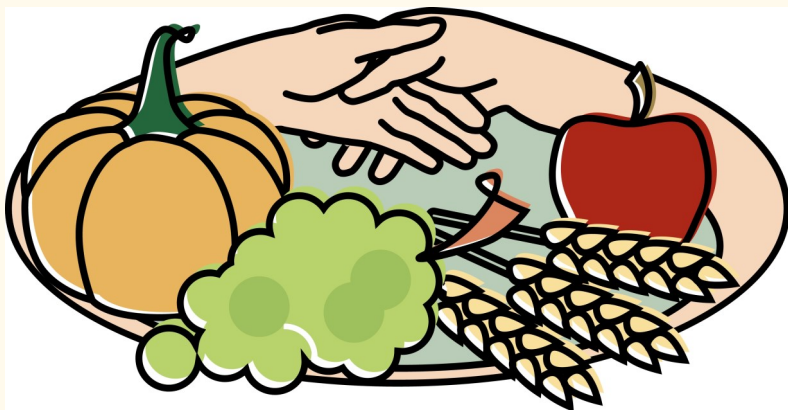


CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby

United Reformed Church



October 2022

Happy Birthday

*Alex Down & Keziah Euden both celebrate their birthdays
in October*



Happy Birthday to You Both!!

May the Good Lord Bless You

Sue Lawrence-Brooks

Church Elders

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Our Church website can be found at <https://grobyurc.com/>

Our Facebook page is at <https://www.facebook.com/grobyurc>

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WELCOME FROM MARK CHURCH ELDER.



Welcome to the October edition of Contact

We are adjusting to singing “God save our gracious King ...”, to King Charles III. This is a new era.

We have celebrated the life of our late Queen Elizabeth before the whole world. No one can be in any doubt of her faith in God, for which we give thanks.

In an article for Christianity, Pete Grieg wrote of a moment of extraordinary opportunity following the death of a long reigning monarch, which led to the prophet Isaiah receiving his commission.

*‘The prophet Isaiah describes a moment like this after the death of another long-serving monarch: **“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord...seated on a throne.”** ([Isaiah 6:1](#)) Few people could remember a life without Uzziah on the throne – he had reigned 52 years, presiding over an era of prosperity, innovation and peace. His death had shaken the nation. And yet it was then that Isaiah received his commission.*

Times of shaking have always been moments of extraordinary opportunity.’

We therefore pray and trust that God will bless us in the times ahead as we face the many changes in our individual and collective lives.

Above all as Christians, Jesus calls us to love

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:34-35 NIV),

I find this graphic helpful to remember the three directions of our love: loving God (UP), loving one another (IN), and loving others in the world (OUT).



(taken from discoverychristian.org/our-vision)

Most of you will know that we are the resource church for the West Leicestershire group of 5 URC churches who have recently invited Paul Ellis to be our minister. This is a time of new beginning for us as a church as Paul and his wife Jill join us later in the year.

Lets not forget that this time of year when we can reflect on and thank God for the harvest that He graciously provides for us.

God bless Mark

A is for Activist

We can all be activists in many different ways, but whatever we do we do it to partner God in seeing His justice extend into our world

ACTIVISTS are not action-junkies. We need to be knowledgeable as the problems that face our world are immensely complicated and we shouldn't be naive.

No excuses allowed for knowing of someone's distress and doing nothing about it. We should be activists because of the state of our world and our hope for the future.



Action Points

Choose one thing that will build up your knowledge and understanding of some of the world's environmental problems. For example, commit to regularly watching some of the prolific TV documentaries and news programmes.

As you do so, ask God to give you vision and fill you with compassion.

B is for Banana

Are you one of the 90% of households in the UK who buy bananas? Despite the welcome growth of fairly traded banana sales in the UK, the overwhelming majority of consumption globally is produced in poor conditions, with low pay for the growers, unsuitable housing and poor protection from the use of pesticides. The toxins cause sterility in men and brain damage in children.



What can we do?

**Buy fairly
traded bananas!**

Question: If when doing your weekly supermarket shop they don't stock fairly traded bananas, do you go somewhere else to buy them?

