

Services this Sunday - 24th November

8.00am at COGS - Communion Service

9.30am at COGS - All age service with sung worship, kids church, creche and youth

(on 2nd and 4th Sundays)

11.00am at St Andrew's - Café Church

Churchwarden

Very sadly Peter George-Jones has resigned as churchwarden, feeling unable to continue in the role. His term of office will end of 31st December. We are extremely grateful to him for stepping up in the first place, and for all that he has done in service of the parish, especially at St Andrew's.

We will be seeking a new churchwarden. If you are interested or want to know more do talk to Peter, Andy or Howard.

Financial Update

Firstly, thank you for all your support in being able to do all that we are doing with people of all ages across our parish. The monthly 'Look-back' captures just some what's happening in our sharing of God's love with all. We're hugely privileged to be able to employ staff to help us and enjoy the buildings and facilities we have, and these are made possible by the generous giving of time, money, and skills, of our current and past members – thank you again!

Moving forwards:

1. As we approach the end of this financial year, we continue to need a treasurer to lead us. Please be praying and think about who you might encourage.
2. We are currently predicted to end the year with a deficit of around £40,000, most of this was expected and is covered by historical funds but to move forwards with confidence as a church we need to increase income. I would encourage us all, prayerfully before God, to review our giving – this may lead to a reduction, staying the same, or increasing. God has sufficient resources, we just need to be good stewards of what God has given us as a church and as individuals.
3. (To assure you, we are continuing to honour restricted and designated funds, and those given historically to a particular parish setting.)


If you have any questions, please do ask.

Yours Howard

New Treasurer Needed

Claire is stepping down. We are so very grateful to her for all that she has done over the past couple of years in getting us to this point, following the formation of our new partnership as Medstead and Four Marks Parish.

We now need a new treasurer who can monitor our finances, update PCC on our status, and keep our congregations and wider donor base informed of vision and need. There is excellent contracted accounts support, and resources across PCC **for help with** communication. Please talk to one of our wardens, Claire, or Howard for more information.




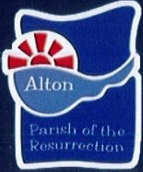
CHRISTMAS UNLOCKED

A special carol event with
J. John
Author of *Celebrating Christmas*

Wednesday 4th December
7.30pm

The Maltings, Maltings Close, Alton.
GU34 1DT

£5 tickets [including mulled wine & Christmas cake] available from church representatives



for further details ring
07957 653403

The church office holds a limited number of tickets for this event.

Please let Matt know if you want any.

Please keep in mind that this is an evangelistic event and spaces are very limited. Tickets are intended for those who are inviting their non-Christian friends to join them for the evening. If you would like tickets, please contact Matt – office@pmafmc.co.uk

Christmas Choir Rehearsals

We are soon going to start rehearsals for the Christmas carol services at COGS. The carol services are planned for Sunday 15 December at 5 & 7pm. If you would like to join the choir we are rehearsing on the following dates:

Wednesday 27 November

Wednesday 4 December

Monday 9 December

Final rehearsal is Thursday 12 December.

All rehearsals will start at 8pm and will be held in the church.

Please contact Helena if you need more info. (helena.hunt477@gmail.com)

Evening of Prayer - Tuesday



Our next Evening of Prayer is Tuesday 26th November at 7.30pm.
Please join us in the COGS church hall, if you are able.

A colorful poster for a Christmas movie event. It features a clapperboard in the center with the text 'Sunday 15th December' and '11am-2pm'. Above the clapperboard, there are illustrations of a pizza slice, a mug of hot chocolate with a cat, a popcorn bucket, and a reindeer. To the left, there are holly leaves and a gingerbread man. In the top left corner, there is a logo for 'Kids Church Family' with colorful gears. The background is light blue with faint Christmas trees.

Kids Church Family

Christmas Movie

with Pizza, Popcorn and Hot Chocolate

Sunday 15th December
11am-2pm

Don't forget your cushion or bean bag

Book your space with	Virginia youthandchildren@ pmafam.co.uk	Jane families @pmafam.co.uk
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CAN YOU HELP share the Good News THIS CHRISTMAS?

Pre-schools			Messy Church Christingle 8th Dec		
Tues 3rd Dec 9-11.15am	Butterflies Preschool visit	Refreshments and Craft table	11am -12.30pm	Set up tables and prep oranges	Set up team
Wed 4th Dec 8.45 -11am	Heydays preschool Nativity to Parents	Refreshments for Parents and visitors	2.45-6.30	Help with activities and crafts	Craft and activity team
Tues 10th Dec 12.45-2pm	Butterflies preschool Nativity to parents	Refreshments for Parents and visitors	3.30-5.30	Prep and serve food	Food Team
			5-6pm 5.45-7pm	Wash up Clear away and reset	Tidy and re-set team
COGS Tots and Tiny Tots Group			Nativity Trail 23rd December		
Tues 10th Dec 8.45- 11.30am	Tots Christmas party and Nativity	Refreshments, tots play chat with parents	5-6.30pm Sun 22nd	Set up tables and displays	Set up team
Mon 16th Dec 10.15am- 12.15pm	TinyTots baby group Christmas party	Refreshments for Parents	9.45-11.45 11.30-1.30 1.15-2.30	Set up cafe & crafts Refreshments clear cafe & crafts	Craft cafe team
			5.45 - 6.45	Clear tables and displays	Tidy and re-set team

Other ways to Help...

