



**The Good
Shepherd**
Four Marks

www.goodshepherdfourmarks.org.uk

Our church diary is available to view
on the website

10th March 2019



Church of the Good Shepherd,
Four Marks

Saturday 23rd March, 7:30pm
(Doors open at 7.00pm with drinks and cakes)
Free Entry

An evening of praise & worship, with a rock edge

Please join us for an evening of praise and worship.
Flyers can be found in the church, do take a few and invite your friends.

Are you 'Over 60's and young at heart'?

**We invite you join our Easter Holiday at Home,
our free day on 27th March, 10.30 to 3.00,
including a lunch.**

Invitations cards are now available at COGS or for
more information call 01420 560622.



We are Preparing a New Electoral Roll

A new roll is being prepared before our APCM (30th April).
If you want to be included in the new roll, please fill in a form at
the back of the church.

Forms need to be completed and returned by April 15th

**Please also look for the option in the form to join the directory.
The directory is different to the electoral roll and you will not be
added without your expressed consent.**

The Week Ahead

Sunday 10th March | God, where are You?

Habakkuk 1:1-11 & Matthew 12:38-42

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age service of the word

11.30am - Cell church meeting at Nosh

7pm - Celebration service

Monday 11th March | Office Closed

8am - Prayer in the chapel

10am - Bumps & Babies in the church hall

7.30pm - Youth cells meet

Tuesday 12th March | Office Closed

7am - Early Morning Prayer in chapel

Wednesday 13th March

10.30am - Westlands Communion

7pm - Regroup in the church/hall

7.45pm - Freedom in Christ at Abi's House

Thursday 14th March

9.45am - Ladies cell in the hall/upper room

12.30pm - Toddler Lunch in the church hall

Friday 15th March | Office Closed

8am - Prayer in the chapel

Saturday 16th March

10am - Litter Picking at Oak Green

Sunday 17th March | God, is this fair?

Habakkuk 1:1-12-2:5

& Matthew 13:10-17

8am - Said Communion

9.30am - All Age Communion Service

11.30am - Cell church meeting in the chapel

7pm - Celebration service with communion

Caring in Prayer

New/Updated

Messy Church – Saturday 8th. Thank God for the volunteers.

Youth – Thank God for new members of the youth, some of whom are joining the weekend away. Pray for friendship and discipleship.

Bethany – Has had her operation. Thank our Lord that everything went well and pray for protection and healing.

Continuing

Jackie - Has been diagnosed with wet macular degeneration in both eyes. Pray for successful treatment and for God to be with her and her husband.

Holiday at Home– Thank God for Frank and the team. Pray for the logistics.

Together in Prayer - Pray that COGS members will make our prayer gatherings a priority.

Frances & Guy - For Frances as she continues to struggle with Alzheimer's. And her father, Guy, awaiting preparation for a heart operation.

Activities - Pray for our regular activities. Pray for freshness in what we do and that we would be welcome, flexible and aware of God's promptings.

Greg - Greg is now able to drive and continuing to improve. Thank the Lord for his care and healing.

The Harpers - Following the tragic death of Joe, pray for Guy and Jane and others who are grieving at this time .

Freedom in Christ - Pray for blessing on this programme and for those who attend to gain emotionally healthy spirituality.

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, David Craigen (01420 564152 or davidacraigen@gmail.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.

Litter Picking

Come and help us show some of God's love to the village. Saturday 16th March, 10-11am
Meet behind the garage at Oak Green



Save the Date!
Village Picnic: Sunday 16th June



**GOOD FRIDAY
COGS CLUB**
FRIDAY MORNING
19TH APRIL

The Good Shepherd
Four Marks

CAN YOU JOIN OUR TEAM?
Contact Lorna: lorna.cogs@gmail.com

COGS CLUB

Quiz night

Enter as a team or individuals (6-8 PER TEAM) | Raffle | All proceeds to Neuroblastoma UK

Saturday 30th March
7pm at Four Marks Village Hall
Ticket price includes a two course meal

Full poster in the porch.

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.

Each week in Kids Church we find creative ways to explore the teaching series as we all seek to grow in our relationships with God.

Could you join us? We're looking for some people who could join our team for **one Sunday morning a month** to lead one of our kids groups. Material is provided and you'll always be working with another team member. Please speak to Lorna if you're interested (lorna.cogs@gmail.com)

All of our Kids Church team are recruited in accordance with our safeguarding policy.

Festival

Looking to book your summer holiday? Wanting to try a festival? A group of us are going to New Wine united 19 in July, we would love you to join us.

New Wine United 19

"Stories rewritten, lives transformed, communities empowered, to change the nation." Week one (27 July - 2 August) in Peterborough.

For more information - new-wine.org

For more information about New Wine, speak to Jane Hughes.



Explore More.

Life. Faith. Meaning.

Got questions about life? Try Alpha

At Alpha, we believe that everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view.

The Church of the Good Shepherd is running an Alpha course on Thursday evenings in the church. Starts 25th April

Contact: Nigel Pink or the church office.



