



## Petersfield Area Churches Together

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

*February 2011 Newsletter*

*Hello* , may you and your family be aware of God's presence, whatever "thrills and spills" this month may bring. God bless, Susanne Irving

### Teaching on different aspects of prayer

**Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February at 12:45 (Methodist Church):** Rev. Peter Barnett will be leading a series of 3 sessions on Different Aspects of Prayer. The sessions will start at about 12.45 p.m. and last for no more than an hour. You are invited to join a "bring and share" lunch beforehand and all are most welcome.

### Engage – Hymn special

**Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> February from 7:30pm (Festival Hall):** Doors open at 7:30pm for refreshments. Worship will be from 8:00-9:30pm.

### Cafe Church: Making good decisions

**Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> February from 5:00-7:00pm (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 5:00pm coffee; 5:20pm chat; 6:30pm: chill. Meetings take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month. Upcoming topics: 400 years on – does the Bible still speak our language (13<sup>th</sup> Mar); marriage – why do we do it? (10<sup>th</sup> April) We welcome all from the PACT churches to come along and bring a friend!

### Messy church

**Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February from 3:30-5:45pm (Methodist Church Hall):** If you can help or make cakes please let Helen Mason know ASAP. Contact 01730 260344

### Petersfield Welcome Club – volunteers needed

This flourishing social club for older people (currently 25 members) urgently needs volunteers. We need someone to assist the Club Leader with the organising of activities, social outings etc. They will need to be able to relate to older people and enjoy arranging suitable activities and entertainment. Plenty of support available. We also need a car owner to transport club members to and from the Club on a fortnightly basis, giving some members assistance where necessary. (Expenses paid.) If you can spare a few hours a month, enjoy the company of older people, and would like to find out more about this enjoyable and rewarding work, do please contact Felicity Mackilligin on 01730 263081.

## Alpha course

**Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February from 7:00-9:30pm (Bulmer House) + away day on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> February:** The course will run through to 6<sup>th</sup> April and is hosted by Life Church Petersfield. This is a wonderful way of introducing people to Christianity. Please pray that those who are attending this year's course will get to know Jesus. For more info, please contact Richard Bull on 01730 893394 or email [alpha@lifechurchpetersfield.org.uk](mailto:alpha@lifechurchpetersfield.org.uk)

## Unity Christian bookshop – support needed

“... This year [2010] we have kept our heads just above water. Business is slowing down and it is an unfortunate fact that more and more people appear to be ordering their Christian books on line... If online ordering continues or increases, ... the trustees may well be forced to wind up the business... we are looking to recruit another two members to keep the trustee team at full strength...we are always on the lookout for volunteers for specific tasks like running bookstalls, helping with stock checking, stock taking and unpacking and registering parcels etc. Our manager, Rosemary Davies would love to hear from anyone with a little time and/or computer know-how, who would be prepared to help. We continue to be grateful to the PACT church members who support and use us and look forward, in faith, to the coming year.” (Di Mackarness, Chairman of Trustees) – see PACT website for a full report.

## Ministerial response received by Christian Ecology Group

The group was encouraged to receive a letter from the Department of Energy & Climate Change in response to their conversation with local MP Damien Hinds. The full letter can be read on the PACT website. Here is an extract from Gregory Barker's letter: “I welcome your constituents' interest in the Energy Security and Green Economy Bill and International Climate Change... The Green Deal will enable homes and businesses to install energy efficiency improvements at no up-front cost. Bill-payers will instead repay the cost of the measures installed over time, through the savings they make on their energy bills... We expect energy companies to play a greater role than they do through the current obligations in ensuring the poorest and most vulnerable can afford to heat their homes adequately... Your constituents can find further information... on our website: <http://www.decc.gov.uk/>”

## Advance notice: Helping Petersfield take shape for 2011 census on 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March:** In March your 2011 Census questionnaire will arrive by post and can be returned using a pre-paid envelope or can be completed online via a secure Internet site. The questionnaire should take around ten minutes. Your personal information is kept confidential for 100 years.

## Advance notice: Cornish Coach Holiday at Treloyhan Manor (near St. Ives)

We leave on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011. The cost includes half board accommodation for 7 nights, return coach travel from the Methodist Church, Station Road, Petersfield, and 5 full day excursions. Entrance fees and gratuities extra. For further info, contact Gordon Churchill on 260454 - bookings MUST be made direct to the hotel on 01736 796240.

## Spiritual food for thought:

*“Father God, journeys are notoriously unpredictable... Father, I give you this moment, this hour, this day, and I accept whatever they hold. I don't expect every moment to be easy, but I do expect you to be beside me always. You are a faithful God... I praise you, that every step I take, you take with me...I praise you that even when I walk through the valleys, you are with me, and that when I am on the mountaintops, you are beside me there, too. I praise you Lord that I can live my life with abandon because Jesus' sacrifice at Calvary has assured my final destination. Lord, I praise you. Amen.”*  
(Michele Morrison)

Any items for inclusion in the **MARCH** PACT Newsletter to reach me by **Monday, 21st February.**

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