

CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby

United Reformed Church



**Christian Aid Week -
May 12th to 18th**



May 2024

Pause for Thought...



“The fact is that I am a Christian, which usually sets me up as an example for constant ridicule in the Anti-Corruption Foundation, because mostly our people are atheists, and I was once quite a militant atheist myself. But now I am a believer which helps me a lot in my activities because it makes everything much much easier”. 2021

As reported in The Times newspaper 24th Feb. 2024.

Pete Greig. Facebook-25th Feb. 2024

Alexei Navalny. 4.06.1976-16.02.2024



Print or Hard Copy of Contact?

Contact magazine is published in print and on the church website, grobyurc.com. If you would like to be added or removed from the monthly hyperlink email list, please let Kathy know at the magazine email address magazine@grobyurc.com

If you receive a paper copy and no longer wish to, please let us know through the magazine email address.

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

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

A link to recordings of our services can be found on both our church Website (click on the ‘worship’ Tab at the top) and on our Facebook page.

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WELCOME FROM WENDY CHURCH ELDER



Welcome to this month's edition of Contact.

Spring it seems has sprung, the weather has been mixed, but we have had a glimpse of sun and warmth and better days to come. I am grateful for gardening in the peace of our village, food in the shops, a cosy home and water from the tap, against a world backdrop of conflict and suffering. Closer to home there are many struggling because of the economic conditions and a collapsing hospital and social care system.

Yet it is often in conditions of struggle that growth and change occurs. Jesus said "Fear not I have overcome the world" and as we come fresh from the resurrection and the cross, waiting for the spectacular entrance of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, we have hope, for Jesus also said "I will never leave you or forsake you" He did not promise that we would be exempt from the trials of the world, but he did say I will accompany you through them.

I wonder how we ourselves might see growth and change in our spiritual journey this year. I am reminded of Christians of old such as Wilberforce, Barnardo, Florence Nightingale, and Martin Luther King, whose faith and passions led them to social reform and a fight against injustice. While we may not be all called to these endeavours, I find my thoughts turning to the question, "but what are our passions and talents? Are the things we are passionate about and spend time doing consistent with our faith? Can we bring them to join in with God's work? It is not an easy question to ask or to face, requiring that we take a look in the mirror of reflection. But shall we do it? Perhaps as we look, our loving and gracious Father will surely give us a new

direction, exploration of gifting we didn't realise is there, or growth in new areas of our faith and lives.

By the time this edition comes to publishing we will have had our Church meeting and opportunities to reflect on our vision for the future of our church.

Jesus calls us his church, "the bride of Christ" We are His "beloved" and we are a community who reflect his light, especially through Noah's Ark, Catch, Rock Solid, Tasters, Under the Willow Tree, and our burgeoning children and youth work.

We may have many challenges to fulfil a growing vision, but our God is bigger. To ask God questions such as what talent can I bring or what passion drives me, or where can I join in with something that is already happening can be daunting. However, his swift reply with a thought, or a picture, scripture, a timely word from a friend, or something else, might surprise us.

Daunting though it may be, when the Lord encourages us to take a step out, or leads us to new growth and new passions in him, it is the best place in the world, because it is exactly where he wants us to be, bringing balance and wholeness to us and the body of Christ and our function and time commitment whether big or small within it.

I hope you catch a whiff of adventure and a stirring of your Spirit as we seek to move together in the direction the Lord would have us go.

God bless you and keep you, make his face to shine upon you, and give you peace.

Wendy

Elder. Lay Pioneer.



TEACHING AND READINGS FOR MAY 2024

May 5th **Preacher's choice. Acts 15.** Pete Redington
Mission Essentials.

May 12th **A CTG service for Christian Aid at the URC at our usual time of 10 am** Rev'd Ed
This service will include Holy Communion.

May 19th **Preacher's Choice. Acts 1-21** John Hall
(Pentecost)

May 26th **Matthew 13 v 53 - Matt14 v 12** Wendy Hall
(Trinity **Christ rejected and John**
Sunday) **beheaded**

Pete Redington, our Preacher on 5th May, is a Lay Preacher from Beeston Free church.

May 12th is the start of Christian Aid week and as usual, we will begin the week with a joint service with St Philips & St James at our church this year and at our normal 10 am start. The service will include Holy Communion.

