

Dear Grayshott,

November 2019

November is a month characterised by remembering. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> we have our ‘All Souls Service’ at which we remember those who have died who were close to us. We “remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November” and we have Armistice day, and Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial, for those who died in wars. As the evenings draw in, reminiscences of all kinds can flood in.

The seasons of the year lead us to think of the seasons of life. We look back, and we look forward, and our present can be challenging in lots of ways. How we remember and how we look forward is important. It is good to look back so that we learn, and it is good for us to look forward to anticipate, plan, and discover opportunities to grow; in this time of seemingly interminable uncertainty, and confusion nationally, we will survive the temptation to divide, by valuing and cultivating personal relationships.

The future can be exciting or daunting depending upon our personality, and personal circumstances, but as a connected community that looks out for each other, we can give hope to those who are struggling, and help to those who are pressing forward into new things.

In Paul’s letter to the church at Philippi, he wrote words for us all: Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whether it is remembering events, or people, or anticipating the future, let us go for what builds us up, and together.

Everyone is welcome to the services and events at St Luke’s, where we seek to build up and encourage, while honouring the past appropriately. See you at the War Memorial on 10<sup>th</sup>, and in the coming weeks, and perhaps we need to walk together more than at any other time in recent history.

Bless you all,  
Jeremy and Claire

Rev. Jeremy Haswell  
Vicar of St Luke’s, Grayshott