



Petersfield Area Churches Together

Many Churches - many styles of worship - but only 1 God

December 2017 Newsletter

*Hello, wishing you a blessed Christmas and a faith-filled start into 2018.
Blessings, Susanne*

NB Please check details of [Christmas services on the PACT website](#). All properties in Petersfield will receive a Christmas card from PACT.

Shoebox Online – a quick and easy way to get involved win the world’s largest children’s Christmas project

<https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> You can either select the gifts you want us to pack or select a pre-packed shoebox gift for children in Moldova. Don't forget to tag Operation Christmas Child #5MinuteMiracle

Free Petersfield Nativity Festival

Saturday, 9 December 10am–4pm and Sunday, 10 December 2- 4pm (Methodist Church): Community groups and church members will display some of their treasured nativity scenes, which come in an immense variety (including metal, glass, wool and Lego). There will be a children’s craft and activity corner and a video presentation of nativity art through the ages. The church’s own folk band will play a set of old style carols at 11am and 2pm on the Saturday. Festive refreshments will be available throughout.

Taize Style Prayer Service with music, reflections and silence

Sunday, 10th December, 4pm-4.45pm (St Laurence Catholic Church): This is being organised by the Justice and Peace group. The focus will be on the plight of the Rohingya refugees. Refreshments provided in the hall afterwards. For more info, contact Carol Warren on 01730 262 290, stlaurence@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hard-of-hearing Carol Service Plus

Tuesday, 12th December, 10am-2pm (Methodist Church): There will be a Lip-reading lesson from 10.00 -12noon in the upper room at the Methodist church followed by a Carol Service for the hard-of-hearing from 12 noon - 12.30pm. Then all are invited to a 'bring-and-share' lunch. 12.30 -2.00.

PACT Christmas Carols

Thursday, 21st December at 7pm (The Square), preceded by carol singing around the town (meet 6pm at Methodist Church): The music will be led by the Salvation Army band. There will be a collection to support the work of Home Start Butser and Petersfield Counselling Service.

Christmas Day Lunch

Monday, 25th December, 12.30pm-3.30pm (Petersfield Community Centre): If you can help out, need transport or have any other questions, please contact Katie Wigley on 01730 260213; PACTChristmasLunch@gmail.com Go to PACT website to download Christmas Day Lunch invitations and requests.

Volunteers needed:

New Secretary for PACT needed from 1st January 2018

You will be required to take the minutes at the PACT Committee Meetings in January, February, April, June, September and November and to be able to serve the Committee in organisational aspects of the work of PACT. Please contact chair@pact.org.uk as soon as possible.

Concern volunteers for Tuesday and Thursday Lunch Clubs

Concern are worryingly short of volunteers. They are looking for people who can come along for a morning (10 - 11ish) to do food prep, lay tables, talk to our clients etc. in return for a free lunch and some goodies to take home. They think that this may be good for an active but lonely parishioner perhaps.

Regular events:

Men's breakfast

Saturday, 2nd December, 8-10am (Hurst Barn): Coffee/tea followed by a full cooked breakfast, discussion and prayer. RSVP Hurstbarn@aol.com

Carers' hub – every first Tuesday of the month

Tuesday, 5th December, 10am-3pm (Methodist Church): Create an emergency plan, access carer support/info, other organisations and professionals, and meet other carers. The cared for are also warmly welcomed. Venue kindly funded by Bluebird Care Petersfield. Call 01264 835246/835205 or email: info@carercentre.com

Gathering for those who have been bereaved - – every first Tuesday of the month

Tuesday, 5th December, 2.30-4pm (United Reformed Church Hall): Friendly and informal gathering with a cup of tea and homemade cake for people who have been bereaved. Contact Lesina Ashfield 07709576907

PACT prayer for Petersfield on 1st Thursday of every month

Thursday, 7th December, 2pm-3.15pm (43 Lower Wardown): Contact Linda on 01730 262 820 or 07872 407 403

Cafe Church – 2nd Sunday of the month

Sunday, 10th December, 5-7pm (Costa Coffee) Come prepared to examine Christian and other viewpoints, in a relaxed atmosphere, with honesty, good humour and respect.

Reveal Meetings – creating space to explore and discover community with God

Wednesdays, from 8pm (Winton House): They meet weekly for soup, pastries, chat, music and time for reflection. They want to provide a friendly place in which to ask questions and explore answers together. Contact: 01730 301 126 or check www.reveal.org.uk

Christian Arts Group

If you would like to join the group, contact Belinda on 01730 267 471 or e-mail belindashaw44@gmail.com

Spiritual food for thought

"We decorate our trees... because we believe that life isn't just about survival; it's about glorious celebration. We believe in God who brings us life in abundance, whose desire for us is not mere existence, but a bright, brilliant, true life." (David Sinclair, quoted in Magnet Magazine No 114, page 16)

Any items for inclusion in the **January PACT Newsletter** to reach me by
Monday, 18th December 2017

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The newsletter can be viewed/downloaded online www.pact.org.uk/pact_newsletter_intro.asp