

# CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby  
United Reformed Church



March 2019

# PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

## 3-9TH MARCH

Please pray for the coming weekend. Please pray for the minister who will spend the weekend with us, and pray for all of us to discern whether this calling is from God.

## 10-16 MARCH

Please pray for the work of Extend and especially for Colin Udall as he leads assemblies in our primary schools. Pray that his work will reach the hearts of the children and grow our Chattabox groups in church.

## 17-23RD MARCH

Please pray for the Homegroups, pray for many new discoveries in the Bible, for spiritual growth for good fellowship and care among the group.

## 24TH-30TH MARCH

It is mothering Sunday, please pray and thank God for mothers and ask God to bless them in their daily lives to be a mother to her own, or even other children.

## 31 MARCH - 6 APRIL

This week Open the Book will be taking the Easter story into 2 more schools in Groby. Please pray that these children will take the story into their hearts and realise that there is so much more to Easter than chocolate.

- Lynda Hawkes & Ruth Ivens

# WELCOME FROM DAVID, CHURCH ELDER



We have come to the end of our Days or Prayer preaching series and I hope it has helped by prompting you to pray more, maybe more often or maybe with more intention.

If you want more opportunities to either pray in church, to have someone to pray with you or are looking for some prayer material to use at home please see one of the elders.

Last month Mark reflected that although as a church we are in uncertain times, that God is with us – Amen to that!

On Wednesday 6th March we begin 40 days of Lent leading up to Maundy Thursday and the start of the Easter weekend. Lent is a time of fasting and of reflection ahead of our Easter remembrance and celebrations.

Our preaching during Lent is focussed on us as Christians 'being different' and how we can live more like disciples of Jesus, the one who died for each of us.

In our uncertain times we can be absolutely certain about what Jesus did for us, through God's mercy and grace. We know, we can read about it, not just as it is recorded in the four Gospels but also in the New Testament letters, by Luke, Paul, Peter, John and others who either witnessed Christ's death and resurrection, or who heard about it from those there.

Lent is a time of preparation, and for some time this church has been preparing to receive the minister that God is calling to lead the resourced church group we are part of. On the first Sunday of Lent,

10th March, a minister will be with us 'preaching with a view' to become the minister for the group.

I am excited and looking forward to the weekend and what follows. I, like I guess others, have been thinking about what I am looking for from this minister, but the one important question for me is whether this minister is the one being called and sent to us by God.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - **With all your heart you must trust the Lord and not your own judgment. Always let him lead you, and he will clear the road for you to follow.**

Ahead of our church meeting on Tuesday 12th March, as we meet and hear this minister, we must individually and as a fellowship pray for the Lord's guidance and trust Him.

- David Harrup

## TWEET

Gerard Kelly (@twitturgies)

07/02/2019, 10:41



**May you find in the everyday the day of God's favour. May he show you where the tedious is tinged with gold. In unspectacular fires may miracles be forged**

- Rachel Hiscocks

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# CHATTABOX HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB



A few photos of our children's club  
19-20 February 2019 at Martinshaw  
School.





# Baptism & Membership



At our January meeting the elders presented a paper on our approach to Baptism which was accepted by the meeting.

Below is an extract from the paper -

If our focus is on bringing people into God's Kingdom and encouraging people to be baptised as a profession of their new-found faith then membership becomes more about an added commitment to serve God in our particular church/locality. Someone who is baptised in our fellowship can choose to make this added commitment, or not.

For someone joining our church from another church/denomination the commitment to serve God in our church/locality through membership of this church would need to be made alongside re-affirmation of their faith.

In addition, the elders will encourage those within the fellowship who have already made a declaration of faith either within this church or another, but who are not members, to consider membership to commit/re-commit themselves to serve God in this church.

We would also encourage anyone within the fellowship who has not been baptised to explore whether being baptised would help their



spiritual journey.

We were tasked by the elders to arrange a series of sessions on baptism. It could be the first session will look at our church approach to baptism, including looking at church membership.

This could be good for anyone who is either thinking about being baptised, becoming a member or both. The first session would also be a pointer for whether people continue with the other session/s looking deeper into baptism.

In arranging these sessions it would be helpful for us to have people in mind who we knew were interested.

So, if you are interested please speak to one of us.

Following the church meeting the elders have also picked up the action 'to explore practically how anyone wanting to be baptised, can be baptised here at our Groby church'.

If we are focussed on doing God's work, building on the relationships we have into the community and the platform of a generation of Groby children knowing something of God – we can expect an explosion of faith across the village with many people coming into our churches.

Our church purpose, that underpins everything we do, is -

**Matthew 28 - 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.**

- Mark Hiscocks & David Harrup – church elders

# TEACHING & WORSHIP PROGRAMME



Over the next few months we are thinking about 'being disciples'.