We look forward to welcoming Rev'd John Hall, on Pentecost Sunday, May 19th.

May's Helping Hands

	Elder	Music	Media	Welcome	Coffee
May	(Mary)	(Tim)	(Tim)	(Joy)	(Joy)
5th	Sue	Sue	Tim	Alan & Judith	Peter & Margaret
12th	Mary	David	Dave	Elsie & Pete	Joy & Cheryl
19th	Mark	Debbie	Chris	Rachel & Margaret	Hilary & Dave
26th	Phil	David	Barry	Linda & Hilary	Mary & Trevor



Sunday Flowers (Barbara Conlon)

May 5th: Barbs & Hedley
 May 12th : Sarah & Chris
 May 19th : Mary & Trevor
 May 26th: Tim & Linda

“The Clean Team!” (Kathy Du Boulay)



Week Beginning
 May 6th : Sue LB & Sue A
 May 13th: Our Chores
 May 20th: Ruth & Ann T
 May 27th: Our Chores
 June 3rd: Joy & Pat

‘Our chores’ cleaners tend to visit early on Wednesday mornings, at the moment. Please let Kathy know if this presents difficulties at any time.

christian
aid



Christian Aid Week - 12th to 18th May 2024

This year Christian Aid Week focuses on Burundi where malnourishment and poverty affect more than 70% of the population. Christian Aid are working to empower families in Burundi build reliable and diverse incomes. Take Aline, for example. She found a lifeline in Christian Aid after she felt the full force of extreme poverty when an early marriage ended in abuse and violence. Christian Aid helped her with small business training and she set up as a grocery wholesaler. Today, Aline can afford food, clothes, and essential healthcare for her family.



We can help Christian Aid to reach more people.

What are we doing in Groby?

Firstly, look out for the red envelopes! As in previous years Churches Together in Groby will deliver donation envelopes to every home in the village. We are delighted that once again Groby Library, Laundon Way Co-Op and Classic Cuts Hairdressers have agreed to be drop off points for us. If you can help with envelope delivery that would be greatly appreciated.

Secondly, to raise awareness of Christian Aid Week and to encourage donations, a team of 30 intrepid volunteers are taking part in **Christian Aid's 70k in May Challenge**. We aim to not just walk but litter pick 70 kilometres in Groby, during May. Here's some of the team getting ready for action! The team has a Facebook page which we will update throughout May to record our litter picking adventures. If you are on Facebook please follow us, like and share our posts. You can find us by searching for :

Churches Together in Groby.

Anyone wishing to make a donation on-line can do so via this QR code.

Mary and Trevor Pringle
Chris Davies and Julie Punter
Churches Together in Groby



I'd invited Jill and Paul to tell us a little about Hannah's work in Cambodia. I'm delighted to include the result in this edition.

From Jill and Paul Ellis: Introducing Hannah

Earlier this year we had the privilege of spending some time with our daughter Hannah in Cambodia. It was an amazing experience, including about thirty tuk tuk rides, lazing on beaches of white sand, and close encounters with elephants (planned) and monkeys (unplanned). Back in Groby, several people have asked us about Hannah's work in Cambodia, so we thought it would be good to tell Groby URC something about her role there.

Hannah went to Asia in November 2022 (two weeks before we moved to Groby!), committed to two years' service in counselling and mental health support in Phnom Penh. She is supported practically by more than one organisation (e.g. with medical support and help with visas) but her day to day (unpaid) employment is with Living Well (livingwellcambodia.org), a Christian counselling charity. As well as working for them as a counsellor, Hannah now acts as their assistant director.

Some months ago, Hannah wrote an article describing a typical week in her life in Cambodia. We reproduce that here, to give some insight into her life:

Monday: Today is mostly admin but I also see one Western client, a charity worker, whose mental health is making it hard for her to stay in Cambodia. I'm grateful for the air-conditioner in the counselling room, but I wish it was quieter!

Tuesday: I co-lead a seminar for international teachers who have just arrived at a Christian school for Cambodian children. We talk to the teachers about mental and spiritual well-being, settling into a new culture, and avoiding conflict in cross-cultural teams. I'm trying to keep my hands still to hide my nerves. In the afternoon I see a Cambodian client who is struggling with depression and family relationships.

