

Just to keep in...

Contact

December 2021 / January 2022



The Borough, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1NL

www.hinckleyurc.org.uk

Minister

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Youth Worker

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Rev Andrew Mudharara

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Worship in December & January

(Please note the different times of services during December)

5 th Dec 10.30 am	Rev Andrew Mudharara <i>(Note earlier start time; service followed by AGM)</i>
12 th Dec 10.45 am	Rev George Lea
19 th Dec 4.00 pm	Carol Service <i>(No morning service)</i>
24 th Dec 7.00 pm	<i>Christmas Eve Communion</i> led by Rev Lesley Moseley
25 th Dec 10.00 am	<i>Christmas Day Family Worship</i> led by Rev Andrew Mudharara
26 th Dec	<i>No services at Hinckley URC (Boxing Day)</i>
2 nd Jan 10.45 am	Mrs Hazel Coley
9 th Jan 10.45 am	Mr Steve Ward
16 th Jan 10.45 am	Rev Daniel Cheyne <i>(including Holy Communion)</i>
23 rd Jan 10.45 am	Mr Tim Lea
30 th Jan 10.45 am	Mrs Betty Lea
6 th Feb 10.45 am	Rev Andrew Mudharara

Audio recordings of the services will be available on the church website by each Sunday evening. If you do not have access to the Internet and would like to listen to the service, we can relay the service 'live' to you by telephone. Please contact your Elder if you wish to take up this option.



*Come and worship
Worship Christ the new-born King!*



From the Minister

Christmas greetings from the Manse in the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We wish you all, your families, friends and colleagues a happy Christmas and a happy New year. We are coming out of a very challenging period and some of us are still trying to work out the way forward. The best news I can share with you is that God was alongside us through all the challenges we have gone through. It may not have felt like God was alongside us but He was.

I believe God has a call upon each and every one of us that we should respond to. Sometimes negative voices have told us that we are not that important in the Mission of God because we are not that good. Yet God says in the Word that “But we have this treasure in clay vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves” *2 Corinthians 4:7*. It is important for us all to know that God has deposited treasures in each and every one of us and that treasure is an important key to the lives of many people around us and those afar from us. When we say ‘yes’ to God’s calling upon our lives, God will show His power through us and many lives will be affected by our responses to this call.

When Mary responded to the call upon her life to be the vessel to carry the Son of God, it must have been challenging for her and difficult to comprehend and she was probably thinking “Why me?” (*Luke 1:26-38*). I don’t think Mary had an idea how wide her response to this call would have on the world around her, the world before and after her. We are celebrating Christmas today because Mary responded to the call that was upon her. I am aware that the call was a challenge to Mary and she struggled through the process but she was willing to trust God and say yes to the call. I am here as a minister of Word and Sacrament in the United Reformed Church today because Mary said yes to the call that ushered us gentiles to have access to the Kingdom of God and to serve as Priests though we are not from the house of Aaron. I want you to know that there is a treasure that God has deposited in you and when you answer ‘yes’ to the call, others will be blessed through your response. Each and every treasure is very important as it is God who deposits each of them in us as fragile as we are.

This Christmas I would like to encourage you to say “yes” to God’s call upon you, and go ahead doing that which God is calling you to do. God is calling you in particular because you are the best person to do that. You are important in God’s eyes and you are carrying His treasure in you. Let it

out and see what God will do through you. You are fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God and God needs you in the team to accomplish the Mission at hand.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and happy New year.

Andrew

News of the Family

We remember and pray for:

Tony W: we continue to pray for Tony, Carole and their family at this time. Heather and the family after the loss of her dad, Terry.

Ruth: although very slowly recovering from her sore back, has now been able to return to church.

Brenda: has recovered from Covid but is still very frail.

Sue D: is undergoing treatment but has managed to get to church.

Julie P: as she cares for her mother, Beryl.

We continue to pray for:

Betty H, Dennis, Doreen, Ethel, Jan and Brian, Jan D, Jackie H, Joan, Joyce, Keith G, Lily, Nanette S, Norrie, Muriel, Paddy, Pat and Wendy and all of the church family who are receiving medical treatment, have continuing health issues.

We give thanks that Jacqui has secured a new job, starting at Pamela Mann Hosiery on 15th December.

Please contact me if you or someone you know is in need of prayer and would like to go on the prayer list, respecting their privacy and permission first. Contact me by email or telephone 01455 446509.

Sue Saunders

Christmas Greetings

To All Friends at Hinckley URC

Having recently lost one of my oldest friends to pancreatic cancer within a few weeks of diagnosis and to make a small positive contribution towards the effects of climate change I have decided not to send Christmas cards this year. Instead, I will make a donation to Pancreatic Cancer UK as well as sending you all Very Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year in this way. With love to you all

From Sue (Thain) xxx

Many, many thanks for all your good wishes and prayers. We appreciate them very much. Tony is doing much better than expected when he came out of hospital.