## SUN 3RD MARCH

10am Jesus says 'Don't be like them' Elder: David Harrup /  
Matthew 6:1-8 & 19-24 John Hall (C) Phil  
Communion

## SUN 10TH MARCH

10am Jesus says 'Make your light shine' Elder: Kevan Hall  
Matthew 5:13-16 Visting Speaker  
3pm Family Service

## SUN 17TH MARCH

10am Jesus says 'Don't worry about tomorrow' Elder: Phil Holmes  
Matthew 6:25-34 Malcolm Clarke

## SUN 24TH MARCH

10am Jesus says 'Ask and you will receive' Elder: Kathy Du Boulay  
Matt 7:7-11 John Shaw

## SUN 31ST MARCH

10am Jesus says 'Don't condemn others' Elder: Mark Hiscocks  
Matthew 7:1-5 David Harrup

# HELPING HANDS - MAR 2019



## CRECHE

Linda Symonds

3rd Rachel E, Suzie and Rachel P  
10th Jacquie, Hilary and Linda  
17th Rachel E, Anna and Hily  
24th Linda, Stacey and Ruth  
31st Jan, Sue L-B and Ruth

## COFFEE

Joy Russell

3rd Sue LB & Hily  
10th Judith & Anne B  
17th Pat C & Mary  
24th Jan & Kathy dB  
31st Ann T & Barbara C

## WORSHIP

Tim Symonds

	LEADER	MEDIA	PIANO
3rd		Dave Smith	Sue
10th	(am)	Phil Homes, Mark Hiscocks	Debbie
	(pm)	Tim Symonds (pm)	Sue
17th		Dave Smith	Helen
24th		Barry DuBoulay	Dave
31st		Phil Homes	Debbie

## WELCOME

Joy Russell

3rd Moira & Jim  
10th Anne & Barbs  
17th Joy & Peter  
24th John & Elaine  
31st Mary & Trevor

## FLOWERS

Barbara Conlon

3rd Mr & Mrs J. Mee  
10th Mr & Mrs P Randall  
17th Mr & Mrs D Parker  
24th Mr & Mrs R. Brandon  
31st Mrs. K. Blick

## CLEANING

Kathy Du Boulay

4th – 9th March: Jeanette & Barrie, Anne, Hilary  
11th – 15th March: Dave S, Sue & Mike, Barry dB  
17th – 23rd March: Kathy dB & Lynda H  
25th – 30th March: Sue LB, Ruth, Judith & Barbara C



# A CATHEDRAL WELCOME



**We extend a special welcome** to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, gay, confused, filthy rich, comfortable, or dirt poor.

**We extend a special welcome** to wailing babies and excited toddlers.

**We welcome you** whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury, or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

**We extend a special welcome** to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organised religion.'  
*(We're not that keen on it either!)*

**We offer a welcome** to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to the Cathedral.

**We welcome those** who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost in the city centre and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters...and YOU!

*With kind permission of Coventry Cathedral*

Photo taken at Cape Town cathedral.

- Alan & Caroline Bloor



# Happy Birthday

Happy March Birthday to

**Roberto Fracchia**

-Sue Lawrence-Brooks

## Church Elders

Kathy Du Boulay

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Trevor Pringle

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# ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 'PREACH WITH A VIEW'

weekend 9th & 10th March 2019

Saturday 9th – Faith Tea / Social gathering including a Q&A session:

This will run from 3.00pm to 5.00pm (ish) at Lutterworth URC and is open to anyone from the churches within the Group.

Please see signup sheet so the church there can have an idea of numbers expected. Please watch the notice board for information about parking nearby.

Sunday 10th – Two services at Groby URC:

10.00am service with all interested invited from all churches. There is no Y church or any other activity specific for children, so we could if needed overflow to the back room. This service will include communion.

3.00pm All-age service which would be open to all, but have a clear focus for the children/families who would be in throughout the service. We would encourage all of our families with children to come to the afternoon service, rather than the morning one. Whilst family focussed we are sure others would want to attend to see a different style and how the visiting Minister interacts with children.

(Please only use the church car park if you really need to for the services as there will be people coming from four other churches including some with sight/mobility issues).

Monday 11th – Elders meeting to pray, discuss and form a view.

Other churches meeting to form a view that will be presented to our church meeting Tuesday.

Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm – Church Meeting for members to reflect

and then vote whether the minister should be called to be minister of the West Leicester Resourced Group.

Phil Holmes – Church Secretary

## PREACHING SERIES LEADING UP TO EASTER



Over the next few months we are thinking about 'being disciples'.

We are challenged to 'make ... disciples' and to 'teach them' and this is a commitment to spend time focussed on our own, and others, discipleship journeys.

Discipleship is a journey, a personal journey towards living fuller Christian lives, but one that is best travelled with others to support, encourage and challenge us.

Before we look at how we can help to disciple each other we are going to consider how being Christians, being disciples of Jesus is about living and -

'being different' – as Jesus says in verses from the Sermon on the Mount.

- David Harrup



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@40acts



@40acts



## 40 ACTS

40acts is the generosity challenge for Lent, created by UK Christian charity, Stewardship. For eight years, 40acts has asked a question: what if Lent could be about more than just giving stuff up? What if it could be a time of radical generosity as well as spiritual discipline?

Over the years, 40acts has become a movement of over 100,000 people on a mission to impact their communities with generosity – during Lent and beyond.

- Mark Hiscocks



**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2019**  
25 FEBRUARY – 10 MARCH

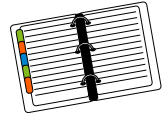
**SHE DESERVES A LIVING INCOME**  
GET READY FOR FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT WITH THIS  
GUIDE TO GETTING YOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVED

DON'T FEED EXPLOITATION.  
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FAIRTRADE

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



7pm Thursday 7 March, food and film for Fellas

7.30pm Tuesday 12th March - Church Meeting

- Mark Hiscocks



*CONTACT*

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**DEADLINE SAT 23rd March 2018**

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

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- Mark Hiscocks, [magazine@grobyurc.com](mailto:magazine@grobyurc.com)



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### CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

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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)
Thursday:	10.30-12.00am	Fair Cuppa* at Groby Village Hall.
Friday:	9.30-11.30am	CATCH* Coffee and chat (in term-time)
Saturday:	8.00-9.00am	Prayers, all welcome
	10.00-12.30pm	Groby Tasters - Coffee & Fun

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