Wednesday: After an 8am language lesson I attend a talk from a more experienced charity worker, about her work with families with HIV. Then I travel home and attend an online prayer meeting for mental health in Cambodia, and then spend a few hours studying the Khmer language. When I need a break I sweep the house, which gets dusty quickly. My cat follows me around trying to attack the broom and hunting geckos.

Thursday: With surprisingly good traffic the journey to work only takes 30 minutes so I arrive early and buy two fresh baguettes for breakfast from a street seller. I meet to pray with my team. Next, I meet an American client, who is doing some much needed development work in Cambodia. I feel a lot of pressure to do a good job since she's travelled here from a far-off province. Then I see a client from the Philippines. I go out for lunch with my Cambodian colleague. She recommends some Cambodian food and I pray my stomach will deal with whatever methods may have been used in the food storage and preparation. In the afternoon I see a Cambodian client which results in needing to call my boss about a safeguarding issue. We discuss what to do, in a country with so few options about reporting such things. The journey home takes 2.5 hours because of the rain and knee-deep floods.

Friday: I have another language lesson, and then lunch with a Singaporean friend. Then I get a tuk-tuk out of the city and down to the medical centre where I teach CBT [a form of counselling] to four Cambodian counsellors. Teaching through a translator is slow, but the students are all keen to learn skills that will help their clients.

Saturday: At the market, I try to ask in Khmer for fruits and vegetables. The sight of pigs' heads and fried frogs don't faze me anymore, and I no longer notice the smells of fish and durian that used to make me feel sick. But when the market seller says the price, using a more informal language than what I've been taught, I'm reminded that I still have much to learn. I go home via the western-style supermarket and then I see my baby niece on video call.

Sunday: It's nice to be back in my English-speaking church, after visiting a Cambodian one last week. After church, I go swimming in a refreshing outdoor pool with a view of palm trees on one side, but a construction site on the other. I also spend a lot of time sitting by the pool reading. I'm amused by some Cambodian children who switch to speaking in English whenever they don't want their parents to know what they're saying. It's nice to relax before another week starts.

It is inevitable that, as parents, we have had our worries about our daughter being so far away and relatively alone in an unfamiliar country. And of course we miss being able to spend time with her on a regular basis. However, one of Hannah's recent Facebook posts gave us reassurance, something of an uplift and reason to feel confident that she is in the right place:

On a boat in a river in Phnom-Penh a few weeks ago. One of the many moments recently when I just thought "I really love my life."

In the last two months I've swum with elephants, stayed on two tropical islands, seen a panda, watched the sunrise at the eighth wonder of the world and in-between, been able to work in the sort of job I've wanted for a decade that just keeps getting better. I'm finding purpose and joy in serving the God I love and hopefully making a difference in the world.



Churches Together in Groby invites
you to

**WELCOME SERVICE FOR LOUISE
BROWN,
CTG CHILDREN & YOUTH WORKER**

Pentecost Sunday
19th May at 6.00 pm

Outside St Philip & St James
Church (or inside if wet)

Refreshments provided, but please bring your
own chair or rug!



Groby URC Prayer

“And now faith, hope and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13: 13

Welcome to our May prayer sheet.

Prayers for Young People

We asked Louise Brown what she would like prayer for in the work she is doing with the young people in Groby, her response was “I think there’s a lot to do and I’m going to be really busy but it’s not putting off!!”

She suggested prayers for our young people:

- A particular focus on praying for those who will be sitting GCSEs and SATs in the coming months.
- Please pray for the work going on with young people in these age groups, particularly in Rock Solid and Crossfire.
- Give thanks that God has given us the opportunity to bring in Louise to help ensure these groups can continue to run.
- Pray for the children who attend these groups from our own church, that they will be encouraged and grow in their faith through these sessions and through their friendships with other Christians their own age.
- Also pray for those who may not currently be Christians, that these groups will be an opportunity for them to learn more about God and start to have a relationship with Him.
- Finally, pray for Louise and her team who are running these groups, that they will continue to be inspired in their own faith and will be able to come up with fresh ways to share God’s message with the young people in and around Groby.

