

The Good Shepherd Church
Park Road Loughborough
April Focus 2016

Please see the reverse for Services, meetings and other events.

New Beginnings.

This month of April see's new beginnings for us all at the Good Shepherd Church, and of course for our new Vicar Rev. Sue Willetts. When we consider new beginnings it often makes us worry about how they will affect us, it brings feelings of joy and hope for the future, but can also make us feel uneasy.

Of course as we move onwards through Easter there were new beginnings for Jesus and his Disciples. Jesus had risen from the dead on that glorious Easter Sunday and was appearing to his Disciples and others on earth before his accession into Heaven. Clearly he had a plan of new beginnings for his Disciples. But just pause for a moment and consider how they were feeling at this time, I am sure they were feeling amongst other things worry, unease, fear and what the future would be like. For them, God had given a plan, a plan of hope and strength that would help and guide them to take out God's Christian message throughout the world.

So what for us at The Good Shepherd? Well God has a plan for us; He alone knows what he wants our Church to do. We need to Pray for our Church that together with Sue He will guide us so that together we will grow in strength and learn together God's will and love for us all. Yes, any possible change or things perhaps being done in a different way can make us all feel uncomfortable at times, but God knows all of our concerns and anxiety we need to be able to trust in him and be able to discern His will.

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will.

This is a popular verse for a new beginning. It speaks of God's perfect will for our lives, but it is also a call to action on our parts. Our spirits have been transformed by Jesus when we confess Him as Savior, but it's up to us to renew our earthly minds and to listen to God so that we can discern His will for us and our Church. Renewing the mind is a constant process, but one with great rewards. Any change or new things requires a new process of thinking, and renewing our minds to God's will is the way to achieve this.

So as we enter this period of new beginnings at The Good Shepherd let us all put our worries and anxiety about the future in God's hands, let us Pray with joy as a whole body of the Church that together we and Sue will be able to discern Gods will for us as individuals and for our Church.

Lamentations 3:22-23 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Contacts For Further Information

www.goodshepherdloughborough.org.uk

For Contacts please phone.

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April 2016 News, Views and Calendar

Church Services in April. Every Sunday Morning

8am

Holy Communion Traditional Prayer Book (BCP)

10am Services

April 3rd Holy Communion & Sunday Club

April 10th Morning Worship

April 17th Holy Communion & Sunday Club

April 24th Morning Worship, **followed at 11.30 by the Annual Parish Meeting.**

Sunday Prayer Meeting

April 10th **6pm. Please note summer meeting time**

**Every Wednesday Morning
9.30am**

Holy Communion (said)



Parish Breakfast. April 3rd 8.45am.

Please do try to come along.



Home Groups

Thursday Ladies' study group

2-3.30pm Please contact Jackie for details 01509 212207. New members welcome.

**Tuesday Group
8pm (1st and 3rd
Tuesdays)
8 Freesia Close.**



**April
23rd
4.30pm**

Teen's Club 6.30pm
Meets every Monday

Stage Group

Spring Variety Show
26th - 28th May. Tickets available.

Toddler Group

Meets every Friday
Morning 10am -
11.30am.

Wednesday Friendly Meets 2.30pm

April 6th
April 13th
April 20th **No Meeting**
April 27th

Christian Aid Lunch
April 17th 12.30pm. All Saints with Holy Trinity.

Collation and Induction Service for Rev. Susan Willetts.

This important Service in the life of The Good Shepherd Church will take place on **April 26th at 7.30pm.** The Collation and Induction of Sue as our new Vicar will be undertaken by the Ven. David Newman Archdeacon of Loughborough and the Service will be led by the Area Dean the Rev. Tony Edmonds. Also attending will be Clergy from the area and other invited guests including His Worshipful The Mayor of Charnwood. Members of the Churches from Sue's Parishes in Uttoxeter are also being invited.

We are expecting the Church to be very full on the evening. To help us with planning our seating requirements we will be displaying a list in the Vestibule and we would be grateful if you would add your name to it if you are able to attend, which we hope you will be able to do.

Let us all give Sue and Andy a warm Good Shepherd welcome on this important night for both our Church and in their lives as well.

Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting will take place at 11.30am on Sunday April 24th. At this meeting reports on the Church, its finances and plans for the future will be discussed. We also appoint a new PCC, Wardens and approve those on the lists as sidespersons and committees. We are in need of people to help on the sidespersons rota at 10am and also on the coffee rota. Please consider if you could help with any of these please. This will ensure that we are able to offer refreshments after the 10am Service every week. **Please do try to attend.**