



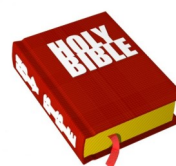
October 2017

## Dear Friends

BIBLE SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER—What are we celebrating?

Thanks to various reliable websites I can tell you that the Bible is

- the best-selling book of all time - world-wide sales of more than 6 million
- translated into over 2800 languages and dialects
- quoted by Shakespeare (directly or obliquely) at least 1200 times
- the most shop-lifted book in the world
- the least read book in the world
- written between 1900 and 3000 years ago
- the product of many authors and editors, speaking from – and into – a variety of very particular social, political and religious contexts.



Quite honestly, I wouldn't blame anyone who has a Bible on their shelves but never reads it. Although some passages are very familiar (the Good Samaritan perhaps or Psalm 23) it's certainly not an easy book to understand. The writers, especially of the Old Testament (or Hebrew Bible) were very sophisticated and often did their truth-telling about God by means of story – the most famous of these being the first Creation story in Genesis 1, which is marvellously poetic (obvious in English, but even more so in Hebrew) and is a deeply theological statement.

Very few Christians today actually insist on its literal truth. 'Is it true?' is not the best question to ask, as it invites a simplistic yes or no response. Language is much richer than that. Every language, including the three languages in which the Bible was originally written (Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic) uses different sorts of truth, some of which are literal, others obviously not. In the Bible we find examples of all those below:

**historical** - which might be written from any one of several perspectives;

**scientific** - not many, obviously, but there are rules for health and quarantining the sick which are still accurate by today's standards;

**symbolic** - evidenced in poetry, parables and myths; images of God as Rock or mother bird, Jesus as light or bread, the Holy Spirit as fire or wind; expressions like 'sweating blood';

**aesthetic** - found in art, novels or films, where we might say something is 'true to life' while not being factually true, like the parables Jesus told;

**ironic** - eg you are so wise said to someone who is being daft!

**moral** - what is viewed as right and wrong and is generally similar in all cultures of the world;

**religious** - to do with a person's personal and communal relationship with God.

Discerning these different sorts of truth is essential for reading the Bible properly. How is this true? is the best question to ask. Often, insisting on its literal truth actually robs it of its deeper meaning.

I hope all that helps some of you who may have thought that Christians have to leave their intelligence behind! There are other problems too, but they'll have to wait for another time.

With my very best wishes *Barbara*

## Godalming Community Gospel Choir (GCGC)

Our unique choir is now 6 years old with over 100 members. GCGC performs in a variety of venues from prisons to residential homes, town centres to charity fundraisers as well as our own Gospel Showcases three times a year. A smaller Performance Group sing at a range of private and commercial events. Songs are learnt through listening and movement without any sheet music and new members are always welcome (contact Emma Sue at [info@gcgc.org.uk](mailto:info@gcgc.org.uk)). GCGC has enjoyed success at the Music Festival in Godalming as well as making it to the finals of the BBC Songs of Praise Gospel Choir of the Year competition in 2015. You may have seen us on TV!

We look forward to performing at All Saints on Saturday 28th October at 7.30 pm (contact Pauline Lamb on 01428 643798 or [lamb@haslemere.com](mailto:lamb@haslemere.com)). We hope you will come along to support your local church and enjoy an evening of soulful and uplifting Gospel music!



## Toddler Group

Welcome back  
Wednesday mornings,  
during term-time,  
from 9.15-10.45 am  
in the  
Oonagh Jeffrey Room,  
Grayswood Village  
Hall

For more info please  
ring Jane White,  
01428 643891

We look forward to  
meeting you!  
£2.50 per family unit



## GRAYSWOOD COFFEE AND CHAT

in the Village Club  
10.30 - 12 noon  
11th OCTOBER

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
of the month  
All ages are invited to  
drop in for tea/coffee and  
cake and a chance to  
meet others in the village

Contact Di on 654303 or  
07769971720 or  
[drdcook01@gmail.com](mailto:drdcook01@gmail.com)



## DAYTIME HOME GROUP



Church House  
2.30-4pm  
ALL WELCOME

First and third  
Thursdays  
from 19th October

## CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Every Sunday: 8am Holy Communion (BCP)

Every Sunday: the main service is at 10am

- 1<sup>st</sup> Harvest Festival  
 8<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist  
 15<sup>th</sup> Parish Eucharist  
 22<sup>nd</sup> All Age Morning Worship  
 29<sup>th</sup> Joint Benefice Celtic Eucharist  
 for Bible Sunday in the Village Hall

2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

7.30pm Annual Memorial Service

## VILLAGE PRAYER

In October we remember those who  
 live in Lower Road, Park Close and Ash  
 Tree Close



**Do you need space to escape the busyness of life?** Whether you want to pray, give thanks or find hope in times of despair, our beautiful Grade II listed church is open for you every day from around 9am until dusk in winter, and until 6pm in summer.