Prayers for Homegroups

As you will see from page 26 of this issue, there are five homegroups regularly meeting throughout the week. Each one is different, reflecting a range of priorities and needs. The primary purpose is to increase our knowledge and growth in God, sharing what is important to us as individuals, to discuss and pray together.

Please pray for all the homegroups and consider how you can contribute or even join one if not already a member of one.

- Thank God if you are a member of a group. Thank Him for the other members of your group, for trusted friendships that develop over time, for the conversations to be had, and how we can grow and learn spiritually as individuals. Thank Him for the blessings we receive from knowing our homegroup is a safe and confidential space where we can be valued and respected.
- Pray that those that attend homegroups, or wish to, will find opportunity to commit regularly and that practical challenges such as time, space, venue, mobility can be overcome. Pray particularly for those who need transport, or child-care in order to attend their group.
- Pray that good, helpful, and inspiring resources are made available for small group study, so that everyone is encouraged to participate and be challenged in their understanding and practical outworking of what has been learnt.
- Pray that there will be others who would like to be part of a homegroup, so that a further group will need to start.
- Pray for the co-ordinators of each group, as listed on pg.26.

Prayers for Christian Aid Week

As the article in Contact explains this year's focus for Christian Aid week is Burundi and the hardships that are facing the people in that country. Let's pray for the people of Burundi, and all those around the world, who face malnourishment and poverty. Also, let's give thanks to God for the work of Christian Aid to help these people who have so little.

There are several activities going on within Groby to raise money and awareness for Christian Aid and the important work it does. Please pray for:

The red envelopes:

- Pray for all those who are delivering these throughout Groby, thank God for all those who give up their time to ensure every home will receive one.
- Pray for those who receive an envelope, that they will be drawn to give what they can to this appeal, but that they may also find out more about Christian Aid and why we support them.

The 70k in May Challenge:

- Pray for all those who are giving up their time to take part in this challenge – there are groups and individuals from across both churches giving up their time to litter pick around the village meaning that we can raise awareness for a global cause whilst making a difference in our own community.
- Pray that there will be opportunities to share this challenge with others and help them understand why we're doing it.

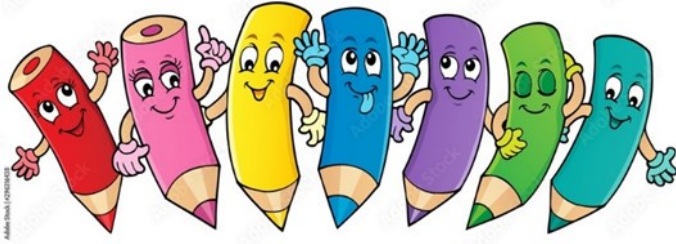
Finally, pray for all those who are working to co-ordinate all these activities.

The Christian Aid website says:

“With your help, we can work towards a world where families can escape the trap of poverty and fulfil their ambitions. Seven days, so many ways to fund lasting change.”

Let’s pray together that God will use the seven days of Christian Aid week to help achieve this!





ART ATTACK TO RETURN THIS MONTH

We need to complete the three boards in the passageway where a start has been made on Psalm 23.

Diligent folk needed to create wool jackets for sheep, colour in shepherds, a banquet table, quite waters and paths of righteousness. No experience needed just enthusiasm and a willingness to follow unrequested help!

We feel half a day will be sufficient time, most probably a Wednesday morning. Please See Joy or Sue LB if you would like to be involved.



Think Fairtrade is just bananas



coffee?



There are actually over 6,000 Fairtrade products from coffee and tea to flowers  and gold. 

When you shop, look for the FAIRTRADE Mark.

The power is in your hands.

Prayer Support is vital!

Did you know that well before Groby Crusaders started in 1979 a group of ladies had been praying for the children of Groby? Joyce Mitchell and Margaret Hedges were 2 of the ladies that I know of. These saints, who are now in Glory, applied to Crusaders to ask for a group to be formed.

Brian and Brenda Williams had just moved into the village and as ex Crusaders were thought to be the people God had sent to do this. This was the start of the Crusaders, now Urban Saints, presence in the village.

