

CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby United Reformed Church



G Churches
together
in
Groby

October 2017

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

1ST-7TH OCTOBER

This Saturday there will be a special Apple Day theme at Love Groby Tasters. Please pray for a good event, with a strong attendance and great participation. Pray that those attending will grasp an understanding of God's great provision for us all.

8TH -14TH OCTOBER

This month is Harvest season. Please thank God for the rich food we eat every day, and pray and work for a world where nobody has two loaves of bread, while others have none.

15TH -21ST OCTOBER

There are a huge amount of tasks that go on in our church that are often unseen or unnoticed and sometimes much is done by a few. Please take this week to pray for yourself and ask God how you can perhaps be more involved in the daily running of our church, even if in just a very small way.

22ND -28TH OCTOBER

Open the Book has entered its 3rd year! Please pray for the team as they take the message into our 3 Primary Schools - David Harrup, Kevan Hall and Lynda Hawkes from URC, Tom and Viv Limb, Chris Davis and Jane Cox from St P&J. Pray for wisdom and good ideas as they plan each month.

29TH OCTOBER – 4TH NOVEMBER

Please pray for Catherine and Helen as they prepare and lead the Shoebox campaign. Please pray for us to be generous so we can fill many boxes and make many children happy.

- Lynda Hawkes & Ruth Ivens

WELCOME FROM TIM, CHURCH ELDER



Greetings, and welcome to October's issue of contact.

"The times they are a changing". So the hook line from a 1960's song runs. But is it true?

Well, we have Brexit negotiation's simmering away in the back ground between ourselves and Europe, and who knows how they might end? Climate change presenting major problems around the world with flooding and hurricanes coursing havoc and misery, mostly we are told because of man's abuses of planet Earth and the emissions that we are releasing into the atmosphere. We have technology moving forwards at an amazing rate, driver-less cars and heavy goods vehicles evolving and being tested on our roads (just one aspect of recent technological developments). We have advances in medical research helping to improve our lives and laying the foundations and opportunities for us to live longer, and of course we have seven days a week shopping which has now been around for a number of years.

So how do these advances impact upon us, are we as God's people, changing our life-style, priorities, attitude to Jesus?

From the earliest days of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, God has had a constant battle to keep His people loyal, willing and eager to serve Him. God's prophets, like Jeremiah and Isaiah, had to constantly preach warnings of punishment, if His people did not return to true worship and obedience. In the time of Jesus' earthly ministry, things were still the same. God's people seemed to place reverence to God very low down on their list of priorities.

So what's new? In October 2017, nothing has changed! We have a greater challenge to face now. There are more demands on our time and energy than ever before. Pressure from family, work, secular activities and a 24-7 society and environment, give us plenty of excuses for a casual

and apathetic approach to serving Jesus. Yet those self-same pressures should be the very reason for a dynamic, vibrant faith in our Living Lord!

Only Jesus can enable us to meet the demands of everyday life in 2017, with total confidence and clearness of mind. Only He can help us respond to our neighbours' needs, whether they live next door, or halfway around the world. Now is the time to respond to Jesus, in Peter's words :-

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for You—even Jesus”. (Acts 3: 19 - 20 NIV)

May God, through the Holy Spirit, enable us to do just that!

Every blessing in Christ,

- Tim Symonds

TWEET

Nicky Gumbel (@nickygumbel)

18/09/2017, 21:15



One of the best gifts you can give anyone is encouragement. If everyone received enough the world would blossom beyond our wildest dreams.

- Rachel Hiscocks

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Happy Birthday

Happy October Birthdays

Alex Down
Declan Stokes
Keziah Euden

- Sue Lawrence-Brooks



**FILM & FOOD
FOR FELLAS**

New season starts on Thurs
5th October at 7.00pm
See David H for more info.

PRAYER CARDS

Prayer Cards are available to all at the back of the Church on top of the Hymn Book Stand. There is a varied selection of prayers for life's journey. For the many feelings and changes of situations for ourselves or friends and family, the cards can be kept in Bibles, purses, handbags, wallets, on kitchen cabinets, office desks, or in cars, etc.

They are a great help when we don't know what to say ... with Bible Readings or just Symbols.

The shortest prayer is to

Thank God. What better prayer to shape our minds or fit our tongues or grace our pen? No prayer is shorter to say or sweeter to hear or grander to think on or more fruitful to practice. - Saint Augustine.

