



**The Good
Shepherd**
Four Marks

www.goodshepherdfourmarks.org.uk

Our church diary is available to view
on the website

13th January 2019

**Well over 1,000
people attended our
Christmas events and
services.**

*Glory to God
in the Highest*

Our Christmas Collection

Raised **£2,058.51**

Thank you for your generosity!

50% has gone to Starfish Malawi for resources for the nurseries that Ali Beckett works in. 25% to Christians Against Poverty, Alton Debt Centre, and the remaining 25% to Trussell Trust, Alton Food Bank

Starfish, CAP and Foodbank send their thanks.

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

The Growing Leaders Course, run by churches in Alton Deanery, is being held at The Maltings Centre on six Wednesday evenings January-June 2019. Leadership at every level is one of the key factors in growing healthy churches; Growing Leaders addresses firm foundations for Christian leadership; the key skills of Christian leadership; and on keeping faithful in Christian leadership. The Course starts this Wednesday. If you've been thinking of attending but haven't yet signed up – or even if the holding of this Course is news to you, and you'd like to know more - please speak either to Howard or to Brian Pritchard, the Area Dean, on 01420 561394.

Malawi Evening 7.30pm Tuesday 15th January

in the church with pudding provided!

Join us to see and hear of God's work through Starfish and Ali with the children of Malawi.
Contributions of pudding welcome.

 **starfish malawi**
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

The Week Ahead

Sunday 13th January | Joy

1 Peter 1:1-12 & Matthew 5:1-12

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age service of the Word

11.30am - Cell church in the chapel

7pm - Celebration service

Monday 14th January

8am - Prayer in the chapel

10am - Pop in for Prayer at 17 Fairfield Green

10am - Bumps & Babies in the church hall

7.30pm - Visiting Team in the church hall

7.30pm - Youth cells meet

Tuesday 15th January

7am - Early Morning Prayer in the chapel

7.30pm - Malawi Evening in the church

Wednesday 16th January

2pm - Tea & Chat in the church hall

2pm - Tea & Bowls in the church

Thursday 17th January

9.45am - Ladies cell in church hall/ Upper room

12.30pm - Toddler Lunch in the church hall

Friday 18th January

8am - Prayer in the chapel

Saturday 19th January

10am - Litter Picking at Oak Green

**1pm - Lorna & Tim's
wedding**



Sunday 20th January | Grow

1 Peter 1:13-2:3 & Matthew 7:24-29

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion service

11.30am - Cell church in the chapel

7pm - Celebration service with communion

Caring in Prayer

New/Updated

Ali - Pray for the Malawi evening on Tuesday 15th. Pray for Ali's strength, health, and stamina and for the renewal of her passport and visa.

Bowls and Chat - Pray for this week's opportunity (especially for those new to the area) to know people better.

Lorna & Tim - Pray for the wedding, and for the presence of God to be felt. Pray for them in their work/life balance as they transition from single life.

Acting treasurer - Give thanks for David's willingness to be our acting treasurer and continue to pray for God's provision in COGS' finances.

Bethany - Pray for the Lord's guidance in her care, especially in her next operation.

Greg - Has been at hospital again. Pray for the Lord's guidance in his care..

Continuing

Dave - We give thanks that Dave is getting stronger and is out of hospital and now convalescing at home. Please pray for continued recovery and that Dave and Sarah will trust in God's help.

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 but have particular constraints.

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.

Good News! Interim Church Treasurer

We are delighted to announce that David Craigen has offered, and been appointed by PCC, to be our Acting Treasurer to oversee our finances in the interim. David took over from the 1st of January.

We want to publicly thank Richard for his 9 years as treasurer, for superbly overseeing our finances and providing excellent leadership for us.

While we remain very grateful for the continued assistance of Tim Wettone as the assistant treasurer, we are still in need of an urgent replacement, or for his role to be divided among more than one person.

Help needed:

If you'd be interested in being part of a team, helping with an aspect of our finances, such as payroll, expenses, managing gift aid, data entry, etc. Please let Matt know via the office or speak directly to David.

And please continue to pray as new processes are explored to ensure that we have a robust system and the right people in place as we move forwards.

Lorna & Tim's Wedding

Saturday 19th January 2019 at 1pm.

Everyone is welcome at the church service!



Litter Picking

Come and help us show some of God's love to the village. Saturday 19th

January, 10-11am

Meet behind the garage at Oak Green



A group from COGS are going to be attending Wildfires this year. Please speak to Jane if you are interested in learning more.

Cell Church at Nosh

The 11.30am cell church will gathering at Nosh on Sunday 27th January. Please pray for this congregation and for this gathering, for them to be able to develop and reach out to new people as they do this.

CAP is Recruiting!

Christians Against Poverty are looking for people to join them in a number of different roles - befrienders, community links coordinator, money coaches, fresh start coaches. If you are interested pick up a flier from the porch. CAP would also value your prayers and your giving (details on the flier).

Parish Magazine on Website and Contributions Please for the Next Magazine

The magazine is on the website and I encourage you to view it there.

Your contribution to the next magazine is invited and should reach Robert Parker (parker305@btinternet.com) not later than the 15th of the month. Thank you

Prayer

The dates for the church prayer meetings this year are 5 February, 7 May, 23 July and 22 October. These are all Tuesdays. The title of the first is 'Building a House of Prayer'. I hope to see many of you there.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is launching Thy Kingdom Come 2019. There is an equipping morning to be held on Thursday 31 January in Southampton from 9.30am to 1pm. If anyone is interested in attending please let me know asap as we need to book spaces.

Small Group notes for 13th January

How to live a life | Joy

1 Peter 1: 1-12

Peter is writing to Jewish and Gentile Christians in exile. Living in one country but their home is somewhere else. Peter reminds them of their spiritual heritage - 'chosen', and more. What does this mean? Why do we need to know this?

Do you feel like a stranger in the world where the culture seeks to soften Biblical teaching and truth to make them more acceptable? Do we, can we, live lives that reflect the fundamentals of our faith, our hope, the reason for the joy within us? Do you see yourself as living here on earth, but with your real home somewhere else?

Peter wrote "Though you have not seen him now, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you love him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls." A great number of those Christians to whom Peter was writing had not seen Jesus at all. Like us. So how true is this statement for us who have not seen? Do we really believe? Might you actually have doubts and questions that you are too embarrassed to admit?

We can see, know, love people today. Any relationship must be worked at. How do we do that? Have you been in a relationship (friendship) that has faded, gone stale, ended? Why might that have been? How then do we relate to Jesus, who left this earth almost 2000 years ago, and build a relationship with him? Do we actually do that?

Our eternal hope is into an inheritance that cannot perish, spoil or fade. What does that seem like to you? How might you compare that inheritance with a world view of inheritance today? How do you live your life, in the light of this?

Does your eternal hope, your salvation fill you with an inexpressible and glorious joy?

Christmas Quiz

Thanks to all those who bought a copy of the quiz. Especial thanks to those who paid over the odds for their copy.

This year it raised £301.15 (revised total following late donations!). The money is winging its way to the Church Homeless Trust.

The winners this year were the Parker family with 94 points. After that the Craigens, Griffiths and Crane with 91, then the Yeadons and Wettones with 90.

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.

MISSION OF THE MONTH - JANUARY



Bethany Children's Trust

BCT is a Christian charity for children at risk, in Africa and beyond.

Equipping project partners to reach out to children at risk in their communities.

For more details see the Mission Board