

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FARNHAM

MID-FEBRUARY & MARCH 2020 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

From Michael McDonnell:

Dear Friends,

World Day of Prayer.

Private prayer is great and of course an essential part of our prayer life. Praying with others is different and includes sharing, companionship, mutual encouragement, teamwork and unity. This kind of prayer has its own special power. Different again is a World Day of Prayer when, with joy, we connect with our sisters and brothers in every corner of the World. We share their traumas and bring to the Lord their plights. We know too, they are praying for us. Our prayers of adoration, thanksgiving and petition will make a difference to their lives and to our own.

This year's World Day of Prayer has been put together by women in Zimbabwe and will be celebrated on Friday 6th March, at St James' Church, Rowledge, commencing at 10:30 a.m. It will be a joyful occasion.

With warm regards

Michael

Michael McDonnell - Chair of Churches Together in Farnham

NOTICES

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE – that the Revd Hannah Moore, last year's Chair of Churches Together in Farnham, will be instituted and inducted as of Rector of Elstead, Vicar of Thursley, and Priest in charge of Shackleford and Peper Harow at St James Church, Elstead on Monday 16 March, at 7:30 p.m. We wish her every blessing for the future.

BISHOP LAUNCHES NEW BOOK ON THE REFORMATION - Bishop Chris Herbert will be launching his new book, "The Reformation and its effects on Farnham" at St.Thomas-on-The Bourne Church from 10:30 a.m till 12:30 p.m on Saturday 22 February. Refreshments will be served. Published by Farnham & District Museum Society, the book will be on sale at the launch price of £10. It explores how national struggles for power and influence deeply affected and shaped our town. All proceeds to the Museum Society.

CHURCHES ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE GRAND FINALE OF FARNHAM WALKING FESTIVAL – Ray Brown of Farnham Lions Club is inviting churches to contact him if they would like to take part in this special event. The Lions Club has been asked to organise the final walk of the Farnham Walking Festival on Sunday 7 June. This will involve groups such as schools, local clubs and churches, walking in from the villages around Farnham to join in the festivities at Gostrey Meadow.

Groups would arrive at approximately 2:30 p.m. The old bowling green area will be reserved for the walkers to sit and eat the picnics that they bring with them. The walkers can then join the Music in Park crowds on the other side of the river. The event is to be covered by the Farnham Town Council Insurance. If this is of interest to your Church groups please contact Ray Brown on the email below to receive more information including suggested routes. ray.brown@farnhamlions.org.uk

LENT ACTIVITIES – Not just a time to give up something – why not take up the opportunity to renew and develop our spiritual selves during Lent? Many local churches are planning series of worship, study and other activities. Please go to individual church websites for details.

ST.THOMAS-ON-THE BOURNE MIDDAY MUSIC RECITALS - Tuesdays at noon, entry is free with donations to support Christian Aid. Each recital is followed by a soup, bread and cheese lunch in the Cobbett Room. This year's programme comprises:

- 3 March Richard Lane & Andrew Harrap (Violin & Piano)
- 10 March Jim Cozens (Vocal & Guitar)
- 17 March Esmond Clements with Jane McEvoy (Jazz piano & Vocals)
- 24 March Students from King Edward's School Witley
- 31 March Sylvia Ellison (Harpsichord)
- 7 April Emmanuel Bach & Jenny Stern (Violin & Piano)

NEW ALPHA COURSE – Alastair Emblem writes: “In 2019, St Joan of Arc Catholic Church ran two Alpha courses concurrently and had 69 participants, mainly from our own congregation. This year we are encouraging people to think and pray about inviting family and friends who may have drifted away from faith, or anyone who is searching for a spiritual meaning in life. We are following the Alpha principle of welcoming everyone, with the ultimate aim of helping them to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ and to enter (or deepen) a personal relationship with Him. We do not intend to proselytise people into the Catholic Church: if they already have a background of another denomination, we will direct them back to that church. If your church is not running Alpha this year, and you know of people who would appreciate participating, they would be very welcome to come along.

The initial “taster” session with dinner and sign up will be on Sunday March 29th at 7:00 p.m in St Joan's Centre. You can find further details of the course by following this link:

http://www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk/alpha_course.html

JOIN IN WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020! – Gail Kyle writes: “In preparation of the World Day of Prayer to be held at St James’ Church, Rowledge on Friday 6 March at 10:30 p.m, the committee have been busily making book-markers in the Zimbabwean flag colours to give out to the congregation on the day. We are pleased to report that the Farnham Mayor is attending and the Revd Jane Walker will be officiating. The committee look forward to welcoming all to this colourful service from Zimbabwe to enjoy the music and quiet reflection, seeking love, peace & reconciliation - not only in our own lives & communities, but also in Zimbabwean lives too. Zimbabwean refreshments will follow. Do come and find out a little bit more about this beautiful country which has seen so much unrest in recent years and what ‘Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk’ means to the Zimbabwean women”.