Examples include -The power of prayer, Prayer for Patience, New Day, Today, Hold my Hand, Be Still my Soul, Will your Anchor hold? Footprints, A Family Prayer, Don't Quit, Children Learn What They Live, Take Time, Irish Blessings, The Grace.

They all effect us at different times so it's good to pick them up read and feel closer to God.

To finish a few words from my Perpetual Calendar

The Bible isn't just a collection of stories, letters and prophecies. It's God-breathed--God-inspired. It is your guidebook for everything! God has given you His Word to study, delight in, treasure, and apply. His grace is overflowing and abounding---Thank Him. He's poured out His life, His love and His Word for you

There are also Daily Bible Reading Books if anyone is interested just speak to Barbara Lomas or myself.

- Kay Blick

TEACHING & WORSHIP PROGRAMME



Ephesians –Growth in Christ. The apostle Paul, wrote this letter of encouragement to the church in Ephesus, a church which appeared to be getting most things fairly spot on. Yet he still feels it necessary to show them how a church is meant to grow in Christ.

Let's hope that we too shall grow as we look once more at Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. - Kevan Hall

1ST OCT 17

10am Salvation by God's Grace Elder: Phil Holmes
Ephesians Ch 2 - Kevan Hall

8TH OCT 17

10am Thankfulness – Harvest Elder: Tim Symonds
Lead by Elders

15TH OCT 17

10am A Mystery Made Known Elder: Trevor Pringle
Ephesians Ch 3 - David Harrup (C) Rachel Hiscocks
Communion - All age

22TH OCT 17

10am Building the Body of Christ Elder: Dave Smith
Ephesians Ch 4:1-16 - Malcolm Clarke

29TH OCT 17

10am Theme TBA Elder: Kathy Du Boulay
Led by Voice for Justice Group

HELPING HANDS - OCT 2017



CRECHE

Sue Lawrence Brooks

- 1st Rachel H, Susie, Rachel or Dan P
- 8th Jacquie, Hilary, Ruth
- 15th Rachel E, Hily, Anna
- 22nd Linda, Catherine, Ric
- 29th Jan, Stacey, Sue L-B

COFFEE

Joy Russell

- 1st Kay B & helper
- 8th Judith & Anne B
- 15th Sue LB & Hily
- 22nd Pat C & Mary P
- 29th Jan & Kathy dB

WORSHIP

Tim Symonds

	LEADER	MEDIA	PIANO
1st		Phil Holmes	Debbie George
8th		Barrie Du Boulay	Sue Annable
15th		Dave Smith	Viv Limb
22nd		Mark Hiscocks	Dave Lomas
29th		Phil Holmes	TBA

WELCOME

Joy Russell

- 1st Trevor & Mary
- 8th Kay B & Hily
- 15th Sue LB & Jan
- 22nd Jean & Sheila
- 29th Mark & Rachel

FLOWERS

Barbara Conlon

- 1st Mrs A. Gregory
- 8th Mr & Mrs R. Ivens
- 15th Dr & Mrs C. Coaton
- 22nd Mrs A. Tombs
- 29th Mr & Mrs David Smith

CLEANING

Kathy Du Boulay

- 2nd – 7th: Sue LB, Ruth, Judith
- 9th – 14th: Linda & Tim, Jan & Mark
- 16th – 21st: Pat C, Joy & Peter, Kay B
- 23rd – 28th: Jeanette & Barrie, Anne, Hilary
- 30th – 4th Nov: Dave S, Sue & Mike, Barry dB



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Last year we packed 103 boxes to be sent to Eastern Europe. It would be fantastic to do that again. We will be packing boxes during the service on Sunday 5th November. A box will be at the back of Church every Sunday from the beginning of October to collect your gifts. If you would like to donate money instead please give this to Helen or Catherine.

Here is the list of items that can be included in a shoebox:



TOYS

Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.



HYGIENE ITEMS

Toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.



OTHER ITEMS

Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (best-before-date must be at least March of the following year).



DO NOT INCLUDE

Used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; clothing other than as listed above.

We try to pack as many different things into the shoe boxes as we can, so small things are best.

If you would like to help pack the boxes on the day, all help would be gratefully received!

Thank you in advance for your donations!

- Helen Fracchia



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN GROBY

The forum are meeting next week – after the October Contact deadline – so just giving a flavour of what we are doing as churches together in Groby over the coming months.

Over the last three years we have run an apple press, twice at the village hall and then last year as part of the autumn village street fair. This autumn we will be running the apples press linked to Tasters one Saturday morning at the URC, Watch out for more details about this.

