




## Petersfield Area Churches Together

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

*February 2012 Newsletter*

*Hello* , may you feel close to God during the coming month. God bless, Susanne Irving

### **Christian Aid Simple Lunch**

**Saturday, 4th February from noon-1:30pm (URC Family Centre):** You are invited to come and sit with friends to share a simple lunch. In return for your soup, bread and cheese, which will be served to you for your lunch, you may donate to the benefit of the work for Christian Aid. Even better, a saucepan of soup could be made and offered in the morning to help the distribution of the work in making the lunch. See: [www.pact.org.uk/christian-aid-lunch2012.asp](http://www.pact.org.uk/christian-aid-lunch2012.asp)

### **Cafe Church: Living with debt – is it normal?**

**Sunday, 12th February from 5:15-7:00pm (Costa Coffee, Ramswalk):** Many people struggle with debt, especially at this time of year when the Christmas credit card bills have arrived. Cafechurch will give us a chance to talk about whether debt is a normal and inevitable part of today's society, and how we can tackle it. One of our speakers will be Stephen Proctor from CAP (Christians Against Poverty). Come and bring your views – and your friends!

On 11 March the topic will be “Jobless – Do I count?” exploring whether we find our identity in our jobs, and what happens if we don't have one.

### **Messy Church – Team wanted**

At Messy Church we are looking to develop a team of people who can come in from 5pm for an hour (or so) to help with the washing up etc and also the serving and clearing of the meal.

What I'm asking for is if you:

1. Can help out on a regular basis or
2. Know of someone who might enjoy helping out or
3. Know any of the young folk at church who might be willing to help out when they are able to.

We found after the amazing Messy Christmas that the extra people who helped and supported the kitchen team made the clear up task so much easier for all concerned and it would be wonderful to have a similar group to help out for the other Messy Church sessions in the year. Contact: Helen on 07886 289619. See: [www.pact.org.uk/messy-church-christmas2011.asp](http://www.pact.org.uk/messy-church-christmas2011.asp)

### **Bringing light to those in prison**

Dear friends it has been my privilege to be a group facilitator on the Sycamore Tree Project in Kingston Prison. The twenty men on the course were so appreciative of us giving up our time and by the last of six sessions they were really understanding how their crime had impacted everyone around them. They then read poems and had a symbolic act of 'restoration' we all had tears in our eyes as they bravely faced the ripple effects of their crime. If you could be interested in being a group facilitator you would commit six Monday afternoons and run two six minute discussions with four men (The tutor is running the rest of the session with help of a DVD.) Sycamore Tree is based around the story of Zachaeus and is faith based but not faith promoting, it really helps residents to want to put things right and helps them move towards being ready to be released on license. Please contact me if you would like more information. John Callaghan

### **Town Chaplancy**

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.

### **Creative Grace Art Workshops**

Some people have asked for more info about the art workshop. There is a You Tube video that gives a flavour of what is on offer: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zwIPRxlUVO](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zwIPRxlUVO) I am happy to get something organised if we get enough people together. We need a minimum of 15 people, so please spread the word among those who may be interested. 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@cfef.org.uk](mailto:helen.freeston@cfef.org.uk) or mobile 07974552526

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

*"The world asks, 'How much does he give?' Christ asks, 'Why does he give?'"* (John Raleigh Mott)

Any items for inclusion in the **MARCH PACT** Newsletter to reach me by **Friday, 24th February**

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

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