

**Dear God, I pray that you will bless me and my church. Send people into our fellowship,
and protect us all. In Jesus' name. Amen**

THE SALVATION ARMY CORPS & CHURCH, HYTHE Officers/Pastors - Lt's Callum & Berri McKenna
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Sunday 11th March 2018

'The Best Laid Plans'

Ruth 1



Good Morning and Welcome to Worship!

It was the legendary Scottish poet Robert Burns who penned the words, 'The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men Gang aft agley'. Whilst to read the rest of his poem 'To the Mouse' you might need Annie McMillan or one of the MacArthurs to help you translate, this morning we're going to be thinking about that line and using a story from the book of Ruth to help us. Burns's adage is expressing something that I'm sure all of us have experienced: even the best plans we make don't always turn out the way we have expected. Days like Mothers Day can, whilst being occasions of celebration for many, be all too real reminders for others that things we'd hoped for, dreamed of and expected to happen don't always come true. Some of us may be left wondering 'where is God in our best laid, yet un-fulfilled, plans?'

The story of Ruth and Naomi, at least as seen in Ruth chapter 1, isn't really an easy read, feel good fairy tale. It's about famine, poverty, bereavement and tribalism. At its heart, it's about things that don't turn out the way they're supposed to and yet through all of the chaos, confusion and mess we see a beautiful picture of the kind of devotion and embrace that God shares for us people. Today, may each of us be able to glimpse that picture for ourselves.

Now...to practice that Scottish accent!

Callum



The gift of flowers greatly enhances our worship environment, this week we thank **Wes & Shauna**.

Prayer Requests

Pauline, Nancy Maguire, Heather & Ted, Milly, Audrey & Patricia all need our prayers.

Please also start to remember the group in your prayers: Karen and Alex Bridges, Adam Davey, Ashley Found, Emilie, Aimee and Kacey Margott, Wesley, Harrison and Grace Carroll, Callum, Berri and Henry and Divisional Youth Specialist Anita Gellatly

This Week

Monday: 9:30- Toddlers

10:00- Divisional Prayer Gathering at Canterbury (Callum is going if anyone wants a lift!)

12:30- Lent Group

Tuesday: 9:30- Toddlers

7:30- Music Rehearsal - Songsters

Wednesday: 2:30- CAMEO

7:00- Lent Group

Friday: NO YOUTH GROUP, due to youth band rehearsal

Note: Last Friday was due to be the Ecumenical World Day of Prayer Meeting at 2:00pm at the Methodist Church but this was cancelled due to the snow and has been rescheduled to THIS FRIDAY, the 16th. Same time and place.

Unfortunately because of bad weather Lillian's Sky Dive on Thursday was cancelled, hopefully this will be re-scheduled ASAP

Dates for your diary...

Sunday 18th Mar Self Denial Altar Service

Sunday 25th Mar Palm Sunday- Palm Sunday- 25th March, last year, for the first time, we worked with the Parish Church on a live donkey parade to celebrate Palm Sunday and it was a great success! We plan to do the same again this year, so come along at 9:50 ready to wave palms and greet the Donkey! (The donkey is scheduled to pass us at 10am...but you never know!)

3pm – 5pm - Messy Church

Tuesday 27th Mar 'This is my Body': Holy Week Meditation

Friday 30th Mar Good Friday,

Walk of Witness, Service in the Town Square and Joint Meeting with South Kent Community Church in our hall.

Saturday April 28th "TOTAL PRAISE" featuring the South East Youth Band; South East Fellowship Band & the Shepway Community Choir. 7pm in Hythe Bay School – admission free with a retiring collection.

Sunday 8th July Sunday Worship lead by Bromley Temple YP Band and Junior Choir

Sunday 15th July Divisional Candidates Farewell at Horsham, 4:00pm.

Sunday 22nd July Garden Party @ Quarters

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th September Harvest Weekend.

This year will see the retirement of General Andre and Commissioner Sylvia Cox, the International Leaders of The Salvation Army on Saturday 19th May 2018 at Westminster Central Hall. This event will also see the convening of 'The High Council' of 113 leaders from around the world whose responsibility it is to elect the next General. Tickets are free and available from special.events@salvationarmy.org.uk

Suitcases for Kenya!

It's just a few weeks until some of our corps family makes their long anticipated and worked for trip to Kenya. We secured a very generous baggage allowance from Lufthansa meaning each member of the group is able to take an additional 23KGs of Luggage with them- a whole extra suitcase!

Thanks so much for the big supply of suitcases for the Kenya trip! We could still use a couple more, along with any of the following items:

Pens/Pencils

Colouring Items

Craft Items/Kits

Stickers

Balls (deflated!)

Bubbles

Balloons

Tambourines

Just in case anyone has anything lying around (although we recognise that people have been very generous already and don't want to put an extra financial ask on people!) But, what we are after is suitcases to transport it all.

Ideally, we're after old suitcases (that might be taking up space on top of your wardrobes!) that we can leave there. Aside from that maybe you have one that you'd be happy to loan us- but, we can't guarantee that it won't get damaged by baggage handling etc. If you're able to help, please see Callum.

SATURDAY MARCH 17TH

The visit of General André Cox, International Leader of The Salvation Army & Commissioner Silvia Cox World President of Women's Ministries to

THE SALVATION ARMY, WHITEHORSE LANE, CANTERBURY.

7pm Music from Canterbury Band and Songsters, testimonies and a chance to hear about and give in the Helping Hand Appeal 'Waves of Transformation'.

The General's theme is 'Hope for the Future'.

Sunday 18 March, 5.30pm

TABLE TALK

a friendly gathering over a light meal.

Let us know if you're coming, for catering reasons!