

Goring United Reformed Church



Church Secretary
Mrs Val Gill Tel.: 01903 531069
Pastoral Secretary
Mrs Hilary Redman Tel.: 260568

WELCOME

Sunday 24th December 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent: Christmas Eve.
Monday 25th Christmas Day
AND
Sunday 31st December 2023
New Year's Eve

**We are here to :- Grow closer to God,
Support and encourage each other,
Share the love of Jesus.**

**Services at 10.30 am Morning Worship :
Mrs Valerie Cooper & The Elders; Mrs Caroline Hibbs leading
the service on Christmas Day
Duty Elder: Mrs Bobby Hitchin**

**The Service on 31st December
conducted by Rev Dr. Janet Hopewell.**

**If you are visiting us for the first time we do Welcome you
especially. Please make yourselves known to our 'Welcomers'
and ask for a leaflet for Newcomers, with details of our church.**

HYMNS & READING FOR SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER

Hymn MP 713 Tonight while all the world was sleeping
The Angel Gabriel
MP 631 Tell out my soul
MP 121 Emmanuel
MP 62 Born in the night Mary's Child
MP 35 Angels from the realms of Glory

Reading: Matthew 1 v. 18 – 25

HYMNS & READINGS FOR SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER.

Hymn R&S 144 It came upon the midnight clear
R&S 155 While Shepherds watched
R&S 163 Angels from the realms of Glory
R&S 169 Unto us a Boy is born

Reading Luke 2 V. 15 – 20

Poem "Christmas" by John Betjeman

FUTURE SERVICES in December

24th The Elders led by Valerie Cooper :- 4th Sunday in Advent

24th Children's Nativity Service 5.00 pm

25th The Elders led by Caroline Hibbs :- Christmas Day.10.30 am

31st Rev Dr Janet Hopewell.

7th January : Wilfred Rhodes

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MINI FISHES – Baby & Toddlers Group: Mondays 9.30 – 11.15 am

COFFEE & CAKE drop-in afternoon – Mondays 2.00 pm – 4 pm.

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP – Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month
next meeting: January 9th

TABLE TENNIS Tuesdays & Fridays 9.30 am -11.15

but last session on Tuesday 19th December.

ART & CRAFT CLUB 1st Saturday in the month : 9.30 -12.30 a.m
next meeting January 6th

BIBLE STUDY Weekly on Wednesdays 7.00 pm in Church.

MIDWEEK PRAISE SERVICE Monthly on 3rd Thursday

THE BEECHES

We conducted a short service for Christmas at this Care Home last Wednesday. Our friend and church Member, Bill Marshall, lives there, and was pleased to be able to send his love and good wishes to all of us at Goring URC. Susie Thomas delivers Welcome to him every week for which he is very grateful.

Wilf & Eileen Rhodes.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK.

SUNDAY

Lord, I pray that you will give me joy in my heart and keep me praising; peace in my heart and keep me loving; love in my heart and keep me serving today and all the days of my life.

MONDAY

All glory be to God on high and to the earth be peace; Goodwill hence forth from heaven to men, begin and never cease.

TUESDAY

Father we thank you for your love in Jesus today, giving us hope for tomorrow through joy and sorrow; Father we thank you.

WEDNESDAY

Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart and a discerning mind; give, as I play the Christian's part, the strength to finish what I start and act on what I find.

THURSDAY

God is Love, His the care, tending each, everywhere. God is love – all is there! Jesus came to show him, that mankind might know him. Sing aloud! God is good! God is truth! God is beauty

PRAISE HIM!

FRIDAY

Teach us good Lord, to serve the need of others, help us to give and not to count the cost. Unite us all for we are born brothers and sisters. Your love is at the heart of all creation, and we thank you.

SATURDAY

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas all anger should efface. O tidings of comfort and joy

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS AND MAY OUR CRIES COME TO YOU. In Jesus' name we pray, **AMEN**

Church Family Prayers:

Throughout the year we remember in our prayers all those in our Church Family. This week we remember:

Joan & Munro Wightman; Shirley & Roger Wilde;
Isobel Willard

NOTICES.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD.

There is a communal Christmas Card at the back of the church for everyone to sign, along with an optional charity box for donations to Safe in Sussex.

FREEWILL OFFERING SCHEME.

I have some spare sets of Freewill Offering envelopes for 2024, for anyone who would like to join the scheme. Alternatively, you may wish to set up a standing order through your bank. Both options help to maintain your financial support even when you are absent from Church. If you would like to pursue either option please have a word with me.

Matthew Smith – Treasurer.

COFFEE ROTA

There is a new Coffee Rota on the back table. If you enjoy a coffee after the service, please do sign up to participate in this important ministry. We use paper cups and instant coffee, cutting down on preparation time and washing up afterwards. We are only a few in number and of course we are not available all the time. If you can sign up to serve 6 times a year it would be a great help. Thank you!

Valerie Cooper

WE HAVE RECEIVED news from Ann and Ron Munsterman in the U.S.A. They send their love and greetings to all of us at Church .

TO ALL KNITTERS!

Knitters urgently needed. University Hospital Sussex Maternity Services need woolly hats for newborn babies. No under-chin ties. Premature and full term baby sizes. I have a friend who will deliver to hospital.

Mary Redman

RUTH & MAMY'S CHAT

A new Message has arrived with much interesting news. Copies are at the back of the church. Do read, our friends are doing amazing work in translating the Bible into so many languages – which leads to the education of a whole country.

Olive Bushby sends many thanks for flowers delivered by Matthew.

Contributions for **Welcome**: E-mail: welcome@gurc.org.uk

Editor January 7 Ryan Thomas then Barbara Hillman.

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For Diary Dates, additions, changes & deletions go to diary@gurc.org.uk

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