Before Covid, while Urban Saints groups have been running, a group of prayer supporters would be praying for the Holy Spirit to open the hearts of these children, for the leaders to find the right words and for the safety and protection of the youngsters. Please can this be restarted?

We need this support. Hundreds of children have been through the doors of Crusaders/Urban Saints many of which we have no knowledge of. I do know that it has had an effect.

Brian will tell you of chance meetings with ex Crusaders who express their thanks, as they are now members of their own churches.

Of a parent who had lost his wife to Cancer and brought his youngsters to Urban Saints as he remembered it from his childhood and knew it would help his girls as they dealt with the loss of their mother.

Without prayer support our work will not thrive. There needs to be regular, consistent, intentional and committed prayer. Remember the parable of the widow and the judge(Luke 18:1-8)

and of her persistence, well I feel this is a time for us to pester our God . It may be rather presumptuous of us but we are told to pray without ceasing.

We need a group to pray for these youngsters, we need to hold them before God and the work that we do. If we really do want to see youngsters and their families in church lets exercise our prayer muscles folks. If you have been praying alone for this let us know so we can multiply the work and encourage each other. Prayer support is vital!

How do I join in?

Turn up on Friday evening, 3rd and 17th May at the URC at 7.15 pm to pray in a side room.

Pray at home on Friday, 3rd and 17th May at 7.15 pm but let Paul or Ed know you are doing this and send a text (07792367059) at the start so others know you are praying!

Join the 3MM prayer group to pray together – speak to Keith Wignall

Thankyou

Rev Paul Ellis

Rev Dr Ed Bampton

Ruth Scott (Urban Saints leader and Associate Minister)

Reflections on Good Friday 2024

by Sue Lawrence-Brooks

Good Friday this year - for me - was the most moving, meaning and memorable that I can recall, beginning with our own morning service led by Paul, the first in many years, followed by Easter activities for the children at the Ratby Church rooms and concluding with Good Friday reflections at Christchurch.

In the morning, as Margaret read from the book of Isaiah, Paul cast aside his Ministerial role and assumed the character of Maliachim, a metal worker at the time of the crucifixion.

A fictitious name, but an authentic and lucrative trade in Roman times - after all, someone had to be tasked with forging the nails and other metal instruments of torture which the Romans used on their enemies.

Maliachim spoke of the 30 years of bitterness and hatred for the man Jesus: the burning desire for revenge on this Jesus, who, as an infant, had escaped to Egypt with His parents, Mary and Joseph, thus avoiding the Bethlehem massacre wreaked by King Herod's soldiers.

Maliachim's son, Joshua, had **not** escaped the massacre and was one of the hundreds of baby boys killed.

Maliachim was prepared to gloat as he stood and watched the nails penetrating the hands and feet of Jesus - nails made by his own hands.

But instead, he found himself recognising the sheer depth of Christ's suffering as He bore the suffering of the world - for everyone. For you and for me.

The bitterness and hatred just burned away and at that moment, Maliachim experienced something totally unexpected

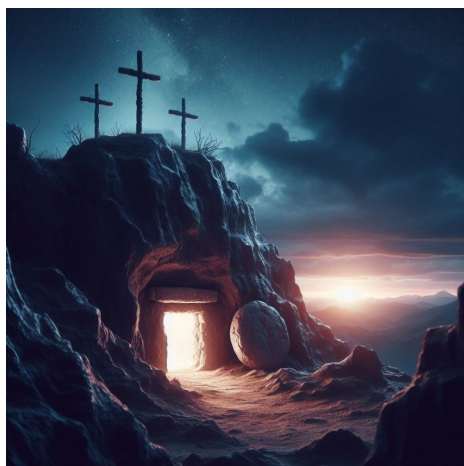
– FORGIVENESS – both given and received.

The crucifixion, as Paul concluded, was not a 'messy end' to the career of Jesus, but it was the climax to it: the pinnacle of His career - the very reason why He came to live amongst us.

Through the character of Maliachim, I had a fresh vision of the the events of that first Good Friday and I know that I also have received that same forgiveness.

I pray that you, too, have experienced the inner healing, peace and forgiveness that Christ offers freely and can sing these words from your heart, as we did on Good Friday.