Corporate power is very concentrated with the multi-national companies - Chiquita, Dole, Del Monte, Fyffes, Noboa and the Supermarkets controlling production by trying to keep prices artificially low in order to attract shoppers.

Our breakfast bananas are a complex game in global trade.

Voice for Justice Team



Y-Church & Ready, Set, Go Update

After a break in July while many families were away Y-Church & Ready, Set, Go returned in August and September. The children were really happy to be back & to see each other again, we've had some great sessions with them & as usual they've come up with some fantastic work & some really challenging questions for the leaders!

Below are just a couple of highlights.

In August Y-Church spent a session thinking about praising God & talking about Psalms, at the end of the session the kids wrote their own Psalm – here it is:

Thank you for my family, food and water.

I praise God for people and the bible.

I worship God for home, sleep and holidays

We worship you our Lord and Saviour for giving us shelter and friends.

If we praise our Lord then our space in heaven will await us.

All of the world will unite and the Holy Spirit will surround us.

At the beginning of September our Ready, Set, Go service was all about the Lord's Prayer & thinking about how we can pray. Again, the children used their creative skills to write their own versions of the Lord's Prayer:

Do not over do prayer for God knows what you want to say before you said it.

Pray when in your bedroom to your father, not seen.

Your father, who sees you, will reward you.

Hello my dad in heaven

Lord Jesus, you are special

Help me to do what you want me to do
Give us today the things we need
Please forgive me if I do something bad.
I will forgive other people who do bad things.
Take us away from the bad people
Amen.

Rachel Edwards

FOODBANK

Please continue to remember our Food Bank Box by donating as you are able, helping support a family in Groby. The children have not yet been offered school places and are therefore not in receipt of free school meals which makes the financial burden even greater at the moment.

A reminder of the items which will be most useful to them:

- Pasta** •**Cereals** •**Tins soup, beans and spaghetti**
- Long life milk** •**Toilet rolls** •**Size 5 nappies**
- Babywipes** •**Tampons** •**Non bio washing capsules**

Any cash given will be used to purchase fresh fruit, bread, cheese etc.

The family are so very grateful for our support - thank you on their behalf.

Sue Lawrence-Brooks

Tasters does Seaside

Sand and water, crafts and pirates, treasure hunt and ice cream for families, then sea shanties and songs with the café visitors joining in and ending with My Lighthouse—God's Love will see me through.





More 'Tasters does Seaside' photos on page 14



SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING AND READINGS FOR OCTOBER

Another dip into some Psalms during October.

All of our morning services start at 10 am

The 'Ready Set Go' service for children and families is at 3 pm

We will share Holy Communion together during the service on October 9th.

October 2nd	Psalm 36	Cate Coffey
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Oct 2nd at 3 pm	'Ready Set Go' A service for Children and their families	Wendy Hall
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Oct 9th	Psalm 37	Kevan Hall
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Oct 16th	Praise, Prayer & Fellowship	
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Oct 23rd	Psalm 40	Anne Willmott
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Oct 30th	Psalm 42	Les Gill
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Sunday's Helping Hands in October

	Elder	Music	Media	Welcome	Coffee
		(Tim)	(Tim)	(Joy)	(Joy)
2nd	Kathy	David	Tim	Alan	Kathy & Barry
9th	Kathy	Sue	Barry	Elsie & Pete	Ann & Barbara
16th	Mark	Trevor	Phil	Rachel H	Joy & Cheryll
23rd	Sue	Debbie	Dave	Linda	Hilary & Dave
30th	Rachel	Helen	Tim	Ruth	Mary & Trevor

Flowers

(Barbara Conlon)

2nd: Ruth & Roger Ivens

9th: Barbara Conlon

16th: Ann Tombs

23rd: Hilary & Dave Smith

30th: Suzie Flude



“The Clean Team!”

(Kathy Du Boulay)

Week beginning....

