

Lent Red Bucket Appeal from the Charities Support Group

CSG are having a Lent Red Bucket appeal to be added to the money raised through the Tuesday Lent lunches this year. We will split the Lent money between **Riding Lights** and **Embrace the Middle East: Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza**. Further information about the charities and details of online donations can be found below. We also look forward to welcoming Riding Lights to talk after the service on Sunday 1st March, over coffee in the WCC at about 11:30am.

Riding Lights

Founded in 1977, Riding Lights is a professional theatre company with a strongly Christian ethos. Based at Friargate Theatre, York, it tours nationally to churches, theatres and other venues. Its output is often explicitly Christian (e.g. Passion or Nativity plays) or at other times aims to give a Christian perspective on contemporary life, exploring topics such as dementia, artificial intelligence and supporting young people in the care system. It also runs a drama group for adults with additional needs or disabilities and provides training in theatre skills for both amateurs and professionals through workshops and its residential summer theatre week. Visit their website at www.ridinglights.org or speak to John Emmett.

Its new Passion Play, *Night Falls*, is touring during Lent and will be at Chelmsford Cathedral on 23rd March and Verso Vineyard Church, St Albans on 27th March (see www.ridinglights.org/nightfalls).

Embrace the Middle East: Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza

Embrace is a Christian development Charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East. The people of Gaza are living through an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Although a ceasefire is currently in place, the long-term damage in Gaza on a physical, psychological and structural level is immense. Embrace's partners have been providing vital humanitarian support throughout the war and will continue to do so. "The vital medical care has continued almost unbroken... We stand in awe of all the Al Ahli Hospital staff, including the Princess Basma Centre rehab team, who all show extraordinary courage and indefatigable determination to continue the healing ministry which has been entrusted to us all by Jesus Christ." The Very Revd Canon Richard Sewell, St George's College Jerusalem.

More details can be found on their website, www.embraceme.org or please speak to Rosemary Thomson.

DONATIONS

Contributions can be made into our traditional Red Bucket or by contactless card giving in church after the services on Sundays and Wednesdays.

You can also donate in the following ways:

Using a BACS transfer to the CSG account

Name- St Michael's PCC Missions

Sort code- 20-36-98 (Barclays)

Account Number-33303519

(If you already gift aid contributions to the main PCC account then giving by BACS straight to this subsidiary account does not need a new form. Please put your name in the reference when making the transfer)

By Cheque

Made payable to **St Michael's PCC Missions** and placed in the Red Bucket after the Sunday Service or sent to St Michael's Church Parish Office, Windhill, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2ND

Thank you in advance for your support.

Charities Support Group