



LINK-UP

Keeping Churches in Touch

www.godalmingchurches.org

December 2017



From the Chair

First and last

Were you there on the first day and will you be there on the last? There was a Joint Churches service on 1 January this year, and there will be another one as the year ends on 31 December. You are very welcome to come for a time of informal worship at Busbridge Church from 18:30 to 19:30.

Working together.

As Churches Together in Godalming and District we have a stall on the Christmas Together day in Godalming High street from 10:00 to 16:00 on Saturday 9 December. We will be handing out leaflets and offering a free present wrapping service. If you can offer an hour (or two) during the day or help clear away, please get in touch. No great skills needed - just a friendly face!

Michael Stubbs, Chair of Godalming and District Churches Together, michaeleashing@aol.com

Events for your diary

Below is a selection of the many events taking place during December 2017 and beyond. More detail can be found in the sections below and on the Churches Together website: www.godalmingchurches.org/calendar

Saturday 2 December

Away in a Manger for adults, Ladywell Convent – see Godalming Baptist Church below

Friday 8 September

15:00 – Feba prayer meeting, 42 Minster Road, Godalming (see Busbridge & Hambledon Church)

17:30 – Carol singing at Godalming Station, organised by Godalming Quakers

Saturday 9 December

10:00 - Christmas Together in Godalming

15:30 - Procession and blessing of the Crib at The Pepperpot

16:00 - Town Carol Service, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul

19:00 - Raggedy doll performed by Manna Ministries, The Leatherhead Theatre, KT22 8DN

19:00 - *Any Colour you Like* (Pink Floyd tribute band), St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

Thursday 14 December

19:00 to 21:00 - Christmas treats and festive floral demo, Godalming Baptist Church

18:30 – Carolling in Farley Green with Manna Ministries

Saturday 16 December

10:30 to 13:30 - Christmas Coffee Stop, Family Flicks and sale, Godalming Baptist Church

19:00 - An evening of seasonal gospel music, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Godalming

Sunday 17 December

17:30 – Carol service, Godalming Baptist Church (with Manna Ministries)

Sunday 31 December

18:30 to 19:30 – Churches Together informal worship at Busbridge Church

19:00 to 21:00 – Round off 2017 in stillness, Godalming Friends Meeting House

Saturday 20 January 2018

10:00 to 13:00 – Seven Laws for Life, Godalming Baptist Church

News of the Churches and organisations

Parish of Godalming

An evening of seasonal gospel music, Saturday 16 December

Join us for a very special evening of seasonal gospel music on Saturday 16 December at 19:00 at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Godalming. Come and hear our amazing gospel choir performing a selection of traditional and contemporary Christmas gospel music. Wine and other refreshments served. Free entry, donations appreciated.

www.parishofgodalming.org.uk

Busbridge and Hambeldon Church

Feba prayer meeting, Friday 8 December

Please come and support a prayer meeting for Feba, a media organisation with partners in most of the world's trouble spots. 42 Minster Road, Godalming, Friday 8 December, 15:00 to 16:00. Further information from 01483 417725 or jimdogshome@aol.com

www.bhcgodalming.org

St John's Parish Church, Farncombe

Any Colour you Like, 9 December, 19:00

Saturday 9 December sees the welcome return to St John's Church, Farncombe of the fabulous 10-piece Pink Floyd tribute band, Any Colour You Like. The net proceeds of the concert will be donated to the Trinity Trust Team youth project. The aim is to raise over £1,000 as has been done on Any Colour You Like's previous Farncombe shows for this charity. Advance tickets at £14 each available from Record Corner or by contacting Julian Lewry on 01483 421520 or e-mail julianlewrymusic@aol.com . £17 on the door. Doors open at 19:00, show starts at 19:45.

