

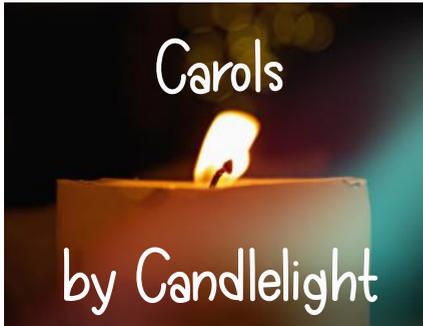


**The Good
Shepherd**
Four Marks

www.goodshepherdfourmarks.org.uk

Our church diary is available to view
on the website

23rd December 2018



Tonight at 5pm & 7pm

Mulled wine and mince pies served
between the services

Christmas Collection

This Sunday's collection as well as for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services will be donated to other causes. 50% of the giving at these services will be donated to Starfish (for teaching supplies for Ali Beckett in Malawi), 25% will go to Christians Against Poverty, Alton Debt Centre, and the remaining 25% will go to Trussell Trust, Alton Food Bank
Many thanks for your generosity!

Confirmation - 3rd February

Our confirmation service in 2019 takes place on the 3rd February at our 7pm service. If you are interested in exploring confirmation please speak to Howard. Any youth who are interested can also speak with Lorna.

Growing Leaders

A growing leaders course will take place in 2019 on Wednesday evenings in the Maltings Centre, Alton. Dates of the course are: January 16th, February 13th, March 20th, April 24th, May 15th and June 19th. If you are interested in joining the course or becoming a mentor please speak to Howard.

Greetings from Ali

Hi everyone, Thank you so much for welcoming me back so warmly on Sunday. It was lovely to see you all. I would like to invite you all to a Malawi evening, here at COGS, on Tuesday 15th January, where I will be sharing about my experiences in Malawi and how God has led me so far. I will return to Malawi at the end of January.

Love and God bless, Ali Beckett

The Week Ahead

Sunday 23rd December | He is King

Romans 16:25-27 & Luke 1:26-38

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion service

11.30am - Cell church in the chapel

5pm - Carols by Candlelight

7pm - Carols by Candlelight

Monday 24th December

11.30pm - Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

Tuesday 25th December

9.30am - Christmas Day service

Sunday 30th December | He is God

Hebrews 1:1-13 & Luke 1:46-55

9.30am - All Age Communion service

Wednesday 2nd - Friday 4th January

Please note during these three days, the church is undergoing an electrical check and power will be largely unavailable.

Sunday 6th January | He is King

Isaiah 60:1-3 & Matthew 2:1-12

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion service

11.30am - Cell church in the chapel

7pm - Celebration service with communion

Giving

We do not take offerings at our services. Our preferred method of financial giving to continue the

excellent work of Church is via Standing Order. Please contact the Church Office or our Treasurer, Richard Gillard (01420 564279 or Gillardbm@outlook.com) for more details or pick up a Standing Order Mandate at the back of the church. If you wish to make cash or cheque donations, please place in the receptacle. If you wish to donate online, these are our account details: Acc No: 60003685. Sort Code: 60-01-13. Many thanks for your generosity.

Caring in Prayer

New/Updated

Christmas @ COGS - Pray for the services and events, especially this weekend and next.

Dave - Dave continues in ICU with the possibility of another 3 months slow recovery, then moving wards. Please pray for Dave, his wife Sarah and all the family.

Continuing

Praise - Thanks for all your prayers this year. Most recent answers to prayer include Holiday at Home and Messy Christingle

Community - Pray for those who will find celebrating difficult this Christmas. Pray that litter picking, Street/Town Pastors, CAP and Foodbank will make lasting difference and change perceptions of God.

11.30am Cell Church - This new congregation requests our prayers for its development as it caters for those of us who seek to worship God regularly but have particular constraints.

Jane - Pray for improvement in Jane's health, especially for her blood pressure.

Bethany - Has returned to college. Pray for protection against accidents and for the Lord's reassurance..

Greg - Is out of hospital having had a small stroke. He will have tests in 2 weeks. Pray for continued healing.

**Please note the office will be closed from Monday 24th
December until Sunday 6th January**

Church Treasurer

After 9 and 11 years respectively, Rich Gillard and Tim Wettone are stepping down from the superb jobs they have been doing overseeing our church finances. We firstly want to say thank you to them for their exceptional service to us, and secondly to encourage us all to pray both for them as they move onto new things, and for ourselves as we seek a new treasurer.

We continue to need another church warden to support Lynn and Howard and now additionally, need one person to be our church treasurer, though the tasks can be shared with others. The key tasks are the setting and overseeing, with our PCC, of our budget, the management of payments and receipts, and, the collection of gift aid and payroll. If you'd like to know more, please do speak to Howard, Lynn, Rich or Tim – the latter are offering a valuable handover period.

Lorna & Tim

Last Sunday we began reading banns in preparation for Lorna and Tim's marriage.

Lorna and Tim will be married in the church on

Saturday 19th January 2019 at 1pm. Everyone is welcome at the church service!

If you would like to make a contribution to a church wedding gift then please place your contribution in a clearly marked envelope and hand it to Matt, to Lynn, or into the church collection box. Thank you.

**31 Dec 11.15 pm Watchnight service at Alton Methodist
All invited to pray in the new year**

Christmas Quiz

Mike Saltmarsh has prepared his Christmas Quiz. Copies will be available for purchase from Mike on Sunday. It will cost £3 which will go towards the Church Homeless Trust. A great way to keep your mind sharp during the festive season, whilst supporting a good cause.

Christmas at COGS

Please be aware of our Christmas services and events coming up at COGS

Sunday 23rd December, 5pm & 7pm - Carols by Candlelight

Monday 24th December, 11.30pm - Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday 25th December, 9.30am - Christmas Day Service

Sunday 30th December, 9.30am - Family Service (only service this Sunday)



PRAYER and PASTORAL REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests for the prayer chain, please email or ring the Church Office on 01420 560622 or Howard Wright on 01420 563344.

If it would be helpful for a member of the pastoral visiting team to call on you, please contact Howard, Debbie Norgate (01420 84534) or Gilly Cobb (01420 544404).



Ministers: All of Us Together

Vicar: Howard Wright
Tel: 01420 563344
Email: howardwright.cogs@gmail.com

Youth & Children's Worker: Lorna Randall
Tel: 07914 519998
Email: lornarandall812@hotmail.com

Family Worker: Jane Hughes
Tel: 07711 407831
Email: Jane_COGS@btinternet.com

Church Office: Matt Senior
Tel: 01420 560622
Email: cogsoffice@googlemail.com

Send Sunday Sheet items to the church office before end of day on Thursday



Everyone is welcome to join us for a chat and tea/coffee **between** morning services or **before** the 7pm service

For communion, gluten-free wafers are available and there is a chalice with non-alcoholic wine. Please ask when you come forward if you would like to take these.

MISSIONS OF THE MONTH - December

Christians Against Poverty

We are on a mission to release thousands of families from grinding poverty through award winning debt counselling and community groups. By equipping and empowering local churches to reach out on their doorsteps, we're bringing hope to over 21,500 families every year.

capuk.org