We won't be sending Christmas cards this year. Instead, we have given a donation to St Mungo's.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Best wishes, *Carole and Tony.*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Congratulations to Betty H who is 90 on 22nd December!

Other December birthdays

Sue T 7th, Rachel 9th, Doreen 15th, David C, Kathy & Sarah P (all 17th)

Brian B 24th, Carol H and Arthur both (25th Dec)

Wedding Anniversaries

Malcolm & Jane Clarke (8th) and Tony & Carole (23rd)

We celebrate with Ian as he turns 80 on 27th January

Other January Birthdays

Joan C (2nd), Isabelle H (3rd), Jane C (5th), Vita (6th), Julie P (13th)

Hermoine & Muriel L (both 15th), and Nanette (27th)

Apologies to anyone we may have missed. Thanks to Kathy for maintaining these records. If we haven't got your information, please have a word with Kathy.

A new prayer meeting has been initiated to pray specifically for our church and its future direction.

This meeting is on Thursdays at 11.00 in the Front Foyer.

Please come along if your available.

Volunteers needed...

Thank you to those who have come forward in response to the appeal for help for Christmas events, for Rachel's 'Bumps and Babies' group and for serving tea and coffee after worship.

However, we still need more people to help at the Christmas events and Rachel would welcome someone who could take on leading the group when she cannot be there so that she doesn't have to cancel it.

Andrew and Christine would like to start up the International Friendship Centre again but in a different format. In the past there has been much emphasis on teaching English, which is useful for many, but we would like to concentrate more on conversation and assisting people with practical needs like filling in forms and understanding the culture and where to go to find information. If you can help people to make simple sentences to give basic information and ask for things, we need you. If you can help people to find out where to go, and who to speak to, to get the help they need, we need you. We have had one offer of help so far from our congregation and one other from an outside organisation. Because of the nature of his ministry Andrew will not be able to commit to helping consistently and so it is important that we have more help on a regular basis.

Please consider how you might help and pray for the work that Rachel does as our youth and children's worker and for those who involve themselves in God's work in other ways.

Christine T

CHURCH AGM SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER

*At the Church Meeting held on Sunday 17th October it was agreed to hold the AGM after the morning service on Sunday 5th December. The service will start at the earlier time of **10.30** and will be slightly shorter than normal to allow time for the AGM. Please attend this important meeting if you are able to. If you feel 'short-changed' by having a shorter service there will an opportunity for a time of worship commencing 10.15 around the piano.*

An old Christmas Hymn

*Stupendous height of heavenly love,
Of pitying tenderness divine;
It brought the Saviour from above,
It caused the springing day to shine;
The Sun of Righteousness to appear,
And gild our gloomy hemisphere.*

*God did in Christ himself reveal,
To chase our darkness by his light,
Our sin and ignorance dispel,
Direct our wandering feet, aright:
And bring our souls, with pardon blest,
To realms of everlasting rest.*

*Come, then, O Lord, thy light impart,
The faith that bids our terrors cease;
Into thy love direct our heart,
Into thy way of perfect peace:
And cheer the souls, of death afraid,
And guide them through the dreadful shade.*

*Answer thy mercy's whole design,
My God incarnated for me.
My spirit make thy radiant shrine,
My Light and full Salvation be;
And through the shades of death unknown,
Conduct me to thy dazzling throne.*

Charles Wesley

Rotas for December & January

(Please arrange a swap if you are unavailable)

Date	Door Stewards	Duty Elder	Cashing-up *
5th Dec 10.30	Julie Payne Sue Saunders	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Malcolm Hooke
12th Dec	Mally Benham Richard Benham	Sue Saunders	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
19th Dec 4.00pm	Paul Deeming Ann Martin	David Crick	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
24th Dec 7.00pm	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	-
25th Dec 10.00	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	-
2nd Jan	Sue Thain Kathy Smith	Karen Jones	Sally Leggat David Crick
9th Jan	Sally Leggat Ann Martin	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Malcolm Hooke
16th Jan	Mally Benham Richard Benham	Sue Saunders	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
23rd Jan	Julie Payne Paul Deeming	David Crick	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
30th Jan	Sue Saunders	Karen Jones	Sally Leggat David Crick
6th Feb	Sue Thain Kathy Smith	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Malcolm Hooke

If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please contact David Crick

** If Sally is unavailable on a Sunday morning, then the Duty Elder will assist with cashing-up*

Flowers

Dear Friends, I will be contacting people over the next few weeks to ask if it is convenient for them to either put flowers in church or deliver them. At this time of year people are finding it difficult and I do understand their dilemma. Thank you so much for your support.

