and follow Jesus. I wonder, how do we live Lent this year so that it is not just about self-denial or a personal detox but about something deeper, and an expression of living faith?

Every Blessing,

Hannah

NOTICES

NEW PRIEST APPOINTED FOR ALL SAINTS, TILFORD - We look forward to welcoming the Revd Neil Fairlamb who will be taking up his appointment as priest at All Saints, Tilford, after Easter. The Revd Neil has been Rector of Beaumaris since 2003 and is Vicar and Ministry Leader of a group of neighbouring parishes in Anglesey. He will replace All Saints' much-loved parish priest Canon Heather Humphrey, who died a year ago.

WANTED – A COOK AND A MANAGER FOR THE SPIRE CAFÉ - The Spire Church is seeking to recruit two posts: Cook and Manager for the Spire Café. The closing Date for applications is **12 midday on Monday 25 February 2019**. Interviews will be arranged. Start date: as soon as possible. Job share applications welcome. Further Information available: www.spirechurchfarnham.org.uk – download the application pack. Email: michael@spirechurchfarnham.org.uk or telephone: 01252 711359.

COME – EVERYTHING IS READY! - All are invited to take part in a global event at St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church on Friday, 1 March at 10.30am. The **World Day of Prayer** will be celebrated by Christians of many denominations across the continents, 'encircling the world in a wave of prayer.' Formerly entitled 'Women's World Day of Prayer', the change to the name of this annual event emphasises the fact that the special service is for all – men, women and children alike.

Each year the service is devised by a different group of women in countries across the world.. For 2019 a group from Slovenia have taken the title: 'Come – everything is ready!' for a strong presentation based on Jesus' parable of a great feast that was prepared for important guests, But when the meal was ready, the invited guests were all too busy to come. So instead the party was thrown open to outsiders. The weak, the poor and the marginalised were welcomed in. Now this same invitation: 'Come – everything is ready!' is goes out to us all. A team of women from different Farnham churches are busy preparing to present a striking and thought-provoking prayer event, involving congregational participation. Refreshments will follow – with a Slovenian slant.

IN THE STEPS OF ST PAUL - The Rector of Farnham the Revd David Uffindell is leading a trip to Greece from 13-20 May 2019 with McCabe Pilgrimages. There are still one or two spaces. The party will visit Thessalonika, Philippi, Delphi, Athens and Corinth. The trip offers an amazing insight into Paul's journey, the context of ancient Greek myth and some engagement with the monasteries in the mountains, still active today. For more information and/or for a brochure, please contact David on david.uffindell@gmail.com.

LENT MIDDAY MUSIC FOR CHRISTIAN AID AT ST THOMAS-ON-THE BOURNE - This ever-popular series of Tuesday concerts will take place from 12th March weekly during Lent, starting at 12 noon. Afterwards, from 12:45 to 2pm soup, bread & cheese lunches will be served in the Cobbett Room. Donations to Christian Aid. See details of individual recitals in **DIARY** (below)

ST JOHN'S CHURCH IS CELEBRATING ITS 175TH BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR - Lots of events and activities are planned to mark the anniversary, and will be announced. In the meantime people are invited to write about what St John's Church means to them in 175 words and email this to news@badshotleaandhale.org for publication, stating whether they wish their contribution to remain anonymous.

BECOME A DEMENTIA FRIEND - Alastair Shanks, owner of Right at Home, is running a free dementia awareness session at **Spire Church, South Street Farnham, at 2pm on Thursday 28 February** for 1 hour. Anyone is welcome to come along on the day. Dementia Friends is about giving people an understanding of dementia and how they can help. Phone 01252 783 426 or email hello@rightathomegf for more information.

OPEN YOUR GARDEN FOR PHYLLIS TUCKWELL - The Hospice is looking for residents across its catchment area of West Surrey & North East Hampshire, who would be happy to open their gardens sometime between May and July. Visitors to the gardens will pay a small fee, which will go towards funding the care which Phyllis Tuckwell offers to local patients and families who are living with an advanced or terminal illness, such as cancer. Gardens of any size or design can be involved. Some hosts may wish to sell refreshments or plants for the charity at their open garden event. To find out more or to register your garden, contact Phyllis Tuckwell Fundraising team on 01252 729446 or email fundraising@pth.org.uk.

AND LOOKING AHEAD - Churches Together in Farnham's Walk of Witness will take place on **Good Friday 19 April**. All Christians are asked to join in this silent procession through the town centre, following a large wooden cross. Assemble at the top of The Hart at 11.45am. Prayers will be said at the start and more prayers together with the singing of a Good Friday hymn at the finish in St Andrew's Churchyard. Participants may like to bring a palm cross to carry.

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.

Tuesday 19 February – 11am – St Joan's Centre, Tilford Road - CTF Monthly Ecumenical Prayer Meeting – Reflective readings, prayers and intercessions following refreshments. All welcome – just come along and join us!