3rd: Our Chores

9th: Dave & Hilary

17th: Our Chores

23rd: Tim & Linda

31st: Our Chores

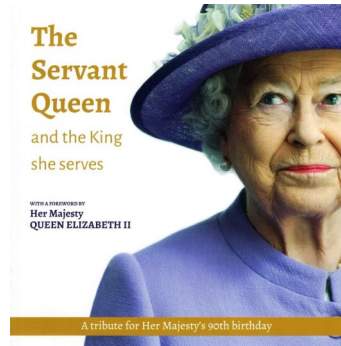




Recommended Reads.

The Servant Queen and the King She Serves.

In 2016 the Queen celebrated her 90th birthday, and to mark the occasion the Bible Society in partnership with HOPE and LICC published **The Servant Queen and the King She Serves**, which took a closer look at the Queen's personal faith in Jesus and the impact this had on her long life of service to the nation.



The foreword was written by the Queen herself, where she says:

"I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for his steadfast love. I have indeed seen his faithfulness."

The book is designed to be a conversation-starter and has many helpful quotations from the Queen's speeches which point directly to Jesus. There are probably quite a few copies of this book on our bookshelves. If you have a copy perhaps you could share it with someone you know?

If you've not read it Mary has a copy if you would like to borrow it..

Mary Pringle



Calling all singers everywhere - After a long 2 years when we couldn't meet to sing in person, Groby Sings resumed sessions at The Groby Club in the spring and early summer this year, culminating in a wonderful singing party where singers past and present got together to sing a selection of songs celebrating this much-loved community choir being *On The Road Again*. Now we are ready to grow our numbers from the 100+ who came back this spring to the well-over 250 singers who enjoyed the music, the socialising and, of course, a cuppa and a cake before we were all blighted by Covid.

Anyone and everyone who loves to sing is invited to come along on **Wednesdays** during school term. This autumn's theme is *Groby Sings Through the Seasons* ('from tulip time to winter snows' – guess the songs!). Pre-pandemic and twice a year since it was formed in 2013, Groby Sings has entertained audiences from far and wide with a variety of music from the shows and films together with classic favourites from all eras and we're really hoping to finish at the end of November 2022 with another concert.

Groby Sings is a registered charity (no. 1180490) and is a fully-inclusive choir. Our members come from all parts of Leicestershire, not just Groby, and everyone, young and not so young, is welcome however they enjoy singing. Experience varies from crooning in the shower, accompanying the karaoke machine, singing with children

and grandchildren or even more formal choral singing. There is a place for everyone and there are no auditions or a requirement to attend every week, though once you start you won't want to miss a single Wednesday! Performing in a concert is entirely voluntary and singers who choose not to be on stage will be very welcome in the audience. There is no fee to attend but as it costs approximately £2 per adult and £1.50 per young singer per session, members who are able to contribute something can do so by voluntary donation at the door or by a lump sum on which the charity may be able to claim Gift Aid, increasing donations by up to 25%.

Where and When?

*At **The Groby Club**, Leicester Road, Groby, Leicester LE6 0DJ (ramps and disabled facilities available)

***Wednesdays**, term time only, beginning **7th September 2022** until the end of November. There is a choice of sessions for adult singers: **1.30pm – 3.00pm** (pre-school children welcome in the care of their adult with a crèche area available) or **7.30pm – 9.00pm**. The Youth and Children's Choir (7 years and over) is from **3.40-4.40pm**. There is a 'cake break' in each session for a drink, a chat and cake!

For enquiries, please contact us via our [website](http://www.grobysings.org) www.grobysings.org.

Groby Sings is a Registered Charity no. 1180490.

June L. Ward



Freedom to Grow

Some thoughts on Harvest in Nepal.....

Subsistence farming is farming that provides food for the family to live on, but not enough to sell. In Nepal there are many such communities trying to survive despite the effects of **climate change**, but harvests fail and hunger is on the menu. These farmers don't have the luxury to compliment their harvest by popping into the Co-op.



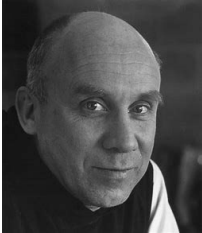
tearfund Emphasises the need for prayers in all they do. They also encourages us to look at our *lifestyle* and prayerfully make adjustments to our daily living in order to reduce the impact of climate change.

Poverty isn't God's plan, we are.

* See the Lifestyle article elsewhere in Contact.