With so many events now running in the building we need to widen the team that help move the tables and chairs.

Please consider joining our What's app group 'COGS Chairs' as an occasional helper. Each week we will send out a message saying what is needed for that week and then the load can be shared between those that are available that week- no rotas and no regular commitment needed.

Help with cleaning

Unfortunately our cleaner is unable to work during December. If anyone is keen to volunteer to help us out during this month, please speak to Andy or David, or let Matt know in the office.

Waynflete Singers

A Classical Christmas

Winchester Cathedral
Saturday 7th December 2024
at 7.30 pm

Beethoven: Mass in C
Bach: Wachet Auf! (*Sleepers Wake!*
***Cantata 140*)**
Carols for choir and audience

The Waynflete Singers
English Chamber Orchestra
Andrew Lumsden, conductor

Soprano: Eleanor Dennis
 Mezzo Soprano: Catherine Carby
 Tenor: Benjamin Hulett
 Bass: Alastair Miles

Tickets: £15.00 - £50.00
Buy from Winchester Cathedral Events online
or call 01962 857275
or via www.waynfletesingers.org.uk/concerts

Registered charity no: 285107

Alton Concert Band,
Alton Choral Society & Ancora
 Present in aid of **HOME START**

FREE ENTRY

The Wonder of CHRISTMAS

A CONCERT OF CHRISTMAS
MUSIC & CAROLS
Saturday 7th December 2024
 Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00pm
 Alton Maltings
 Entry only with a ticket available from

www.altonchoral.org.uk or
scan the QR code or
call 01420 85994

Sponsors:
 Alton Maltings
 Alton Town Council
 Alton Co-operative
 Beer Festival
 Focus stoves

Are you over State Pension age, or know someone who is?
Pension Credit tops up pension income and can help with day-to-day living costs.
If you are over State Pension age, you may be eligible to claim Pension Credit, even if you own your home or have savings. People who claim Pension Credit may also be able to get:

- The Winter Fuel Payment* and other help with heating costs
 - Help with rent and Council Tax
 - A free TV Licence for those aged 75 or over
- Help with the cost of NHS services, such as NHS dental treatment, glasses and transport costs for hospital appointments

You could be eligible for Pension Credit if your weekly income is below £218.15 or, if you have a partner who lives with you, £332.95. Qualifying income level may be higher in some circumstances.
Don't miss out.

Check your eligibility at gov.uk/pension-credit
or by calling 0800 99 1234
(eligibility criteria apply)

Church Bookstall

Please note packs of Christmas Cards are now available from the bookstall at COGS.

Alpha is running

Please pray for all involved in our running Alpha course, which is taking place up until mid-December.

Monday Night is Youth Night



Parents consent needed. Please scan the QR Code to complete the form.



MONDAY YOUTH CLUB (WEEKLY)
4:15 TO 6:15 PM – YEAR 6 TO 8
5:30 TO 7:30 PM – YEAR 9 TO 13
5:30- 6:15 PM
EVENING MEAL FOR BOTH GROUPS

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT -
YOUTHANDCHILDREN@PMAFM.CO.UK



St Andrew's Church
The Good Shepherd
Responding to God's Love

Starfish Malawi Appeal

Starfish are launching our Autumn Appeal to provide help and relief to those families who are supporting orphans and the most vulnerable by supplying maize, beans and other basic food and commodities.

If you would be willing to help Starfish by donating to this appeal, you would be helping to make a huge difference to those in need.

Further details here - <https://donate.givetap.co.uk/f/starfish-malawi/aa24>



Are you grieving the loss of a loved one, or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? A seven week course will soon be running in your area.



Friday mornings
10am - 12 noon,
January 24th - 7th March
at The Alton Maltings Centre.

To book your place, email
bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk
or phone Wendy Burnhams
on **07514 280 362**

Suggested Voluntary contribution
£20 for the whole course

Topics include: Attachment, separation and loss, Difficult feelings, Rites of passage, The impact and pain of bereavement, Coping with others, Coping with change, Moving forward, an optional session on Questions of Faith

Autumn Teaching Series

COGS has begun their new teaching series - Being Jesus. Series cards are available in church and can be found on the website, click the image to access.

Being fed
Being watchful
Being called
Being changed
Being blessed
Being obedient
Being born
Being acceptable

Being ready
Being clear
Being renewed
Being sown
Being Jesus
Being understood
Being heard
Being clean

Autumn 2024 www.parishofmedsteadandfourmarks.co.uk

St Andrew's will be following the lectionary this term.

Vicar: Howard Wright

Tel: 07746 066046 | Email: vicar@pmafms.co.uk

Family Worker: Jane Hughes

Tel: 07711 407831 | Email: families@pmafms.co.uk

Youth & Children's Minister: Virginia

Tel: 07724 141267 | Email: youthandchildren@pmafms.co.uk

Church Office: Matt Senior

Tel: 01420 560622 | Email: office@pmafms.co.uk