**'Crucified, laid behind the stone;
You lived to die, rejected and alone;
like a rose trampled on the ground,
You took the fall and thought of me , above all.'**



And by Hilary and Dave Smith

Christ is Crucified

On Good Friday evening, Dave and I had the pleasure of attending an evening of meditation at Christ Church URC, Dumbleton Avenue in Leicester., which is one of our sister churches in the West Leicester grouping. We used to live quite close to the church before we moved to Groby 40 years ago. Although we did not attend that church, we did have connections there and attended many social functions with friends. It was lovely to see many people we knew still there after 40 years.

The event was an evening meditation, a multimedia event taking us through some of the events of Easter Week and the Crucifixion, told through words, readings, music, and images. A time of reflection at Eastertide.

Some of the images were pictures projected on the screen, some were physical props. The main prop being the Lenten Cross made by members at Christ Church from their Christmas Tree. Around the base of the cross there were palm leaves and on the top of the cross was a Crown of Thorns. Over one of the arms of the cross was a purple sash and, on the floor next to the Cross were some large dice reminding us of the time Roman Soldiers cast lots for Christs clothing. There was a mallet and nails next to the cross.

We sang some lovely Hymns, some we did not know, but others were very familiar, interspersed with the readings and images changing as the story was told . Some of the physical props were taken away and others added as the story unfolded.

The whole event was done extremely well and was very

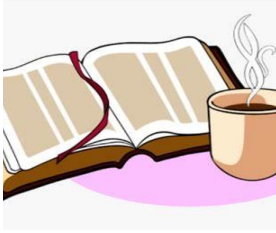
moving and a thought-provoking experience. We were asked right at the beginning, that at the end of the event, we should leave in silence, reflecting on the sombre events of what had happened on that day some 2000 plus years ago.

Full Marks Christ Church, an event extremely well done.

The Lenten Cross, not as it was on Good Friday evening, but most probably Easter Sunday.



Homegroups



We have regular homegroups, that meet fortnightly at different times throughout the week, providing opportunity for bible study, prayer and conversation.

On the next page, Mark tells of a book his home group have been using.

We've included some prayer suggestions for Homegroups in this months Prayers

Please contact one of the people below if not already part of a homegroup but would like to find out more.

Mondays- (evenings) in Anstey

Contact Helen Fracchia. 0116 2365349

hmotson@hotmail.com

Wednesdays - (afternoons) in Groby

Contact Jim Coaton, 0116 287 6909

jrcoaton@gmail.com

Wednesdays - (evenings)

Contact Mark Hiscocks on 07887 399107

hiscocksm@gmail.com

Wednesdays - (evenings)

Contact Kathy DuBoulay on 0116 224 5095

kathygrace127@gmail.com

Thursdays - 7.30 pm in Groby

Contact Elaine Mee on 0116 287 7608

elaineamee@gmail.com

Recommended Reads

The Hymn of St Patrick

David Adam, vicar of the Holy Island of Lindisfarne for thirteen years, is the author of a book containing a series of meditations on the translation of the Celtic hymn of St Patrick (born AD414) known as 'The Deer's Cry'.

In our homegroup we have been using the meditations (chapters) of the book to provide a basis for our discussions, we have encouraged each other to share aspects that are meaningful to us.

The meditations are gentle and calming, relating to everyday life in simpler times. The themes are thought provoking and practical without being overwhelming, reminding us that God is always there, all around us and as if ready to give us a hug.

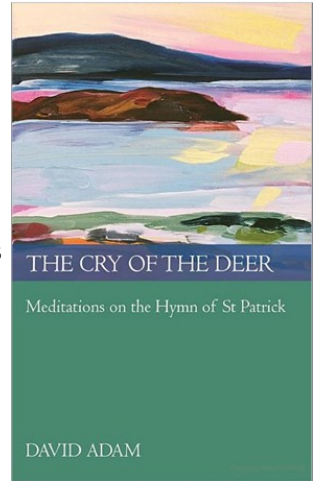
There is a reminder to not only pray for our needs but to pray for His presence (that is rather than His presents!).

The themes include, Death is not fatal, and the Earth is the Lord's, which help us to focus on the important issues in the assurance of God's presence even in hard times.

Although St Patrick lived many years ago, this is a reminder that our need for God remains the same despite a rapidly changing world.