The Alton Society, Energy Alton and the Alton Local Food Initiative

PRESENT

FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2019, 6.00 pm

TOMORROW THE FILM

ALTON MALTINGS, Maltings Close, GU34 1DT



Tomorrow (Demain) is an inspirational and much-praised film about living better and reducing global warming - your children's & grandchildren's future. It showcases practical, proven solutions to ecological, social and economic problems in 10 countries, including the UK. The film has hugely boosted community-led initiatives around the world.

*Food and drink available,
and time to talk afterwards*

Free event, donations welcome

www.energyalton.org.uk; www.altonociety.org.uk;
www.altonlocalfood.org.uk

Christian Aid is currently not one of CoGS' mission priorities; that said, in past years we have raised funds during 'Christian Aid Week', which this year is 12-18th May. Linda Wettone organised the church's response but is no longer available to do so. We are advertising to see if there is someone ready and willing champion this mission and, in particular, organise events/collections in May. Please contact Nigel Pink if you are interested.



Mission of the Month - Tearfund

A prayer from Archbishop Justin Welby, written to celebrate Tearfund's 50th anniversary last year

Gracious and generous God, you became poor so that we might be enriched by your love, and you gave the world's wealth and resources as a common inheritance of all human beings. We pray you would strengthen your church to be a beacon of hospitality for the poor. We pray that, seeing the light of Christ's love, the nations and peoples of the world may fight not to kill, but to outdo one another in care for the poor, and in actions of gracious generosity. Through Him who for our sakes did not grasp the wealth of heaven, but instead gave all to live for us as a slave, and die for us in pain, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen

tearfund

Ladies Afternoon Tea Party Saturday 30th March 3-5pm



Come along and invite your friends to join us for a special afternoon tea with crafts, a glass of bubbly and a chance to chat together.

Tickets available, £6 per head, after each service on a Sunday or from the church office.

For more information speak to or contact

Caroline: carolineandrews10@btinternet.com

Or Jane: jane_cogs@btinternet.com; 07711407831

Small Group Celebration

A celebration of Small Groups at COGS on
Tuesday 2nd April 7.30pm

All Small Group Members welcome and those interested
in finding out more about Small groups
.....there will be puddings!

Lent

We are currently in Lent. Do check out the bookstall for your lent reading, as some books have been sourced especially for lent.

You may also want to check out 40acts.org.uk for daily challenges to do the 40 days of lent generously.



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Do Lent generously.

Join 100,000+ people on a
40-day mission to
impact their community

Launches: 06.03.19

sign up at www.40acts.org.uk

[#40acts](#) [@40acts](#) [@40acts](#)

At this important time in the churches calendar the CofE have issued some material to help us through Lent and Easter. The best way to access this is through the app via this link (<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/lentpilgrim>)

If you would prefer the booklet then please let either Matt or I know and we can order them. We are aware that Lent has already started and therefore the main focus will be on the Easter Pilgrim material as this also will link with the Thy Kingdom Come initiative. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. Alan Thain

Small Group notes for 10th March

God, Do Something! (Habakkuk's Cry) | God, where are you?

Read Habakkuk 1:1-11

The Old Testament is the context of the New. The New Testament quotes the Old extensively and assumes a knowledge and understanding of the Old.

Habakkuk is one of the 12 minor (smaller books) prophets. He is almost certainly writing between the rise of the Babylonian empire 612BC and the capture of Jerusalem in 587BC. He was therefore a contemporary of Nahum, Zephaniah, and Jeremiah.

Habakkuk takes God on. Habakkuk's society was not so different to ours. The same issues, injustices and suffering, exist. Habakkuk is disturbed, angry perhaps, about the mess his nation and the world is in and demands to know why God doesn't do something.

- How do Habakkuk's questions (:2-3) compare with our own questions?
 - And how do they compare with the questions our friends and neighbours ask about God?
- How comfortable do we feel in 'confronting' God, being honest with our struggles and emotions?

Think about what kind of response you'd want to Habakkuk's question – God's answer was that he would be sending the Babylonians! The Babylonians were a brutal regime, we might liken them to ISIS today.

- How do we feel about God's response?
- What experience do we have of God's answers not being what we'd hoped for?
- How do we keep faith and hope alive in these moments?

- Do we believe God can transform anything, redeem any situation?
 - If we are not sure, read Genesis 50:20, Romans 8:28, and look at the cross!

- Pray for our nation, our neighbours and ourselves that we might all live confidently trusting God.

PRAYER and PASTORAL REQUESTS

If you have any prayer requests for the prayer chain, please email or ring the Church Office on 01420 560622, Alan Thain (01420 85185), 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 Littlewood
Tel: 07914 519998
Email: lorna.cogs@gmail.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 - March Tearfund

Tearfund is a Christian charity, called to follow Jesus wherever the need is greatest around the world.

We help communities overcome the worst effects of poverty and disasters – we believe that the same people who face these issues, also have the best idea as to how they can overcome them.

www.tearfund.org

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