Carol services

Everyone is particularly welcome to the Carol Service at 18:30 on Sunday 17 December, and Carols by Candlelight at 19:30 on Friday 22 December in the Church Hall.

www.farncombe.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Hascombe

A chance to hear the Nativity story, Sunday 24 December, 16:00

We shall be hearing the Nativity story afresh on Christmas Eve at 16:00, when young and old alike from around the village, along with visitors, are invited to take part in a traditional but unrehearsed Nativity. The short play will be interspersed with the familiar well loved carols. Everyone is most welcome to come and join us.

Godalming Baptist Church

Thank you for the vital link of loving friendship with you all and the part we all play in showing the love of Jesus to the many folk in our town. We wish everyone a very happy and blessed Christmas and many blessings, peace, hope and much happiness for 2018.

Away in a Manger for adults, Saturday 2 December

Now our thoughts are turning to Christmas and beyond! We have an opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations on Saturday 2 December when Pam Thorogood is leading our day at Ladywell entitled 'Away In A Manger for Adults'. This is a great opportunity to step aside at the beginning of Advent for quiet reflection on the true meaning of Christmas. 20 different churches will be represented. To book a place please contact Sally Pollard - pollard3@hotmail.co.uk, Janet Fry-janetfry1@gmail.com or the Church Office: 01483-422105 Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings.

Christmas treats and festive floral demo, Thursday 14 December

In complete contrast we also look forward to a cookery and floral Christmas card demonstration led by Philip and Simon, from 19:00 to 21:00 on Thursday 14 December. Please contact Sally Pollard on 01483 428646 if you would like to come. Tickets are £8 per person.

Christmas Coffee Stop, Family Flicks and sale, Saturday 16 December

On Saturday 16 December, we have a Christmas Coffee Stop, Family flicks, entertainment by The You-Ukes and Christmas Sale from 10:30 to 13:30. Do drop in, it would be lovely to see you.

Seven laws for life, Saturday 20 January 2018, 10:00 to 13:00

This lively three hour seminar, led by Lynette and Mike Brooks from CWR, considers the seven key elements of a dynamic Christian life. Through Biblically based teaching, discover ways of cultivating an effective prayer life, keeping your faith alive through difficult circumstances, helping others, and overcoming doubt and fear. This event is open to all-both men and women- and is a great way for us all to start the new year together. Tickets cost £7. Please reserve a place by Friday 12 January by contacting Sally Pollard or Janet Fry as above.

Daytime Alpha course, starting Tuesday 16 January 2018

We are also starting a daytime Alpha course with a crèche provided on Tuesday 16 January from 10:15 to 11:45. Please do let anyone know who may be interested in coming.

www.godalmingbaptistchurch.org.uk

Godalming United Church

Sunday 19 November was marked a moving and joyful event, when two of our "church family" – Jenny West and Gerry McAteer, together for over twenty years – were married in a ceremony within the morning service. The well-kept secret was known to only a few beforehand – and relatives (including Jenny's Mum in her 90s who had come from Bristol) discovered that their "family get-together" was in fact a wedding just when they arrived in church. Needless to say, celebratory cake and drinks augmented the usual post-service coffee!

Looking ahead, you are cordially invited to join us on:

Saturday 2 December

18:00 - 40th Anniversary Candlelit Supper. Tel 01483 416592, cost £15 per person

Sunday 3 December

10:30 - *Hosanna Rock* – short children's musical for the start of Advent. A Family Service with offerings of toys & gifts for the less fortunate in our community (distributed by The Cellar café)

Saturday 16 December

15:00 to 17:00 - Messy Church – Christmas is coming! Tel 01483 414778

19:00 - Godalming Band Christmas Concert Tel 01483 428701

Sunday 17 December

18:00 - Candlelit Carol Service with Christingles

Sunday 24 December

10:30 - normal Sunday morning service

16:00 to 16:45 - Christmas Eve Communion

Monday 25 December

10:00 - Christmas Family Worship – children are invited to bring a present to show

Sunday 7 January 2017

10:30 - Covenant Service

www.guc.org.uk

Godalming Quakers

Carol singing at Godalming station, Friday 8 December, 17:30

As usual, Godalming Quakers will be at Godalming station singing Christmas carols for the returning commuters and raising funds for Quaker Homeless Action.