“WELLIES AND WALKIES” – An opportunity for you and your four-legged friend to enjoy fresh air and beautiful countryside while raising funds for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care. Sponsored walk from Rural Life Centre on Sunday 15 March – 10:00 a.m to 12:00 noon. £10 per dog, humans walk free.

OPEN YOUR GARDEN FOR THE PHYLLIS TUCKWELL? - Enjoy this pleasant way to raise much needed funds for PTH Care while sharing the beauty of your garden, large or small, with others. Go to Phyllis Tuckwell website for more details on both the above items.

WILLS – SAVE MONEY & HELP FARNHAM ASSIST – If you’re thinking of making or changing your Will then, from 30 March until 3rd April, Kidd Rapinet will be happy to help you. Prepare a Will with Kidd Rapinet and, instead of paying Kidd Rapinet, donate a sum equivalent to 50% of the usual fee to Farnham ASSIST (terms and restrictions apply). Call 01252 717710 to book an appointment.

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 notice board.

Tuesday 18 February – 11:00 a.m – St Joan's Centre, Tilford Road, Farnham – CTF Monthly Ecumenical Prayer Group – Starting with fellowship over hot drinks and biscuits, followed by reflective readings and intercessions. Everyone welcome – just come along!

Thursday 20 February – 3:00 p.m – Spire Church (Methodist Church building) – Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for older people – friendly non-denominational service with traditional hymns – followed by tea and home-made cake served by members of the church. Contact Farnham ASSIST if help is needed with transport.

Friday 21 February – 7:30 p.m – Garden Room in The Museum of Farnham – Monthly meeting of **“The Filling Station”** in Farnham. Malcolm Beach on 01252 332781 for details.

Saturday 22 February – 10:30 a.m till 12:30 p.m – St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church – Bishop Chris Herbert launches his new book. Refreshments will be served. See **NOTICES** (above).

Ash Wednesday 26 February – start of Lent – special services at many churches.

Saturday 29 February – 2:30 p.m – Alton Abbey Church, Beech GU34 4AP – Lent Concert by the Alton Choir Society, who will perform highlights from Duruflé's Requiem and other choral favourites. **They write:** “A wonderful start to Lent, so do come and join us. The Concert starts at 2:30 p.m and is followed by Tea. Tickets £10 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. For more information email: friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com. Events in 2020 will be important fund-raisers for the Friends as we plan to build an access ramp to the church to make this easier for the less active, and those within wheelchairs, also the church lighting is to be updated. Please do support us.”

Saturday 29 February – St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham – Spring Quiz Night - tickets £10 to include a light supper. See parish website for details.

Tuesday 3 March – 12:00 midday – St.Thomas-on-The Bourne, Frensham Road – First of the weekly **Lent Music Recitals** – Organised to raise funds for Christian Aid. See **NOTICES** (above).

Wednesday 4 March – 2:30 p.m Farnham Vineyard Church – Peter Tomlinson will talk about his career as an Air Traffic Controller – tea and cake to follow. Bookings can be made through Farnham ASSIST on 01252 717710 or info@farnhamassist.org.uk – cost £5.

Friday 6 March – 10:30 a.m - St James Church, Rowledge – World Day of Prayer - ‘Rise, take up your mat and walk’ - a colourful service at which everybody is welcome. See **NOTICES** (above).

Saturday 7 March - 6:30 p.m at St.Thomas – Musical Quiz Night – Test your musical knowledge with and against your friends. The questions will be general knowledge based and broad ranging. Team up as a group and make it a sociable and fun evening for all. There will be a musical prize for the winning team. Come on your own, or tables of 8. £15 per person includes food (cash bar available). Go to St.Thomas’ website for tickets.

Sunday 15 March – 10:00 a.m to 12:00 noon – from Rural Life Centre, Tilford - Wellies and Walkies sponsored walk for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice.

Tuesday 17 March – 11:00 a.m – St.Joan’s Centre, Tilford Road, Farnham – CTF Monthly Ecumenical Prayer Group – Starting with fellowship over hot drinks and biscuits, followed by reflective readings and intercessions. Everyone welcome – just come along!

Thursday 19 March – 3:00 p.m - Spire Church (Methodist building) - Farnham ASSIST Silver Service for older people – friendly non-denominational service with traditional hymns – followed by tea and home-made cake served by members of the church– contact Farnham ASSIST if help is needed with transport.

Saturday 21 March – 7:30 p.m – St.Thomas-on-The Bourne - Farnham & Bourne Choral Society Concert. The French themed performance offers – Fauré Cantique de Jean Racine, Vierge Messe Solennelle and Fauré’s Requiem. Tickets £15 (£5 U/16s) Refreshments included. For bookings and further information please visit www.farnham-choral.org.uk.

Saturday 28 March – 7:30 p. m – St Andrew’s, Farnham - Farnham Sinfonia concert - Haydn Cello Concerto, Mozart Symphony No.29, Schumann: “Coloured Leaf”. Tickets £17.50 on the door, £15 in advance – 01252 613130

Sunday 29 March – 7:00 p.m in St.Joan’s Centre – Start of new Alpha Course. Taster Session – See **NOTICES** (above).

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.