

Mission for the month – Church Pastoral Aid Society

Focus on Falcon Holidays

The summer may feel like a long time away but for the **overall leaders** of Falcon holidays these next few months will be very busy as they organise their team and plan their programme, including recruiting the remaining volunteers to lead on their holiday. In the busyness many will also be attending the Falcon's conference 8th-10th February. This is an opportunity for the overall leaders to receive training, meet with others and share ideas to use on their own holidays later in the year.

- **Pray for** everyone involved in the running of this conference that the tips and experiences shared will have a positive impact across all the holidays and the leaders will leave with a renewed passion for the work they are doing.
- **Pray for** all those considering being a **leader** on a Falcon this year. Pray that they will have God's guidance on whether this is the right place to serve.
- Bookings are now open for the 15 Falcon holidays and also the 70 Ventures, **pray for young people** who are deciding on whether to come on one of these holidays this year.
- And **Praise God** for the 420 young people who attended a Falcon holiday last year. **Pray** that each one would continue to be aware of His love for them in often difficult situations.

Vicar's Comment

At a recent meeting with the bishop of Leicester Martyn Snow, church representatives were encouraged to think about 'discipleship'. It's a word we don't use much in normal life, if ever, but it's a regular go-to word in the gospels - the first followers of Jesus (and that's more than the 12) are often called 'disciples'. This word is perhaps difficult to translate but I think the combination 'learner-follower' is good. And that means obedience to the teaching of the Lord Jesus.....but more than that it means committing ourselves to Him personally, wherever He leads us, because He is alive today.

In Matthew 28:19 (commonly known as the 'great commission') Jesus' early followers are told to '*go and make disciples of all nations*' (NIV). That's the language Jesus uses about anyone who will put their faith in Him, wherever they are in the world - they will be disciples.....learner-followers of Jesus. The question for us is whether we will take hold of that title and run with it this 2019 and beyond.

St Christopher's Church

**Trenant Road Saffron Lane
LE2 6UA**



Memory Verse

'Shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life' (NIV) Philippians 2:15-16

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