



UPDATE 9

Circuit 26/4, Southampton District

REMINDERS

† November 1st

Circuit Assembly – All are Welcome

10am to 2pm at Christ Church Chineham

Timetable for the day available in your church NOW

Don't like the name? On the day there will be an opportunity to support an alternative title.

? Do you want to know more about Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Getting it Done groups (GiDs)? Then come to Circuit Assembly!

NEWS FROM GOSBROOK ROAD, CAVERSHAM; "Farewell and Hello"

Deacon Becky Lovatt has now moved on to Seaton Methodist Church, and seems to have settled in well. One or two of us were able to go to Becky's welcome service and enjoyed a time of fellowship and friendship with Becky's new congregation.

Rev. David Jenkins has moved from Aylesbury to Caversham and as a supernumerary is working and worshipping in Caversham and we look forward to sharing in his ministry.

Harvest Festival this year is in the form of a "Shopping Basket Harvest", supermarket baskets being placed at the front of the church with flags to represent various countries. The idea being, that people bring food representing different countries and fill the appropriate basket, all food being donated to a Food Bank.

At the end of October 25th-26th it will be our Church Anniversary, in connection with this, our resident Art Group will be setting up an Art Exhibition which will be open from 2-4pm each day. Afternoon tea will be served and any money raised will be given to charity. Please come along if you would like an afternoon out.

† The Prayer SIG is planning to produce a study guide for use in Lent 2015.

† There will be a Quiet Day at Silchester on Saturday 7th March, 10am to 3pm, note the date, more details will be available on the website.

? Do you regularly look at our circuit website? www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk
Please pass any comments, corrections etc to Steve Smith or Gill Lawson by email at: webmaster@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk

Luke Street

This summer, led by Silchester Christians, 34 children met at the Methodist church and learnt about houses that Jesus visited. Each morning we heard about Jesus healing the sick, having tea with a cheating tax collector or having his feet anointed with expensive perfume, and finished with a special prayer time. In our groups we cooked, made houses and discovered some lovely smells. As we were Potters, Fishers and Weavers we also did associated craft activities. In the afternoons we did whole group activities including taking stretchers out on the common to find "patients" we had made earlier, sports on the cricket field, swimming & trampolining. On Sunday we shared with an ecumenical congregation how Jesus wants to be a friend to all.

? **If they are both called Ministers, what is the difference between Presbyters and Deacons?**

Presbyters have pastoral charge of one or more churches. They have the ministry of Word and Sacrament. At Ordination they are commanded: "to preach by word and deed the Gospel of God's grace; to declare God's forgiveness of sins to all who are penitent; to baptise, to confirm and to preside at the celebration of the sacrament of Christ's body and blood; to lead God's people in worship, prayer and service; to minister Christ's love and compassion; to serve others in whom you serve the Lord himself".

Deacons have a ministry mainly focussing on Outreach, they lead worship, but are not required to be Local Preachers. "The deacon's primary purpose is to enable others. They are authorised by Conference to be public people representing God-in-Christ to the World and representing the World and Church before God." "Deacons remind the Church of God's consistent bias toward the poor and oppressed. They are charged, as the ordination service declares, with holding before God's people the needs and concerns of the world, supporting the weak, binding up the broken, gathering in the outcast, welcoming the stranger and seeking the lost." (Quotes from documents from the Methodist Church in Britain.)



Would you like to join us in

A REFLECTIVE DAY AT ALTON ABBEY

Our first Methodist links were made with the Abbey and its monks in the 1980s. Since then, we have held occasional quiet days there.

WE HAVE ARRANGED A DAY RETREAT FOR SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 2014

Alton Abbey is an Anglican Benedictine Monastery, founded in 1895, and is situated about a mile north of Alton. The most direct route is via the A339, which you leave just before arriving in Alton, signposted to Beech. Follow that road for about a mile.

Typically, an Alton Abbey Day is led by one of the monks, occasionally by the Abbot, and we explore the Bible, or focus on aspects of our faith. In December, the monk will lead a morning and an afternoon session. We start with coffee at 10.00, although we are welcomed to the 9.00 Mass. There will be times of worship and of silence, & free time to meditate in the abbey or to wander around the beautiful grounds. We bring our own sandwiches for the lunch-break. We finish at 4.00, when there is yet another cup of tea/coffee!

The cost is £10.00 pp, which includes drinks and biscuits. To book a place, please contact Terry Ayres, hatfield.fcj@virgin.net / 01256 328203.

All day conference

Jayne Webb will be running an all day conference on transformation and spirituality on 21st February 2015. Look out for more information nearer the time!

Stop press!

The summer Circuit Assembly will be at Tadley Common. Provisional timing 2pm to 7pm, hoping to use the outside space. Would you like to be part of the organising team? Contact one of us.

Next autumn CA will be north of the M4!

? Circuit Stewards;

What do Circuit Stewards do?

"The circuit stewards are responsible, with the Superintendent and the ministers and probationers appointed to the Circuit, for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit, and for upholding and acting upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting." (CPD)

Circuit Stewards have a caring role:

Responsible care as treasurers of the circuit funds
Pastoral care of the circuit staff including (re)invitations
Care of the members of the circuit through being on their Church Councils.

Contact: Terry Ayres 01256 328203 or hatfield.fcj@virgin.net; Gill Lawson TEXT her on 07990 815282 or email gill@lawson-net.co.uk
Marianne Sales mariannebunn1610@hotmail.com