Tasters remains a strong focus involving people from both churches – and others. As churches and churches together we need to understand how we can link people attending on a Saturday morning into other activities as part of their faith journey.

Christmas is coming – Noooooo! I hear you shout as you read this, but we know it is on the CTG forum when Christmas items start appearing on our agenda. We are picking the design for the village Christmas card and considering how we can do more with the Advent Windows this year.

CATCH is one of the activities that comes under the umbrella of our CTG work. I joined them for coffee the other Friday morning, the place was buzzing with about 12 little ones and their mums, grandmas or whoever had brought them. Kathy who looks after them with tea & coffee described it as a joy to be there, but has asked for some help. So if you can commit to helping as part of a rota on a Friday morning please see me.

Any questions about the work of the CTG forum please see Lynda Hawkes or myself. The URC is a member short on the forum at present, so if you feel called to join please also see one of us.

- David Harrup – CTG Secretary

PHOTO BOOK FOR KAY

As you know Kay Peel is very poorly at the moment and I know that both Kay and her family value your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Kay responds well to pictures and photographs and so, I am putting together a book of photos that hold memories for her.



If you have any such photos and are willing to share them, please send a copy to me by the end of October:

Email: mpstait@hotmail.com

Address: 27 Larchwood Ave

If you could write a couple of sentences about the photograph and the memory it evokes, it would be great to include this as well.

Many thanks

- Mary Stait



I am writing this article before we have yet presented our September story of 'the Bad Brother'. At our practise we had problems deciding who was going to be the bad brother, and who was going to be the other one – Jacob or Esau.

We considered the different ages of our male team members but in the end it came down to who had the hairiest arms Tom or David. Read the story in Genesis 25 and you will understand why.

In October we present 'the Runaway' which is follow-on to 'the Bad Brother' where Jacob tried to run away from God. The conclusion focusses on how God still loved Jacob and how He wanted him to change his ways, and that eventually Jacob said sorry to Esau and that he forgave him.

Some of the team joined other Leicestershire Open-the-bookers at a regional conference where they found out these amazing facts -

Nationally there are 18280 primary schools with 4.5 million pupils.

14980 registered OtB story tellers visit 2672 schools and are watched by 721440 children.

Please pray for this valuable work across the country and pray that more schools and children may be reached by this work and hear about these Bible stories.

To find out more about the work of the Open the Book team please speak to Lynda Hawkes, Kevan Hall or David Harrup from the team.

– David Harrup

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7pm Thurs 5 Oct Film & Food for Fellas



- Mark Hiscocks

FILM & FOOD FOR FELLAS

The new season of Film & Food for Fellas starts on Thursday 5th October and sometime between now and then I need to sort out some potential films for the fellas to watch.

The season will run through to Thursday 12th April – see me for card with all the dates on.

No more than a £2.00 donation is generally enough to cover the cost of the food and a soft drink.

This is a Churches Together evening and fellas from both churches are encouraged to come along with a non-church friend.

For more information please see me

- David Harrup

NOVEMBER 2017 ISSUE

CONTACT

NEXT DEADLINE SAT 22nd Oct 2017

Please submit articles to me by the above date, preferred via email.

This magazine is published in print and on the church website, grobyurc.com. If you would like to be added or removed from the paper copy distribution list or the monthly hyperlink email list, please let me know.

- Mark Hiscocks, Magazine@grobyurc.com

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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP (10AM)

All Age with Y.church (children's session) Holy Communion as announced. Babies and toddlers can be cared for on Sunday mornings. The church building has a loop hearing system, wheelchair access, a toilet for the disabled & baby nappy-changing facilities.

Home Groups: Wed & Thurs evenings – see an elder for details.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday:	9.30-11.30am	Noah's Ark Club for toddlers and families.
	6.00-7.15pm	Chattabox Mondays* (children years 3-6)
	7.45-9.00pm	Rock Solid* (young people in years 7-9)
Wednesday:	7.30-9.00pm	Revelation* (young people in years 10-13)
Thursday:	10.30-12.00am	Fair Cuppa* at Groby Village Hall.
Friday:	9.30-11.30am	CATCH* Coffee and chat (in term-time)
	7.30-9.30pm	Gap* (young people in years 10-13)
Saturday:	8.00-9.00am	Prayers, all welcome
	10.00-12.30pm	Love Groby Tasters - Coffee & Fun

*These activities are run jointly with St. Philip & St. James Church as part of 'Churches Together in Groby'.