

MARCH 2019

Panshanger Church

Knowing God, Growing in the Holy Spirit, Going in Christ's Name

Message from Reverend Hayley

This March, as we enter the season of Lent, we reflect upon the theme of **'Living Lent'**. It begins with our Ash Wednesday Communion Service and continues in our sermon series on looking at some of the key events in Jesus' journey to the cross from the book of Luke.

Through Lent, alongside our home groups, we are encouraging people to **'Living Lent in community'**, where we will make significant, personal commitments to changing our lifestyles for climate

change. On 15th and 16th March there is also the encouragement and opportunity to **'Living Lent'** in prayer through your participation in the Methodist Circuit 24 Hour time of Prayer and Fasting, where our young people will be leading our prayer slot at 12noon on the 16th March. The ultimate example for us of course of **'Living Lent'** is our Lord Jesus Christ. This is particular true of His journey to the cross, where at the end He was stripped of everything, and willingly laid down his life so that we might find it. It was a choice and a lifestyle He both embodied and taught, and stands in contrast to the selfish and self-serving way of living that some people chose then, and still choose today. It is my hope and prayer through this season of Lent you will discover all that it means to walk **'Living Lent'**.

Yours in Christ and with every blessing
Rev'd Hayley



Worship Song of the Month

To God Be The Glory lyrics by Fanny Crosby and tune by William Howard Doane.

This months worship track is chosen by Jemima Ablordeppey. Jemima has been worshipping at Panshanger for 8 years. She is a member of the Pastoral Care Team and also the Refreshments Team on Sunday morning.

"I chose this song because, no matter what I go through, I give God the glory. Great things He hath taught us and great things He hath done!"

Follow the link to listen to Jemima's Worship song choice
https://youtu.be/TD_9P9DB4pw



Church Library

Have you taken a look through the Church library recently? We have some fantastic titles including new releases and well known classics. If you are looking for something to use in home group after Lent, or during your personal study time, take a look at the study guides and commentaries available. If you are looking for a book to relax with then how about one of the inspirational biographies such as Brother Andrew or Taming the Tiger. There are also a selection of books for young people and children. If you have any Christian books or study guides at home that you have read, please consider donating them to the Church library for others to enjoy. If you have read a book recently why not write a book review for a future newsletter?



Easter Sunday Baptisms

On Easter Sunday there will be Baptisms as part of our 10am service. If you would like to know more about what adult baptism means and if you're ready to take this next step, please come along on Sunday March 24th at 5pm when Rev'd Hayley will be in the Lounge to discuss this.

Do you have an article that you'd like featured in a future Panshanger Church Newsletter?

Contact the Team on newsletter@panshangerchurch.com

Follow Panshanger Church on Social Media:

Twitter: @panschurch **Instagram:** @Panshanger_Church **Facebook:** @panschurch

Easter Services & Events

With the start of Lent upon us we thought it would be a good time to let you know whats coming up this Easter at Panshanger Church. Please keep an eye out for flyers that you can share with friends, neighbours and colleagues. As always, none of these events are possible without the commitment to service of our members, so please speak to Rev'd Hayley, an Elder or a member of Church Council if you are able to be part of any of the teams for these services and events.



Wednesday 6th March: Ash Wednesday Traditional Communion Service, The Chapel at 8pm.

Friday 12th April: Messy Church Easter Special, 10am The Church Halls. This is an event for all of the family.

Thursday 18th April: Maundy Thursday Communion Service & shared meal 7:30pm.

Friday 19th April: Good Friday Walk of Witness 10am. Followed by outdoor service and refreshments.

Saturday 20th April: Holy Saturday reading of St Marks Gospel from 12 noon The Chapel.

Sunday 21st April: Easter Sunday Service with Communion and Baptisms 10am.

Monday 22nd April: Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey. The pilgrimage will leave Panshanger Church at 7am, or you can meet the Panshanger Pilgrims at The Wagoners, Ayots Green at 10am. Alternatively you can meet the pilgrims at St Albans Abbey for a picnic lunch at 1pm before the service which starts at 3pm. All welcome. Please speak to Nicolette Camburn, Mary Burt or Sarah Dawson for details.

Living Lent

Living Lent is an initiative that we, as a Church family, will be following this Lent. It is about recognising that changing climate is not just an activity but about lifestyle. This Lent we are challenged to consider our call as Christians to look after the world that God created and to love our neighbours as ourselves. Some of those most effected by climate change are those that are the most vulnerable and poorest, we are called to bear their burdens and we can do that by looking at how we can stop abusing the earth's resources. This Lent you can choose to create a climate of change!

If you are on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook please share your changes this Lent using the hashtags #LivingLent and #PanshangerLent find out more by following the link <https://livinglent.org>



Leadership Team

On Sunday March 3rd we held our AGM. We heard about the life of the Church over the past year and some plans for the year ahead, we also elected a new Leadership Team and Council.

Nicolette Camburn and Sarah Dawson stood down as Elders, Sara Evans stood down as Treasurer and Lynn Schindler stood down as Council member, all after a maximum three years service in their roles. Nick Evans also passed the baton on after two years service as Elder. We are very thankful for their time and dedication to these roles. Please pray for our new leadership team and Church Council. Follow the link to meet the new team

<https://www.panshangerchurch.com/about-us>



What to look for in March...

Chiffchaffs are a delightful member of the warbler family. A small, brown bird, seemingly insignificant, but when observed carefully full of detail and shading. Their call is unmistakable: a simple 'Chiff Chaff!' They can be heard in woods (there are lots in Henry Wood, which is at the bottom of Moneyhole playing fields). They are arriving from North Africa and Southern Europe where they over winter. Why not take a walk in the woods. The males sing from the tops of the trees so are easy to spot at this time of year. Bluebell leaves are shooting up and you may also see the drifts of wood anemones! All part of God's amazing creation.

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