Kathy ~ 'flower lady'

Tea and Coffee

It would be nice to start serving tea and coffee again after Morning Worship (in a Covid-secure manner, of course!) but we need people who are prepared to be part of the rota. A number of those who previously helped are no longer available. If you can help, please speak to an Elder.



The Borough Christmas Postbox

Dear Friends,
Thank you for supporting the Church Postbox in past years. We know how much you missed it last year!

The Postbox will be available for you to use from Sunday 28th November and last post will be 12pm on Friday 17th December. We will be distributing them on Sunday 19th December. Please remember to add a surname, we have lots of Sue's! Recipients must attend also attend our Church. Happy Christmas and enjoy writing your cards!
From Postman Pat ~~ alias Kathy & Ian xx



Thank you, Kathy & Ian, for taking on this job – much appreciated!

Foodbank



Would you like to raise some money for the Hinckley Area Food Bank just by doing your Christmas shopping from Bodyshop?

Katie Smith, runs her own "Bodyshop at Home" business. If you need any gifts or any other products from The Body Shop, contact Katie with what you need and not only could you get a discount for yourself, she'll also give 10% of your order as a donation back to the foodbank.

How can I place an order?

Send a list of the products you would like by email, text, WhatsApp or call. Please include product name, code and price from the catalogue. Katie will then get back to you to confirm any discount, arrange payment and delivery. Quote **FOODBANK** in your message so that she can track the donations.

Email: the_pamper_place@outlook.com, Mobile: 07891225868

Katie looks forward to helping with your Christmas shopping and raising money for such an important charity. Please feel free to ask her any questions.

She also runs a personal shopping experience where she can suggest gifts that would suit your loved ones.

Many thanks

Katie Smith
Area Manager, The Body Shop at Home

For God's Word, by whom all things were made, was Himself made flesh so that as perfect human He might save all humanity and sum up all things in Himself. The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of history and of civilisation, the centre of the human race, the joy of every heart, and the answer to all its yearning.

Second Vatican Council – 'The Church Today'

Christmas Car Lights Trail

On Wednesday December 1st the council are running the Christmas Car Lights Trail for the Care Home residents and housebound folk. Due to Covid we may not be able to operate the event as previous years – discussions are ongoing as to how this event might take place safely. We will need help with making tea, serving mince pies etc. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church if you are able to support this evening which is always well appreciated, enjoyable and is another good opportunity for outreach.

Christian Aid news

Quiz. There were 11 correct entries for the CA quiz so one name was drawn from the hat and the winner was Elizabeth Robinson from Burbage who received a £10 prize.



The total amount raised from the various churches was £371, we raised £45. The answers are on the board at the rear of the church. Note: any answers that did not contain the correct number of letters given in the clue have been marked as incorrect.

Malcolm Hooke

Reform and Prayer Handbook

I would recommend our URC National Magazine 'Reform'. The yearly cost is £29.50 for 10 copies and besides giving up to date information regarding the URC it has many interesting and thought-provoking articles that may jolt you out of your comfort zone. The December issue had articles from an environmental activist that many will disagree with and also a harrowing article from a Rwandan refugee.

2022 URC Prayer Handbook entitled 'Jubilee Freed to Live'

It is 50 years next year since the URC came into being. Recognising this significant milestone Jubilee is the theme. Cost £5.49 (plus postage TBA) Please contact *Malcolm Hooke* to order either item.

*What are you waiting for?
It's the most wonderful time of the year!
Are you feeling Christmassy yet?*

Well truth be told of course in the life of the Church we are still many more sleeps away from the great celebration of the mystery of Christmas. We are however approaching that wonder filled season of the Church calendar. The time of **Advent** which begins four Sundays before Christmas and is one of the most special and significant seasons. How do you experience this season which is all about the waiting and the anticipation of the arrival of the most special gift?

How do you feel about the whole idea of waiting? I have a tendency sometimes to be a little impatient. I often become impatient simply waiting in a queue at traffic lights. So, waiting can seem like an odd thing to celebrate, yet the church does this every year.

Spending time alongside children and young people can sometimes be a test of our patience and our willingness to wait. Often too, we have to ask them to wait as they are constantly asking “what is next?” during our events and programmes or “are we nearly there yet?” on journeys.

Waiting can seem to be a waste of time in today's bustle of daily life and the immediacy that the society around us demands. Same day delivery of your items purchased online seemed like an innovation only a few short years ago, now groceries can be delivered to your door via apps on our smart phone in a matter of just minutes (if the adverts for such services are to be trusted). We seem to have a constant expectation that the things we want will be immediately available and the idea of having to wait, let alone any suggestion of this being a positive thing would seem an alien concept to many. We can therefore give grateful thanks to the early Church that we have this time to remind us and to celebrate waiting.

