



**GODALMING UNITED CHURCH**  
*(Methodist & United Reformed)*

**SERVICE FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT,  
18<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

and notices for the coming week

This morning we expected to welcome a former minister of GUC, Bernard Arnold, to lead our service but on Monday we learnt that he has chickenpox. Without hesitation, John Goatley stepped into the breach and said that he would preach. Many thanks to John and how fortunate we are to have our supernumerary ministers who continue to play such an active role in the life of our church.

Our first lesson this morning is from Hebrews, a book that is something of a mystery but which has earned a reputation of being a masterpiece and which has been described as an intricate New Testament book. From the first few centuries AD no one seems to have known for certain who wrote Hebrews. All we know is that the author knew Timothy, wrote in extremely polished Greek, was plainly an able teacher who knew the Old Testament inside out and quoted from the Greek Septuagint thus meaning that he was probably a Greek speaking Jew writing to a group of Jewish Christians of some intellectual ability. He was a Christian who had thoroughly thought through the relation of his faith to Judaism.

The big question that Hebrews addresses is how can human beings approach God and it is this issue which gives an undeniably difficult letter its lasting significance. Its purpose is to exhort Christians to persevere in the face of persecution. The verses which we read today are entitled 'Jesus, the great high priest', a title given him nowhere else in the New Testament.

Alan

***PRAYER FOR THE WEEK***

O God, your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ, was born as we are born and gave us an example of the way in which we should live. Help us to live our lives in response to your call and show your love and peace to those within our community. Amen

Today's stewards are

Vestry Steward: Alan Steele

Duty Steward: Maurice Illman

*(stewards are the people to ask, if you need help before, during or after a service)*



The Peace

MSB 153

Collection and dedication of the Offering (*congregation please stand*)

Hymn (StF) 593

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer MSB 153-6

Holy Communion

MSB 156-9

HYMN (StF) 242

A new commandment I give unto you:

Blessing

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The flowers today have been given by  
Wendy and John Bicknall in celebration of their  
55th Wedding Anniversary and Wendy's Birthday  
Arranged by Wendy  
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Everyone is welcome to join us for coffee, tea or a cold drink  
in the River Room after the service.  
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### **DIARY FOR THE WEEK UP TO SUNDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> 2.45pm Ladies Fellowship - Preparation for the  
Women's World Day of Prayer from Suriname  
5.00pm Brownies (*Alison tel:422841*)

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> 10.00am Godaltots (*Jacky tel: 423768*)

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> 4.30pm Rainbows (*Julie tel:428701*)  
7.30pm Scouts (*Grahame tel: 01420 475773*)

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>

10.30am-2.00pm Church open for private prayer  
12-1.30pm Lunches  
2pm - 4pm Hobbies Group. GUC River Room  
6.00pm Music Kids (*Barbara tel:421268*)

Sat 24<sup>th</sup> 3pm-5pm **"Messy Church"** - David meets Goliath

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

**9.00-10.15am eMerge – Fairtrade Sunday breakfast**

**10.30am Morning Worship led by Dr. Olayisade  
Methodist Church Co-ordinator for Africa**

## **ADVANCE NOTICES**

**GUC Lenten Appeal - Rohingya Refugee Crisis.** Thousands of Rohingya people have been forced from their homes in Myanmar in an act of ethnic cleansing and are now living in huge refugee camps in Bangladesh. Lenten letters are available in the Foyer throughout Lent and gifts will be dedicated on Easter Sunday. Funds will be remitted through Christian Aid. The Mission and Outreach Committee thanks you for your support.

Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February **Circuit Mission Supper and Talk** - at Woking Methodist Church 6pm for 6.30pm. Speaker - Dr Olubunmi Olayisade (Methodist Church Partnership Coordinator for Africa).

Tickets available from Janet Shaw £7 each.

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February **"Pudding and Praise"** The theme "God's Word " let's have a fresh look at it. Delicious puddings and great Praise. Walton Methodist Church, Terrace Road, KT12 2SR. 6pm. To book tel 01932 429184

Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> April **Red Cross Public First Aid Course** –10am to 4pm. If you would like to participate (free for church members) please let Sylvia Kelley know as soon as possible. The maximum number for the course is 15 - ***only one place left.***

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March **'Grave Talk'** Godalming Baptist Church, 10.30 – 12noon A café space to talk about Death, Dying & Funerals. *Free.*

Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March **Beetle Drive and Hot Supper.** The Methodist Church, Rectory Lane, Byfleet, KT14 7LL. 6.30pm. Tickets £6.00 tel: 01932 343489. email: margaret.watts10@ntlworld.com **(Booking essential)**

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**Flower in the Church.** Are you celebrating a family or friend's special occasion in March or April? Why not mark the event with flowers in the Church. Wendy Weston has dates free during these two months and will be pleased to help. Contact her on **01483 414143** or sign up on the cards at the back of the Church

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT:**

Church Secretary	Sylvia	01483 423 261
Pastoral Assistant	Eileen	01483 420 459
Senior Steward	Alan	01483 860 683
Lettings	Jennifer	01483 420 025
Web site address		<a href="http://www.guc.org.uk">www.guc.org.uk</a>