



LINK-UP

April 2018

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

From the Chair

Three meetings

I recently had a meeting with clergy from Milford and Elstead, to meet each other and talk about how we can work together - possibly "something" just before Advent and near Pentecost.

The second was the Open Meeting of CTiGD, where we discussed the idea of having a CTiGD stall at the Winter Festival (Switch on of the Lights Day) as well as running the Christmas Together Day two weeks later. We of course need a new team to plan and run the stall - if you have ideas or would like to get involved, please make contact with me or your CT rep.

Closure of Green Oaks School

The most important meeting on the same day was about the closure of Green Oaks school in August. This would seem to me to rip the heart out of the St Marks Community and is very short-sighted considering all the new housing being built in the centre of Godalming. It will also have a knock-on effect on the other local schools in the area. If you feel our MP should get involved, do write to him: Mr Jeremy Hunt MP, 2 Royal Parade Tilford Road Hindhead Surrey GU26 6TD

Michael Stubbs, Chair of Godalming and District Churches Together, michaeleashing@aol.com

Easter is coming!

30 March - Come along to the Good Friday Walk of Witness starting at 10:45 from the Wharf (near Sainsbury's) finishing at the Pepperpot and then a hot cross bun and drink provided by Godalming Baptist Church in Queen Street.

Easter Day - Start the Day at the Sunrise service at Minster Field at 06:45. The entrance is just beyond Minster Road in Tuesley Lane, parking can be in Minster Road or Ashstead Lane or at Ladywell Convent. The Convent have kindly invited us all for a drink afterwards.

Christian Aid Week – 13 to 19 May

Christian Aid Collection in Crown Court, Godalming. Help is needed with collecting from 10:00 to 15:00 on 15, 17 and 18 May. Contact Muriel on muandon@gmail.com

Events for your diary

Below is a selection of the many events taking place during April 2018 and beyond. More detail can be found in the sections below and on the Churches Together website: www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar

Saturday 24 March

19:00 - Easter Showcase, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Godalming

Wednesday 28 March

Away day for women, Waverley Abbey (see Godalming Baptist Church)

Good Friday 30 March

10:45 - Walk of Witness – starts from the Wharf near Sainsbury's

Easter Sunday 1 April

06:45 – Sunrise service at Minster Field, Tuesley Lane

Sunday 22 April

Newcomers event, Busbridge Church

Saturday 28 April

10:00 to 12:00 – Living with Cancer, Godalming Baptist Church

Tuesday 1 May

19:30 to 21:00 – Memories of the 1950s and 1960s, Godalming Baptist Church

Saturday 12 May

10:00 to 14:00 – Women's encouragement day, Godalming Baptist Church

Friday 18 May

Life issue session: Self acceptance, Godalming Baptist Church

Saturday 26 May

08:30 – Churches Together prayer breakfast, Godalming Friends Meeting House, Mill Lane

News of the Churches and organisations

Parish of Godalming

Easter Showcase, Saturday 24 March

Join us at 19:00 on Saturday 24 March at St Peter and St Paul for a very special Easter celebration. Entry is free. Donations welcomed and refreshments will be served.

www.parishofgodalming.org.uk

Busbridge and Hambledon Church

Easter events

A full range of our Easter events can be found on our website: www.bhcgodalming.org

Newcomers event, 22 April

Later in the month we'll be having a Newcomers event for anyone new to BHC over the past couple of years, anyone interested in joining the church, those who have been married here recently or baptised... you get the general idea! If you'd like to come along please email us on church.office@bhcgodalming.org

www.bhcgodalming.org

St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

PCC away day

The PCC away day took place on Saturday 17 February at St Nicholas's Church, Peper Harow, and provided us with much food for thought as we consider how to move the church forward over the next couple of years.

Serving children and families

Our Mothering Sunday service was very busy, but overall we are considering whether our monthly Family Service is now the best way to serve families with links to the church, as a pattern of declining attendance at such services is now common to a number of churches in the area.

www.farncombe.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Hascombe

Heritage Weekend

St Peter's Hascombe will once again be participating in the Heritage Weekend in September, and we hope to mount an exhibition of life in the village, school and church during the 1914-18 war, which this year celebrates 100 years of the end of the war.

Monthly breakfast

Our monthly breakfast at 9:00 in the vestry continues, with an 8:00 service of Holy Communion, followed by a 10:00 "Something different service" where we have featured Mary's Meals, Children in Syria, Purple Community Fund (ring pulls converted to gifts) as well as Shelter boxes etc.

Monthly joint services for children and families

We have started a joint service once a month at 16:00 on a Sunday at our joint Benefice in Dunsfold for children and families.

