

MARCH 2019

# The Wave....

... Waveney Valley Ecumenical Partnership



## *Minister's letter*

We are all familiar with the Beatitudes, and indeed they have recently been part of the weekly lectionary. Of course this starts people thinking – particularly ministers. On one of the Facebook ministerial forums this week, ministers starting playing around with a modern set of beatitudes based on what Jesus might have written about church meetings. Although these made me smile, (and they the work of 3 people), I think that there is more than a grain of truth in them. So I offer them to you for prayer and reflection as we are now in that of year where meetings abound.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit for they shall not dominate the meeting*

*Blessed are the brief for they shall be listened to*

*Blessed are the meek for they allow others to speak*

*Blessed are the kind for they do not pounce on mistakes*

*Blessed are the peacemakers for they prevent fights*

*Blessed are the pure in heart for they do not ride their hobbyhorses*

*Blessed are those who mourn the church's past, so long as they don't make that a barrier to moving forwards*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for my sake, so long as they don't go on about how put upon they are*

*Blessed are the risk takers for with them possible failure is not filled with fear*

*Blessed are those who thirst for justice, because they will keep the needs of the world's poor on the agenda.*

Wishing you all every blessing,



*Jacquie*

We are still looking for someone to come forward who is prepared to act as Minute Secretary for the Partnership Meetings (generally four meetings per year). We need someone who can take over from Eileen Irvine for the meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please speak to Rev'd Jacquie or myself (Pat Williamson) if you wish to know more. This is an important job in the life of our Partnership.

Some thoughts from Graham Gibbs

Light bulbs using LEDs have improved greatly over the last three years. When you compare the price, I must admit that they seem very expensive but when you consider the advantages, then the price seems worth it.

An LED bulb will last for thousands of hours which equates to a lot of years - saves you climbing up to change it, that's if you ever need to again.

An LED bulb uses a 10<sup>th</sup> of the electricity to run compared to a conventional bulb - it saves you electricity and therefore money.

An LED bulb is brighter, for example a 6w LED is brighter than a conventional 60w bulb. You can also choose between a warm light or a cool light - A warm light is more of an orange glow and more relaxing while a cool light is a white light which is brighter still to see detail while working.

An LED bulb is better for the environment - If everyone changed to LEDs in their homes and at work it would actually remove the need for a whole power station.

At Emmanuel, our *Going Green Project* has started to change our lighting to LEDs as and when we can afford to do so. Why not try it at home? You don't have to do them all at the same time, all the supermarkets sell them so just buy one when you do your weekly shop and start with the most used light in your house.



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER  
- FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

**Also 2pm at Emmanuel  
Church, Bungay.**



## ***Dates for your diary***

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – see above re World Day of Prayer

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March - 6.00pm. Service for Ash Wednesday at London Road Church, Harleston, led by Rev'ds. Katie Jackson and Jacquie Evans. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – 7.30pm – Partnership Reps Meeting – Pulham Market Methodist Church – all welcome – any voting restricted to Reps.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March – 10.30am – Partnership Service – London Road Church Harleston – Guest Preacher: Rev'd Bill Mahood – followed by Bring and Share lunch

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April – 6.00pm Wortwell URC - “The Gambler” – an Easter presentation by the Partnership Singers

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30am – Good Friday service at Pulham Market Methodist Church

**AND**

10.00am – Walk of Witness from Co-Op Car Park, Harleston to London Road Church (followed by hot cross buns)

**AND**

6.00pm – London Road Church Harleston – repeat performance of “The Gambler”

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### **Church pews transformed into beds for homeless**

A retired consultant chemical engineer with a skill for cabinet making has thanked God for putting his talent to good use. After retiring, Ron Hilditch, a former West Kirby **United** Reformed Church (URC) member, ‘asked the Lord for something useful to do’ with the skills he had been given. Before long, Ron received an answer.

‘One Sunday, Kat Taylor, the Foodbank Project Co-ordinator for Kings Lynn, Norfolk, came to my church and spoke about how the Lord had blessed the work there,’ said Ron. ‘I felt the Lord say to me: “Go and offer to make furniture, specifically beds, for the work in King’s Lynn.”’

Ron followed this direction and was informed by Kat that there were many homeless people who the charity could help provide accommodation to, but not furniture.

Inspired by James Hudson Taylor, a 19th century British protestant Christian missionary to China, who said: 'God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply,' Ron set about sourcing material for his work.



Elders at Upton Road URC which had had closed, donated 12 pews and wood from an organ. This enabled Ron to make five single beds. 'This was a wonderful provision of wood,' continued Ron. 'The Lord knew every detail and, as the pew seats were 36mm thick, they were ideal for the beds I was making. In addition, as the church was closed, it provided space for the storage of wood and also for me to assemble and store the beds once made.' Kat said: 'Ron's kindness is such a blessing and an answer to prayer for us here in King's Lynn.'

Ron went onto make 25 beds for The Wirral Ark Project, in Birkenhead, which provides accommodation for the homeless, using wood from Upton URC. He was then asked by the Charles Thompson Mission, in Birkenhead – a charity which helps people living in poverty with basic essentials – to make storage racks. Ron achieved this by using old pews from the Claughton URC, in Birkenhead, which had also closed. Bernie Frost, Manager of the Charles Thompson Mission, expressed his gratitude.

'Ron has done a fantastic job. The storage racks have revolutionised the way we do things. We had the food stacked on top of each other, but Ron has planned everything and has made shelves, so we can do things properly. It is a real blessing for us. We are so grateful.' But Ron gives the glory to God: 'I have been greatly blessed by this project, and the Lord's has given me guidance throughout, down to every last detail. From concept through to manufacture to polishing and final pick-up and delivery, the Lord's guidance was there.'

Simon Peters, Project Manager for [Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today](#) – the URC's focus on lifelong missional discipleship commented: 'This is a great example of what living the life of Jesus is all about. Ron recognised that God had given him a gift and was calling him to use it. Everyone has something they can do to build the kingdom of God in the place and situation where God has placed them. You don't need to be young, or fit, or well educated, just faithful and willing to serve God.'

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