

## **Lent Study**

Rev Carol and I are recommending the Church of England Lent study for this year called 'Draw Near – Life Giving Habits for Lent'. You can engage with this in several ways. There is a basic booklet which will be available in church for you to take and use. This has a reading for each day, a short reflection and a prayer. You can sign up on the Church of England website for a daily email to be sent to you with the material, and daily readings and reflections based on the same material can also be accessed on your phone by downloading the Church of England 'Everyday Faith' app – great for listening to the material as you go. If you want to go deeper there is also a book available which sits alongside the booklet we will have. This is called 'Dancing to the Heartbeat of God' and is the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for this year. It costs £11.99 and can be ordered online (or we will order it for you if necessary). There is also a booklet designed for families which will also be available in church. Please feel free to take one of the booklets if you want one – but please only take one if you intend to use it. We have only ordered a few for those who really want one and this means the church can afford to pay for them for you.

Some people will already have decided on other things to do during Lent, which is just as good. *Rev Diana*

## **Study Groups**

After Easter there will be two new study groups starting. One will be aimed at those who are relatively new to Christianity, want to reexplore the basics or are trying to decide what they believe. The second will be aimed at those who want to go deeper and look at the Bible and its themes in more detail. They will sit alongside the Tuesday Fellowship group which a number of people already attend. Those involved in running the groups still have to work out some of the practical details but you can help by letting us know if you think you would be interested in either of these groups as we can then take your specific needs re eg, time and day, into consideration. *Rev Diana*

## **Can you help?**

When someone asks you to read something in public, I wonder how you feel? Most people, in my experience, believe they could never do it – but it's not true! All it needs is a bit of practice at a time when no one else is watching and enough bravery to have a first go and discover the confidence to do it.

We really need some more people to help with the readings on a Sunday morning – there is a rota produced but you can swap your dates with someone else if they don't suit you and, if we have enough people, it will probably only happen about once every two months. If you are worried about standing up at the front, for whatever reason, we can even bring you the reading and a hand held microphone so you can read from your pew. I am going to have a bit of a taster session for anyone who is brave enough to see if they might be up to it at 2pm on Thursday 26 February in church. Do come along and see what you think. (Let me know if you can't make that date but do want to try.)

We also need some more people to lead the prayers in our services. This is a bit more complicated than reading a passage but you will get some training and a buddy to help you choose or write prayers that speak to you and will speak to and for others. Please let me know if you are interested in exploring that further. *Rev Diana*

## **Confirmation Service**

Will be held here at St. James Church on  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm**  
With Bishop Hugh.

If anyone is interested in becoming confirmed, please  
speak to Rev. Diana

Parish Office 01384 441277  
Email stjamesw@googlemail.com

## **EASTER TRAIL**

**ON SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL.**

**2pm – 4pm**

Refreshments available and prizes.

All families welcome!

Meet at the church entrance. If anyone can offer any assistance with refreshments, please let John know!

