




Petersfield Area Churches Together

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

September 2010 Newsletter

Hello  , I hope you enjoyed the summer, even though it was so wet. There will still be a regular newsletter in October before we go bi-monthly, i.e. there will be no newsletter in November, but one for the all-important Christmas season. God bless, Susanne Irving

Changes

We said goodbye to the Salvation Army's **Stewart Madden** and welcomed his replacement **Captain Linda Read**, who had been leading a Northern Ireland Corp. We wish her well in her ministry here in Petersfield. We also welcome **Rev. Judith Bee**, who will be licensed at St. Mary's Buriton on 8th September. Judith is known to many in PACT through her work with Causeway Prospects. **Canon Gerard Hetherington** from St. Laurence RC Church will be retiring at the beginning of September. We welcome **Father Peter Hollins** to Petersfield; his Induction Service will be on 10th September.

Job opportunity: Children and Families Worker at St Mary Magdalen, Sheet

Part-time Children and Families Worker to work 8 hours a week (£4,000 pa), to help us to take further our work with children and families. We need somebody to coordinate our Kids' Church Team, help to plan All Age Worship and befriend and encourage those on the margins of the church in their Christian discipleship. CRB Check/ISA Registration will be required. For more details please contact Rev. Rob Dewing 01730 263673 or robdewing@stmaryssheet.org.uk Closing date for applications **Friday 24 September**

King's Arms: Building works delay re-opening

It now seems likely that the building will re-open at the end of September.

Tearfund Meeting

Tuesday, 7th September at 7:30pm (St. Peter's Church Hall): We will be focusing on "Connected Church", a Tearfund initiative which has evolved from partnering with local churches in the developing world. Another inspiring event, which relates to the church's work in this country: "Authentic Church - the community mission conference", will be on **Friday, 1st October at Westminster Chapel, SW1E 6BS from 10am - 4pm**. Cost: £25 which includes lunch. For more info, phone 233769.

"Back to church" Sunday

Sunday, 26th September at 10am (St Mary Magdalen) and 3rd October at 9.30am (St. Peter's)

Next Alpha Course

Friday, 3rd September (URC): Introductory Supper; sessions start 23rd September. Details from 01730 710565 – see http://www.pact.org.uk/associated_groups-alpha.asp.

Advance notice: 2 more "Engage" events this autumn

Following the successful first 'Engage' in June, Life Church Petersfield will be hosting two more:
Saturday, 9th October, 7.30pm (Festival Hall): The speaker will be Rob Dewing.
Monday, 1st November, 8.00pm (The Petersfield School): The speaker will be [Canon Andrew White, vicar of Baghdad](#). All are invited to these informal times of worship.

Climate Change and Christian Faith CD

York Courses, familiar to many of us who attended their Lent courses, has issued a CD containing an interview with Sir John Houghton, CBE, FRS. He is a convinced Christian, an eminent climate scientist and a Nobel laureate. Using simple language, he explains the science of Climate Change and his Christian hope. The PACT Christian Ecology Group has a copy of this CD available for short-term loan. To borrow it, phone Gerald Druce on 01730 266107 giving your name and contact details.

Volunteers wanted for Kingdom Kids Christian Club at Herne Junior School

The club meets on Tuesday lunch times between 12:15 and 13:10. It started in the second half of the Autumn term 2008 and has been going solidly until the end of this Summer term. Initially, Children from year three came hungry for God. We followed on a theme from that summer's Holiday Club with a book called "The Good Painter", then moved onto the classic story of "You are Special" by Max Lucado. We then introduced the main character, Jesus. At first we had around 20 children and with the help of lots of fun and games to begin our gatherings, it grew in popularity. We use expressive dramas, catchy songs, quizzes with loads of prizes to win. We have our very special guests like Rob Dewing and Dominic Clarke to bring their presence and seal of authority onto what is happening. The headmaster was so impressed that he gave us a snap shot of his own personal story and journey with God. Kingdom Kids has grown both in popularity and reputation, and is now open to the whole school; it has become cool to go along and praise God and talk to him. Highlights included breaking bread with the children to re-enact the last supper at Easter and bringing in the rugged wooden cross - for some children it was the first time that they understood how God's beloved son died for them personally. One day we studied the parable of the mustard seed and looked at how it grows so big, like the Kingdom of Heaven. We had around thirty children planting their own mustard seeds as a step to receiving God into their lives for the first time. We firmly believe that God is still growing those seeds of faith, in every child who has sat and heard God's words. It has been an amazing privilege to watch these children grow in love for God and with each other, as the weeks progress. The team currently consists of Alison Udall, Becky Farr and Louise Jerome. In order for this work to continue, we need to find some willing volunteers to help run with Kingdom Kids and make it prosper in the future. If you are at all interested in joining us, please could you let Alison Udall know on 262886.

Advance notice: Christmas comedy "An Angel's Delight"

Thursday, 9th December 2010 at 7.30pm (Festival Hall): performed by Saltmine.

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

We leave on Saturday, 2nd 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 who will quote a price depending on the type of room chosen. Many of the 'regulars' have already booked their places!! Here is a report from Jo Redgewell who went on the recent holiday to the Lake District: 'Each year Gordon Churchill organises a coach holiday at one of the Christian Guild hotels. This year it was at Abbot's Hall, near Grange over Sands. The varied programme catered for all tastes and levels of activity, including optional long or short walks, visits to stately homes and gardens, museums, a steam railway, and a cheese factory. There was nothing rushed about the holiday with stops in attractive places for coffee, lunch and tea. On return some entertainment is offered each evening after a delicious dinner. The driver, Brian of Grey's coaches and Gordon were always ready to lend a hand when needed and everyone agreed it had been a perfect holiday.'

Any items for inclusion in the **OCTOBER** PACT Newsletter to reach me by
Monday, 27th September

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The newsletter can be viewed/downloaded

onlinewww.pact.org.uk/pact_newsletter_intro.asp