Round off 2017 in stillness, 31 December, 19:00 to 21:00

We would like to invite the people of Godalming and district to join us as we round off 2017 in stillness at the Friends Meeting House in Mill Lane. The evening will include led meditations, thoughtful activities and inspiring ways to reflect on the year past and look forward to the year ahead. Simple refreshments will be provided.

www.godalmingquakers.org.uk

Manna Ministries

Raggedy Doll, Saturday 9 December 2017, 19:00

Manna Ministries presents *Raggedy Doll*, a show based on the song of the same name by Philippa Hanna, featuring live music from Philippa Hanna. This year's performance will be at The Leatherhead Theatre, 7 Church St, Leatherhead KT22 8DN. Tickets are £10 per person or £30 for a family or group of 2 adults and 2 children. Carers, disabled and OAPs £7. www.mannaministries.org.uk/raggedy-doll-2017

Cinema M16:15

Manna Ministries runs movie nights showing thought provoking Christian films to the general public for a donation on the night. Every Cinema M16:15 showing is staged old style, we have classic cinema adverts and usherettes. Next screenings are: 2 December, 6 January, 3 February and 3 March.

Carolling in Farley Green, Thursday 14 December

Want to join us? Meet us on the green opposite Farley Hall (GU5 9DN) at 18:20. Wrap up warm and bring you best singing voice as we go from door to door singing carols to our local community. Refreshments available afterwards at the barn church.

Carol service, Sunday 17 December, 17:30

Come and support us as we participate in the Godalming Baptist Church carol service. We would love to see you there with us.

Encounter

Come and join us for a time of intimate worship, prayer and word at Farley Hall, Shophouse Land, Farley Green GU5 9DN. Upcoming times are 17 December, from 19:00 to 21:00.

Godalming academy

Manna Ministries' Godalming academy runs on Tuesdays at Godalming Baptist Church from 16.15 for an hour for children aged 5 to 9 years It is going strong and would love new members.

Fundraising for microphones

Manna Ministries needs your help. Every show we need microphones to give children the best possible platform. At present, and for the last 9 shows, we have had to hire these, which is costly. If we had our own microphones, these funds could be put back into the charity to help us reach out to more children. If you would like to make a donation please visit: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/manna-academy

Looking for volunteers

Can you spare an hour of your time every week? Manna Ministries is looking for volunteers aged 18+ in Eastbourne, Reigate and Guildford who have a heart to serve children aged 4 to 16 and see them share Jesus through the power of performing arts.

Sponsoring of Manna Ministries

If you are, or were going to, sponsor Manna Ministries, please can you do it through the Stewardship scheme and whether anonymously or named can you mention 'Godalming Churches' and if possible agree to sponsor them for a stated period of time? It makes their accounting easier and helps landlords have more confidence with their rent. I have some paper copies of the sponsor forms, or you can go on the Manna Ministries website. If you have any queries, please contact Michael Stubbs.

www.mannaministries.org.uk

Diocese of Guildford

Read my lips: lipreading courses

These will take place on Thursday afternoons from 14:00 to 16:00 at The Octagon, Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Godalming GU7 1ES. Classes are £5 per session, payable termly in advance. The first class is a taster session and will be free. Classes are limited to 10 people, completion of a booking form is required. 11 January 2018 to 20 March 2018 (half term 15 February).

To find out more, please contact Tracey Wade, Sensory Inclusion Adviser in the Diocese of Guildford Communities Engagement Team. Tel: 01483 790327 or 18001 01483 790327. Mob: 07531 268476. Email: tracey.wade@cofeguildford.org.uk

Items for next month's Link-UP

Please send items for the January 2018 edition of *Link-Up* to Matt Farrow: farrow.matt@gmail.com by Friday 22 December for issue during the week commencing Monday 25 December.