Pause for Thought...

'Our job is to love others without stopping to enquire whether they are worthy. That is not our business, and in fact it is nobody's business. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both us and our neighbours worthy.'



Thomas Merton (1915-1968).



From Mary
Pringle

Glorify the LORD with me; Let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:3

Sunday 21st August was designated as a Praise, Prayer & Fellowship service based on Psalm 34 (Groby URC's own Songs of Praise).

Various members of the congregation chose their favourite hymns and said a few words explaining the reasons for their choices.

There were several touching testimonies but the most powerful moment came when The Lord's Prayer was sung by Andrea Bocelli. What a treat!

Thank you Sue and all involved in that service.

Please can we make Songs of Praise an annual event?

Church Member



Rock solid is a small group who are enjoying social time together, playing games and doing crafts. Table tennis is popular. While we eat we have discussions around biblical topics . The children are usually from Ratby! It would be really good to give this group some extra publicity. (flyers at the back of the church if you know someone who may be interested)

As in all children's/young peoples work there is a lack of leaders so all offers to help would be more than welcome.

Ruth Scott



Rock Solid
Returns

Games and Grub



Friday 7.30 - 9:00

At the URC chapel
Chapel Hill, Groby

Dates: 16th 30th Sept
7th 28th Oct
4th 18th Nov, 2nd Dec

Who for
**Top Primary and
Secondary**
(Year 5 -11)

Contact: Ruth Scott 07792376059

CatCh

Churches
together
in
Groby

Coffee and Chat at the Chapel



Time: 9.30 – 11.00

When: Fridays in Term time.

Where: URC Chapel, Chapel Hill, Groby

Cost: £1 per family

Toys, stories and crafts for Babies and Toddlers

Tea or Coffee and Chat for their carers.

Please bring your own drinks for little ones.

Queries: 07792376059: rscott1037@yahoo.co.uk



DIARY DATES

Church Meeting:

Tuesday October 4th at 7.30 pm. Everyone welcome to attend this important part of church life. Please let us know of any items for the agenda in good time.

Prayers:

Prayers for Ukraine continue on Thursdays at 7.30 pm
October 13th & 27th.

Children & Family Activities:

'Ready, Set, Go' a Service for children & families -
October 2nd - 3 pm at Groby URC.

Sunday Chattabox - every 3rd Sunday of the month at
Ratby St Phillip & St James church.

Urban Saints— Fridays 7.30 pm—9 pm October 7th & 28th
at Groby URC for years 5 to 11.

Advance Notice

Rev. Paul Ellis will be inducted as Minister to the URC
West Leicestershire Resource Area Pastorate at 3 pm on
Saturday 3rd December 2022 at Enderby URC.

This is to fit in with the availability of Geoffrey Clarke, the
East Midlands Synod Moderator.

Further details to come, but please put this date in your
diary.

November issue

The deadline for November's Contact is **Saturday 22nd October** but happy to accept articles sooner if prepared and ready to go!

Please submit to magazine@grobyurc.com or to Kathy (5 Hawthorn Rise, Groby) 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 Kathy know at the magazine email address

magazine@grobyurc.com



Groby United Reformed Church
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www.grobyurc.com, LE6 0FE



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CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS: Jane Hinds 07530
957022 / janesnips@hotmail.com

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Our Sunday morning services begin at 10 am and are recorded then broadcast afterwards on our Church Facebook page [\(1\) Groby United Reformed Church | Facebook](#). Our worship includes monthly Holy Communion.

READY, SET, GO services for children and families are held every 1st Sunday of the month, at 3 pm.

The church building has a loop hearing system, wheelchair access, a toilet for the disabled & baby nappy changing facilities.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Mon: Noah's Ark parent & toddler group 9.30-11.30 (term time)

Thurs: 'Fair Cuppa'* at Groby Village Hall-10.30-12 am

Fri: CatCH* parent & toddler group-9.30 - 11 am (term time)

Fri: Urban Saints* Activities for Year 5 to Year 11. every other Friday 7.30pm-9pm (term time)

Sat: Tasters * Hot Cobs, Coffee, Cakes and Children's Activities - 10-12 am

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