We found this really helpful book and have copies you are welcome to borrow.

Mark and house group members



PROPHECY

Stay Awake:

A prophetic word from the group Global Prophetic Alliance 10th April 2024.

Global Prophetic Alliance are a group led by Church leaders from all over the world. Emma Stark heads up the group in Glasgow and there are Church leaders from Leicester who are also part of its leadership. The group trains people in prophetic gifting.

Prophecy is a gift that God gives for us to hear him speak, with a message for his church. It should always be tested and discerned by the body of Christ. It should be encouraging and scriptural.

Stay Awake

This is a season of new birth and the fulfilment of long-awaited promise in the Body of Christ. Now is not the time to slumber, but to be alert in the spirit and to watch and pray. I need you to join me in protecting that which I am birthing on the earth.

Guard your heart.

Keep short accounts.

Bring your worries and concerns to me.

Lions devour the weak, the young and the stragglers. Do not isolate yourself but keep faith in the company of believers and pray. Submit to Me, resist the enemy, and he will flee.

My Word never returns to Me void. You are carrying plans and dreams that I have given you. Do I bring to the point of delivery and not give birth? Stay awake, keep watch and pray and you will see the fulfilment you long for!

Activation: Spend time in prayer seeking Holy Spirit for direction on how you can partner with what God is releasing in this season. Is there a prayer watch you can take on? Are there specific people he would like you to pray for? Where does he want you to be “staying awake”? Take note of the direction you receive and action it.

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV): *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.*

Isaiah 66:9 (LSB): *Shall I bring to the point of breaking forth and not cause birth?” says Yahweh. “Or shall I who causes birth shut the womb?” says your God.*

From Wendy Hall

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Thursday 6th June

7.00 at URC

We would encourage all who are involved with children, young people and vulnerable adults to attend this refresher training evening.

It will be an opportunity to meet Ben Twelves, the East Midlands Synod Safeguarding Officer and we will also be joined by folk from our 4 Area Churches.

Please join us if you can – there is no need to book, just come along.

Grobby URC is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk, and to ensuring their well-being.

Information about how to contact our Safeguarding officers is on the noticeboard in the church hall.

A link to the URC website section on Safeguarding:

[Safeguarding good practice - United Reformed Church](#)





DIARY DATES



Prayers for Urban Saints: May 3rd and 17th, 7.15 pm in church.

Prayers for Ukraine: May 9th and 23rd, 6.30 pm in church

Welcome Service for Louise Brown, CTG Children and Youth Worker: Pentecost Sunday, 19th May at 6 pm. Outside St Philips & St James (inside if wet). See page 14 for details.

Rock Solid: 7.30 - 9 pm at our church on Friday evenings as follows: 3rd and 17th May, 7th and 21st June, and 5th July. For Year 5 - 11 children.

Messy Monday's: every Monday (term-time) 3.15 - 4.15 pm at Ratby Parish church

Save the dates:

Saturday June 1st - URC Synod Picnic. Postponed till next year, for reasons beyond their control.

Thursday June 6th - Safeguarding Training. 7 pm at Church
See previous page for details.

Saturday June 22nd afternoon - West Leicester Area Churches social at Christ Church URC

June 2024 issue

The deadline for June 2024 issue is **SAT 18th May** 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.

Groby United Reformed Church
member: Evangelical Alliance UK
www.grobyurc.com, LE6 0FE



CONTACTS

MINISTER: Rev. Paul Ellis. 0116 292 6218

Paul Ellis <tallpauellis@tiscali.co.uk>

SECRETARY CONTACT : Sue Lawrence-Brooks 0116
231 2866 / susanbeverley46@yahoo.co.uk

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORKER: Louise Brown.
07450 688217 / youthworkergroby@gmail.com

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

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Our Sunday morning services start at 10 am and are recorded then broadcast afterwards on our Church Facebook page. Groby United Reformed Church / Facebook. Our worship includes monthly Holy Communion

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. (alternate Fridays during term time) 7.30 pm Urban Saints.
Games and Grub for children in Years 5 - 11.

Sat:Tasters* Coffee, hot cobs. Kids activities -10-12am

There are also regular Homegroups running throughout the week. Our Secretarial Contact has more information.