



Petersfield Area Churches Together

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

December 2012 Newsletter

Hello, may you have an encounter with the living God this Christmas. God bless, *Susanne*

Christmas Day Lunch (message from coordinator Katie)

I am organising this year's PACT Christmas day lunch. I would be very grateful if you could pass my contact details to any one you feel would benefit from an invite. My details are email : draglet@live.co.uk; Telephone: 07789093346. See: www.pact.org.uk/CDL

As usual the dinner will be provided at no cost to the guests, although there will be a voluntary collection for a local charity (yet to be decided). The aim of this dinner remains the same as in previous years to provide those who would be lonely and isolated this Christmas with a hot dinner and some company. It is to be held in the Methodist church hall and transport can be arranged for those requiring it.

We are short on committee members from the various churches that form PACT; as it stands St Peters and the Salvation Army are represented, the cook comes from St Lawrence. We are also looking for volunteers to help with various tasks on the day its self.

Any monetary donations (preferably in cheque form, payable to PACT) should be sent to the postal address below.

c/o The Parish Office, Church Path, The Square, Petersfield, GU32 3HS

Tearfund sale

Saturday, 1st December from 11:00am-2:00pm (St Peter's Church): Coffee/Tea available. Simon and Elizabeth Mitchell, your local Tearfund Created Gifts representatives, will have many items available to purchase including Christmas cards. It is a great opportunity to buy gifts, including jewellery, scarves, and other household items, and at the same time supporting a Christian charity which believes in: * A fair price for skill and effort * Open and honest trading relationships * Good working conditions * Safeguarding children * Protecting the environment * Work that offers dignity and respect * Demonstrating the love that Jesus has shown to the world. So bring your purses and cheque books and be prepared to buy from the range of beautiful goods made by artisans in the developing world. Your orders can be taken in advance for collection on the day. Please contact Simon or Elizabeth on 02392375953 or email: simon@wardmitchell.co.uk for more information. You can view the items available in the catalogue at www.createdgifts.org

Cafe Church : Simply Christmas - How to celebrate in times of austerity

Sunday, 9th December from 5:15-7:00pm (Costa Coffee, Ramswalk): This cafechurch will be slightly different, as it will include a guided craft session showing you how to make your own Christmas without breaking the bank. We'll also have our usual mix of quizzes and brief talks, with an opportunity to discuss the issues in an open atmosphere where all opinions are equally valued. Cafechurch is hosted by Hope Church Greatham, and we welcome people from all local churches, as well as those of others faiths and none. If you've never been to cafechurch, why not give it a try. We meet at Costa Coffee in Rams Walk, Petersfield, from 5.15-7pm on the second Sunday of every month. Good coffee, good company, good conversation. Further details from Nigel Halliday (Tel: 07952 120937, Email: nigelhal@waitrose.com).

Advance notice: Ideas needed for next Lent groups (message from Barbara Ward)

I am a member of St. Peters and have been involved with Lent Groups ever since we moved to Petersfield in 1987, and in fact in Durham for some years before...so an old hand you might say ! I am anxious that some thought be given early as to program in 2013. Some of us think it is time we had something more challenging... and interesting... and even a bit more progressive than the York Courses which are a pretty safe 'middle of the road'. So PLEASE put it on your agenda in good time. Thanks, and look forward to hearing some good ideas! Sincerely Barbara Ward. Please contact Barbara if you have any suggestions: be.ward@hotmail.co.uk

Advance notice: Coach Holidays to Devonshire (29th June - 6th July)

We stay at the Christian Guild Hotel "Sidholme", which is situated only a few minutes' walk from the charming town of Sidmouth with its splendid Jurassic Coast coastline. The hotel sits in nine acres of delightful grounds which include a heated indoor swimming pool. We will drive through the beautiful Devon countryside, visit other seaside towns, National Trust properties, and maybe do a boat trip or steam train ride. There will be five full day excursions with a day of leisure on Wednesday. There may also be an opportunity for short optional walks on other days. The coach will start from Petersfield Methodist Church and pickups can be arranged from Liss, Winchester, Southampton, Bournemouth and Dorchester. The price per person for an ensuite room is £565 (£530 in the annex) for 7 nights dinner and bed and breakfast accommodation. This includes return travel, five full day excursions, but excludes entry fees and gratuities. Further information can be obtained from Gordon Churchill on 01730 260454, but all bookings must be made directly with Sidholme Hotel on 01395 515104, stating your preferred pickup point.

Spiritual food for thought:

"Christmas Gift Suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To your opponent, tolerance. To your friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect." (Owen Arnold)

Any items for inclusion in the **January PACT Newsletter** to reach me by
Thursday, 27th December

Address: Mrs Susanne Irving, 62 Station Road, Petersfield GU32 3ES
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**The newsletter can be viewed/downloaded
online**www.pact.org.uk/pact_newsletter_intro.asp