Godalming Baptist Church

We shared a wonderful day together at Waverley Abbey at the end of March and it was such a blessing to be with so many other women representing various denominations as we considered together what being the people of God really means. Do join us for any of our Women's events - a programme can be found in Reception at GBC any weekday morning. We would love to see you!

Visit our library

Also do call in and browse in our library and borrow a book. There are many books on various life issues and also books to encourage us in our faith journey. Just sign in the red book to borrow a book-many very up to date titles can be found!

Sunday services

We are continuing to trial two different styles of worship on a Sunday morning-one Traditional at 9.45am, Coffee for all at 10.45am and a Contemporary service at 11.00am. Once a month we have a Combined Communion Service at 11.00am.

Search for a new Pastor

The church profile has now been sent off so the process of seeking God's will for our new Pastor will begin. We would greatly value your prayers.

Living with Cancer, Saturday 28 April

10:00 to 12:00 (coffee from 9:30) Dr Karen Jones, GP from Binscombe Medical Centre, is leading a session entitled *Living With Cancer*. Please do come and bring others who may also find this session helpful.

Memories of the 1950s and 1960s, Tuesday 1 May

From 19:30 to 21:00 (coffee from 19:00) David Rose will share an illustrated talk on memories of the Fifties and Sixties. Come and be nostalgic or see how your parents/grandparents lived!

Women's encouragement day, Saturday 12 May

Women's encouragement day at GBC 'Lord Give me a song' from 10:00 to 14:00.

Life issue session: Self acceptance, Friday 18 May

There will be a life issue session on 'Self Acceptance' on Friday 18 May. More details to follow.

For any of the above events, please contact Sally Pollard on pollard3@hotmail.co.uk or 01483 428646.

www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

Godalming United Church

Welcome back to Rev'd Paul Hulme

We are delighted to welcome back our minister, Rev'd Paul Hulme, from his Sabbatical – and look forward to hearing something of his experiences over the past three months.

Live video streaming

A completely new and exciting development in our outreach has just begun – a trial of live video streaming. The camera, over the main entrance at the back of the church, is focused on the raised chancel area – so most members of the congregation will not appear on-stream, and the procedure is made clear to newcomers and visitors. (People who wish to opt out are recommended to avoid the front two rows.) Visit www.thesundaysevice.org to sample our services!

Messy Church

We have Messy Church Sessions on Saturday 21 April and Saturday 16 June – both 15:00 to 17:00.

Holy Week events

- Sunday 25 March - Palm Sunday parade-and-family service 10:30
- Thursday 29 March - Maundy Service Holy Communion 19:30
- Friday 30 March, 19:30 pm - U3A Choirs: Music for Easter led by Derek Wensley
- Sunday 1 April - 10:30 Easter Sunday

www.guc.org.uk

St Edmund King & Martyr Godalming with St Joseph's Milford Roman Catholic Churches

Parish Development

We ask for your prayers, as 2018 is going to be an exciting and challenging time for the parish as we move forward, both spiritually and practically. Two presentation meetings were held in January when Fr David outlined his vision for the parish to change from a "Maintenance Parish to a Missionary Parish". We have started well and achieved a 70% response rate for an attitude Survey. A team will be formed to assist with our work to begin implementing the ideas found in the Book "Divine Renovation" by Fr James Mallon

Parish Prayer Group

Monday 9, 16 and 23 April, 20:00 at The Old Farmhouse, Elstead (opposite the Golden Fleece) contact Richard Grey 01252 702230

Other events

Bible Study - Tuesday 3, 10, 17 and 24 April, 10:30 at St Joseph's Room, Milford.

Elstead Mass at St James, Parish Church - Wednesday 11 April 17:30 - everyone is welcome, especially young families. Do join us for refreshments after the service.

Youth Mass - Saturday 17 April, 18:00 in Godalming

Parish Pilgrimage to Aylesford - 8 May – now fully booked but we will be organising future events.

'Flourishing Workshop', 7 July

Quiet and reflective day enhancing the benefits of prayer and meditation and new developments from the field of positive psychology giving a greater understanding of the opportunities presented to us as Christians – target audience young Christian parents of school children – open to all denominations – venue in Milford TBA - Cost £10 bring a packed lunch – angelagilmour181@btinternet.com

www.stedmundgodalming.btck.co.uk

Manna Ministries

Shoeless, the story of the Prodigal Son, 21 July

Our new show will take place on Saturday 21 July at 19:00 at St Catherine's School theatre, Station Road, Bramley. We really want churches to get behind this and to bring along youth and unsaved as it will be a great opportunity to share The Father's love to all. Tickets are available at www.mannaministries.org.uk.

www.mannaministries.org.uk

Items for next month's Link-Up

Please send items for the May 2018 edition of *Link-Up* to Matt Farrow: farrow.matt@gmail.com by Sunday 15 April for issue on Sunday 22 April.