**Would you like us to pray for you?** God hears you, but it is good to know you have other people who care, joining with you! Phone us, email us, add your name to the book at the back of church, pop a note into Church House, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

**Would you like a home visit or to speak with a priest?** Grayswood has two ministers who serve our parish.

**Revd Barbara Steele-Perkins** officially works part-time for the Parish.

Barbara's day off is Tuesday.

Tel: 656504 Email: barbarasp46@gmail.com (please note new address)

**Revd Fi Gwynn** works part-time, mainly on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Fi's day off is Friday. Tel 656504 Email: revfigwynn@gmail.com

**Baptism? Wedding? Funeral?** Please contact the church office on 01428 656504 in the first instance.

**Do you have a general enquiry?** Our church office in Church House, Church Close, GU27 2DB is open Mon, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am -12 noon for general enquiries and is staffed by our administrator Sarah Bennett. At other times you can still leave a message or send an email. Messages will be listened to every day except Tuesday.

Tel: 656504 Email: allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, please visit:

[www.grayswoodparish.org](http://www.grayswoodparish.org)

The Friends of All Saints Grayswood  
 present:

## Godalming Community Gospel Choir

Saturday 28th October, 7.30pm  
 All Saints Church

Come along to an uplifting musical evening  
 full of energy and passion.

This unique and popular choir is open to  
 everyone regardless of faith, background or  
 financial circumstances; and no auditions are  
 required to join. The singers perform a range

of US and British,  
 contemporary and traditional  
 gospel music.

Contact Pauline Lamb  
 for more information and  
 tickets (£15):  
[lamb@haslemere.com](mailto:lamb@haslemere.com)  
 or 01428 643798



## A family night out

Sam Harris's

## Magic Show

at Grayswood Club,  
 Saturday 7th October  
 Doors open at  
 7.00pm



Tickets: Adults £5, Children £3  
 Available from Angela Tel: 652667  
 Email: [awheeler100@gmail.com](mailto:awheeler100@gmail.com)



## ADVANCE NOTICE

The National Trust has completed its annual tree  
 safety inspection on land it manages at Grayswood  
 and has identified some remedial tree work  
 required in order to maintain public safety.



In order to minimise any possible disruption to Grayswood CE  
 Primary School, local residents and through traffic, the  
 National Trust contractors will commence work in the location  
 of Lower Road and The Mount (near the grass Triangle) during  
 school half term time, which runs from **Monday 23rd to Friday  
 27th October**. There will also be a necessity to restrict parking  
 along several sections of the road adjacent to Trust Land whilst  
 this work is being undertaken.

## Did you spot the toilet???

Three years ago, the whole parish was  
 extraordinarily generous and provided a  
 wonderful start to the fundraising for our new  
 roof. This year we have a new project – to  
 provide an accessible toilet (with all the usual disposal issues)  
 so the church can offer a space which can be used by different  
 groups.

We also plan to adapt the clergy vestry to incorporate the  
 church office. There will be access to some small grants no  
 doubt and some fundraising activities, which we trust, as last  
 time, will be fun for all, but we are beginning with a

## GIFT DAY on NOVEMBER 5TH

Could you help us put a loo in church? Gift Aid envelopes are  
 available just inside the church.



## EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

In the Village Club:

**Gardening Club:** 'Richmond  
 Park' with Simon Richards,  
 Thursday 7th, 7.45 pm

**Book Club:** 'The guest cat' by  
 Takashi Hiraide, Tuesday,  
 September 10th

**Quiz Night:** Thursday 26th at  
 7.45 pm

**Yoga:** weekly sessions on  
 Tues/Thurs. Please book in  
 advance by calling:  
 Eva 07956 171540

**Coffee and Chat:** 10.30 - 12  
 noon on Wednesday 11th

In the Village Hall:

**Toddler Group:** 9.15-10.45 am  
 Wednesdays in term time.  
 Jane White, 643891

77 Lower Road:

Good Book Morning:  
 Monday 23rd, 10.30 am

## HASLEMERE FOOD BANK

Currently particularly in need of:

- \* Tinned fruit
- \* Tinned custard
- \* Tinned rice pudding /  
custard
- \* Tinned carrots, peas
- \* Jam / marmalade
- \* Drinking chocolate
- \* Loo rolls
- \* Shampoo



Please donate small items rather than family  
 packs, and non-perishables only, please, as  
 unfortunately the Food Bank is unable to  
 store fresh foods)

Thank you so much for your ongoing support  
 which is greatly appreciated