Thursday 21 February - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for Over-Sixties - with traditional hymns, followed by tea and cake. Contact Farnham ASSIST if transport is needed.

Friday 22 February – 7.30pm - Farnham Vineyard, Church House, Union Road, Farnham GU9 7PT - Farnham ASSIST fundraising Ceilidh - with ploughman's supper and pudding, bring your own drinks. Tickets £12.50 - call 01252 717710.

Wednesday 27 February – 7.30pm – The Vicarage, St Peter's, Wrecclesham – start of a six week course exploring the Christian faith. Sign up form on noticeboard by the church door.

Friday 1 March – 10.30am – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – World Day of Prayer – 'Come – Everything is ready! Everyone is invited to this special service - see more details in **NOTICES** (above).

Tuesday 5 March – 1pm – Spire Church (URC building) - Music at Lunchtime -The Ishi Ensemble. Led by Samuel Rolles viola. This ensemble, which has performed internationally, makes a welcome return.

Ash Wednesday 6 March – Special Services at many churches. Beginning of a varied programme of worship, study and other activities at different churches which will continue throughout Lent. Go to individual church websites for details. There are links to these on the CTF website (address below).

Thursday 7 March from 10am to 3.30pm – Ascot Priory – Quiet Day – led by the Revd H. David Uffindell (Rector of Farnham) and the Revd Paul McLaren-Cook (Warden of the Priory). More details from St Andrew's Parish Office.

Saturday 9 March – 7.30pm - St Thomas' - Farnham & Bourne Choral Society Spring Concert - with music from Elgar - The Spirit of England - and Rutter - Requiem. Tickets £15 from 01252 721075 or www.farnham-choral.org.uk

Sunday 10 March - Farnham Park - Wellies & Walkies for Phyllis Tuckwell – walk at your own pace with your four-legged friends to support Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care. Start anytime between 10am and 11am Tickets: £10 per pooch, including doggy bag. Humans walk for free! Tickets from Phyllis Tuckwell website.

Tuesday 12 March – 12 noon – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church - Lent Midday Music followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches for Christian Aid. The first recital of the series will be by Emmanuel Bach violin and Jenny Stern piano. Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid. Recitals continue each Tuesday during Lent.

Tuesday 19 March – 11am – St Joan's Centre, Tilford Road - CTF Monthly Ecumenical Prayer Meeting - Reflective readings, prayers and intercessions following refreshments. All welcome – just come along and join us!

Tuesday 19 March – 12 noon – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Lent Midday Music followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches for Christian Aid. Recital by Students from King Edward's School, Witley. Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid.

Thursday 21 March - 3pm - Farnham Methodist Church - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for Over-Sixties - with traditional hymns, followed by tea and cake. Contact Farnham ASSIST if transport is needed.

Friday 22 March – Alton Abbey Church – University of Winchester Music Centre presents a concert featuring their Folk Band, Folk Choir and String Gems to offer a programme of folk and classical music. They will be joined by soloists from the ensembles to complete an evening of beautiful music with something for everyone. 6.30pm for refreshments with wine - 7.30pm Concert with a short interval half way. Tickets £15 available from "Tickets", Friends of Alton Abbey, Alton Abbey, Beech, Alton, GU34 4AP. Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Alton Abbey". Please include a SAE & a telephone number and/or email address.

Saturday 23 March – 7.30pm – St Andrew's Church – FOSTA Quiz Night with fish and chip supper – featuring Quiz master Josh Uffindell. Tickets £10 per person (including supper), from St Andrew's Parish Office.

Tuesday 26 March - 12 noon – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Lent Midday Music followed by soup, bread and cheese lunches for Christian Aid. Recital by Esmond Clements piano, Marianne Windham double bass and Jane McEvoy singer. Free entry with retiring collection for Christian Aid. Tuesday Midday recitals continue through Lent. Details next month.

Saturday 30 March - 7.30pm - St Andrew's Church, Farnham – Concert by Farnham Sinfonia. Mozart's Horn Concerto, Haydn's Fire Symphony and Elgar's Serenade. Richard Watkins *horn*; Matthew Taylor *conductor*; Elizabeth Cooney *leader*. £17.50 on door £15 in advance Under 26 FREE. Phone 01252 613130

Saturday 30 March – 7.30pm - St Thomas-on-The Bourne - Nordic Dreams - the Spring Concert of Vox Farnham Chamber Choir. 'Come and be transported to the Lands of the Midnight Sun.' With music by Gjeilo, Grieg, Ešenvalds and Lauridsen amongst others, there will be something for everyone. Tickets £15 (u/18s free) on the door, or £12 in advance from the Parish Office 01252 715505 or search for 'Vox Chamber Choir Farnham' on Facebook.

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.