



## Petersfield Area Churches Together

11 Churches - many shades of worship - but only 1 God

*December 2011 Newsletter*

*Hello*



wishing you all a merry Xmas and a great start into 2012. God bless, Susanne Irving

### Prayer for the nation

**Thursday, 1st December from 7:14pm – 8:14 pm (Market Square):** Along with thousands of others in their cities and around the world, let us meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Advent to pray for our nation, claiming the promise of 2 Chronicles 7:14: *"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins and heal their land."* See: <http://www.pact.org.uk/Chronicles714.asp>

### Unity Bookshop will close in early 2012 unless we start supporting it!

The bookshop is now stocking Christmas cards, advent calendars and candles, Christmas music and Christmas books and gifts for young and old. Also if there is a specific Christian book you are looking for the bookshop will be happy to try and order it for you... Sales have continued to fall for several years and if this trend continues, the shop will cease trading after 24 years! Remember that this is not just a bookshop, but a focus for ministry and mission in Petersfield...

### Launch of town chaplaincy on 1<sup>st</sup> December

After this date we will be starting to visit organisations and events. The churches of the town feel increasingly called by God to reach out to the people of Petersfield. When we look at Jesus' teaching we find that his ministry was centred on meeting people where they were, not necessarily waiting for them to come to him -therefore we want to model this in our town. The churches of the town are therefore setting up a Town Chaplaincy, through which we aim to do the following:

- Chaplains, members of the churches, will be out there to listen and help. We want to come along side you to offer support and comfort wherever it's needed.
- We will work in confidence and will not repeat what is discussed without your permission.
- The appointed Chaplains are volunteers and are all from the local Churches but are keen to support people of any faith or none.
- We will make time to be available as a Listening Ear knowing that when there is someone to talk to it can often make all the difference in helping people to cope with the pressures of life and work.

Do please feel free to approach us if you see us walking around the town. Alternatively, if you would like to talk to someone via email or want to make an appointment to see a chaplain then please e-mail us at [Chaplaincy@pact.org.uk](mailto:Chaplaincy@pact.org.uk), or leave a voice message on 07933479701. We promise to get back to you as soon as we can. Please also feel free to contact us if you can help us by: Offering to support us in prayer; volunteering some time; donating some money. If your church would like one of the steering group to come and talk to a group please contact us and we would love to come.

See: <http://www.pact.org.uk/chaplaincy>

### Tearfund

**Saturday, 10th December from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm (St Peter's Church):** There will be a sale of Tearfund "Created" gifts in support of skilled craftsmen working in some of the world's poorest communities. Open to all, please bring your friends.

### **Cafe Church: God became man at Christmas – can we believe it?**

**Sunday, 11th December from 5:15-7:00pm (Costa Coffe, Ramswalk):** Cafechurch is a place to talk, in a relaxed atmosphere, about big issues that affect us all, and discuss them after hearing an expert view and a Christian viewpoint/real life story. Programme: From 5:15pm coffee; 5:20pm chat; 6:30pm: chill.

### **Storage facility required**

Having recently set up a new business in Petersfield, Jez Grosvenor (a member of Hope Church, Greatham) is looking for some accessible and lockable storage space for tools etc, maybe even an area where he could put a small shed, for a reasonable rent. Thank you. Jez can be contacted on 01730 301767, 0787 414 04 06 or [jez.grosvenorgardens@gmail.com](mailto:jez.grosvenorgardens@gmail.com)

### **Creative Grace Art Workshops – anyone interested?**

Eddie Askew's daughter Jenny is running art workshops that allow people to connect with God through art. If we can get 15-20 people together the cost per person would be around £19 for half a day (this cost would include all the art material, but excludes the potential cost of room hire.) The workshop looks at expressing our faith through colour and shape. It can be quite a moving experience as each person has to look inside themselves and try to see where they are now in terms of their faith. (It could potentially be adapted to be used with our friends who are searching for God, but are not yet Christians.) For more info, see [www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zwIPRxlUV0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zwIPRxlUV0)  
If there is sufficient interest, I am happy to get something organised for 2012... Please e-mail me at [dreamachiever2000@hotmail.com](mailto:dreamachiever2000@hotmail.com) (Susanne)

### **Rooms and role models wanted**

Stonham Homegroup Supported Lodgings is trying to find places for young people who are in need of hosts for supported housing in the Petersfield, Alton, Andover, Winchester, Eastleigh, Southampton Fareham and surrounding areas. They pay £160-200 a week if you can help a young person (16+) from the local community who needs a home and a positive role model in their lives. If you want to find out more, please contact Penny on 07725 958 288 ; E-mail [penny.diver@homegroup.org.uk](mailto:penny.diver@homegroup.org.uk)

### **Volunteers wanted for BBC Digital Switchover Project**

The Digital Switchover Help Scheme is looking for Community Supporters who can help find those people who may still require assistance, reaching isolated/vulnerable individuals within the community, ensuring that no one is left with a blank screen after the switchover. The Community Supporters need to be a trusted face and voice, so that older and vulnerable people are protected and feel comfortable. The role would not be very time consuming, it would mean identifying if anyone in their area may need information, giving them a leaflet and at most a bit of support making a phone call. If you can help out, please contact Helen Freeston - Volunteer Projects Coordinator(Working hours Tuesday - Thursday 9.00a.m - 3.30pm) email: [helen.freeston@cfeh.org.uk](mailto:helen.freeston@cfeh.org.uk) or mobile 07974552526

### **Spiritual food for thought:**

*"The birth of Jesus... Saviour, Messiah, Lord... translates all that is shabby, despairing, and dying into newness, joy, and life."* (Jennie C. Olbrych)

Any items for inclusion in the **JANUARY PACT** Newsletter to reach me by  
**Monday, 26th December**

Address: Mrs Susanne Irving, 62 Station Road, Petersfield GU32 3ES,  
Telephone: 01730 231400

Email: [dreamachiever2000@hotmail.com](mailto:dreamachiever2000@hotmail.com)

**The newsletter can be viewed/downloaded from:**

[www.pact.org.uk/pact\\_newsletter\\_intro.asp](http://www.pact.org.uk/pact_newsletter_intro.asp)