

APRIL 2019

# The Wave....

... Waveney Valley Ecumenical Partnership



## *Minister's letter*

### WHO IS CLAUDIA? WHAT IS SHE?

If I say the name Claudia in relation to the passion, do you know who she is, and what she did? I have to confess that I was very unclear, and so I decided to find out more about her.

*While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.'*

*Matthew 27: 19*

Whose wife? I'm sure that you have guessed that she is Pontius Pilate's wife. Pilate knows that what he has been asked to do is wrong, and in this brief verse, which is incidentally only recorded by Matthew, we find someone close to him who is deeply troubled by events. In classic biblical fashion Claudia had had a dream, and wants her husband to act on it. As a result Pilate decides to retry the case, which has the effect of causing the Sanhedrin to stir up the crowd to demand Jesus' crucifixion. Pilate knows Jesus is innocent and so declares that no crime has been committed, but he is weak and he doesn't follow this through.

Women writers such as Dorothy L. Sayers have tried to imagine Claudia and what she was like, including how she influenced her husband and the fallout afterwards. But what is really interesting is that Claudia Procula later became a Christian martyr. Her dream had changed her profoundly and she would never be the same again. She was stricken by her conscience, and guilt.

Margaret Ives also wrote a poem about Claudia in which she envisions the pain, the confusion, and the certainty that life is going badly wrong for Claudia in this poem. We do know whether she forgave her husband for being weak, but we do know that her life was turned around as a result of the dream, she asked for forgiveness and received it.

As we come to the end of this season of Lent I urge us all to consider forgiveness, people can change when shown love. So how do we help those whose remorse and guilt takes over their lives? A task to consider this Lent.

Wishing you a productive, reflective Lent, and a joyful Eastertide, *Jacquie*

**Sunday Lunch.** The Dutch Exchange Committee is organising a Fundraising Sunday Dinner on 14<sup>th</sup> April in the Orange Hall, Emmanuel Church at 12.30/45. The cost will be £6.50 for 2 courses and coffee, and wine will be available for a small donation. All welcome, just enter your name on

the List in the Emmaus Room, or speak to Julia Awty ( 01986 782302), Janet Gibbs (01379 852415) or Steven Johnston (01508 520157)

### **Please, please – even pretty please! -**

We are grateful to Doris Lambert for taking the Minutes at the last Partnership Meeting and to Rev'd Katie who has offered to do so for the May meeting. **BUT** 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). 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 more thoughts from Graham Gibbs**

#### **Plastics**

We have all heard about the problems with plastics and how God's wonderful creation is getting smothered in them. Views of seals with Frisbees caught around their necks and the array of sea creatures dying because of all the plastic debris in our oceans. What is more disturbing, is that we are getting used to seeing these images.

We often think that one little change that we can personally make, can't possibly make a difference. I would like to remind you all of our *Going Green* motto at Emmanuel:-

From a little acorn, a mighty oak will grow,  
if everyone does something, Climate Change will slow.

Practically, what can **we** do to reduce our dependency on plastics? Do you use your own shopping bag when going to the shops or is it easier to pay the 5p? How about buying a shopping bag which can fold up in your pocket or keep a bag in your car.

How do you buy your meat? Why not take your own reusable container with you that you can wash up and use the next time.

I have just discovered reusable silicon bowl covers which we are trying out to reduce our dependency on cling film. We used to buy the family the individual bottles of flavoured waters for their packed lunches - they now have their own coloured drinks bottle which they refill.

We freeze down a lot of fruit and vegetables throughout a year and use hundreds of freezer bags, we are now saving all our marg tubs, ice-cream containers etc.. to reduce the number of plastic bags we use. With a little thought, we can all reduce our dependency on throw away plastics and together - we **WILL** make a difference

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

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**+Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** – 1230ish - Fundraising lunch at Emmanuel (see above) **AND**  
6pm Wortwell URC – “The Gambler” – a meditation for Holy Week in Song and Words by Dorothy Curtis and the Waveney Valley Partnership Singers.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April** – 7pm Partnership Holy Communion Service at Fressingfield Methodist Church – 7pm

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

10.00 am – Worship for Good Friday at Emmanuel, Bungay

**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 presentation of “The Gambler” (see above)