Waiting is important and significant in the life of God's people: throughout Scripture we see how they waited, longing for many years before eventually, the promise of the Messiah was fulfilled. Perhaps that is why traditionally in many Churches the time set aside for Advent lasts longer than the time set aside for celebrating the mystery of Christmas, which doesn't start till 25 December and lasts for only the following two Sundays?

What does waiting look like for you and your congregation this Advent season? Perhaps this doesn't seem like a fair or reasonable question with all the many things listed on your to do list. Or does the fact that you have waited so long to be able to celebrate with friends and family, in ways denied to so many last year, mean that now adding 'waiting' to that list just doesn't sit right with you? But I wonder if that might be, at least in part, the point of the whole season? To remind us that God is in control and that all our striving and busyness can achieve so very little unless we have first waited on God.

Advent is also a time of getting ready: getting ready to celebrate the great mystery of Christmas and the incarnation that changes everything. Most especially it changes the way we understand ourselves, each other, the Creator and the world created around us.

Whatever it is you are waiting for this Advent, I pray that the God of all time may bless you and all with whom you share the joys and blessings of this season, and may you know the true value in the anticipating and waiting on the arrival of the Christ Child, the greatest gift of all.

Richard Knott is Children and Youth Development Officer in the West Midlands Synod, currently on secondment to the East Midlands Synod on a part-time basis.

The Church that prays together stays together!

Join us

Monday evenings on Zoom at 7.00 pm

Thursday mornings in church at 11.00am

Friday mornings in church at 10.00 am



Youth Worker Team Report

Advent is here!! We take this time to pause and prepare our hearts and minds to focus on Jesus., remembering he is the centre of everything that we plan and do. Thanks very much for everyone who has supported us in many ways – through prayer and time.

Our *Sprouts* group have been meeting weekly and have been learning about the relevance of the parables to their lives, the dangers of supporting and celebrating Halloween and now looking at Advent and the real story of the birth of Jesus.

Bumps and Babies has been a lovely time to meet many new parents and very young babies – we continue to pray for this group and the way forward.

Sparklers has started – but only on a small scale and a booking-only process – but it has been good to be back and especially supporting the children to be mixing with each other again.

Uniform groups are meeting and we look forward to celebrating the Toy Service with them this week.

I have enjoyed going in to do a few assemblies at Westfield - live!! The Christmas Lights switch on craft session was brilliant. Thanks so much for everyone for their help in any way!

The car light trail will be going ahead - 1st Dec – so we look forward to that event – even though in a slightly different Covid safe way. It is such a pleasure to see so many joyful and grateful faces of those who attend.

Dates for your diary -

Alongside the Pathways Centre, Hinckley Methodist Church and the URC, we have felt that as churches we need to be more aware of our community in mental health issues.

Therefore, we have arranged with the council to hold 2 mental health awareness training sessions – these will be a pre-bookable event – so please look out for more details.

Monday 10th January – 6.30-9.30pm at Hinckley Methodist Church
Saturday 29th January – 9.00 am – 12.00 at Hinckley URC (this session will offer childcare facilities.)
Rachel Cobb

News from the Vine

We are feeling very Christmassy at The Vine this month! From Monday 29th November we will be serving our festive menu once again (we missed it last year!). This is a turkey, stuffing and cranberry filling, which can be had in either a toastie, cob or sandwich, mince pie and hot mulled punch (non-alcoholic). You can get all three for just £5.00 in the run up to Christmas. We have also recently started serving homemade soup again - great to warm you up on these colder days. We'll be serving this right through the winter. New in the bookshop are the latest discounted books in the "Take Note" range. This time there are titles for advent and Christmas including festive CDs, a good selection of devotional books - great to start the New Year with, new titles in Christian living and biography and some lovely new Bibles including the fantastic new Good News Family Edition, which comes with a £7.00 saving! This is a fantastic resource for young families or church groups - it is A4 size and is designed so that several family members can use it at the same time but in different ways - drop in to have a look.

We are still in need of volunteers (especially someone who can be available to cover ad hoc absences) and are looking for a paid assistant to cover alternate Saturdays and Fridays. For more information, please drop in or email thevinehinckley@btconnect.com

God Bless
Jessica Harrison
Manager

Wednesday at One

We are pleased that Wednesday at One has started to meet again. Why not come along for a short service and time of fellowship? Wednesdays, in the church, at 1.00pm.

1 st Dec	Rev Malcolm Clarke	Hinckley Baptist
8 th Dec	Mr David Crick	Hinckley URC
15 th Dec	Mr Malcolm Hooke	Hinckley URC
22 nd Dec	Carol Service	
29 th Dec	No Service	

Recalling the Ministry for October and November

(As largely seen on the Church Web Site as THE WEDNESDAY WORD)

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 24th Oct. Loving Our Neighbour

Call to Action (Worship) James Ch. 2, v14-18

v14 asks: **“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith**

but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?”

Hope into Action

Extracts from Two Readings from the Gospel of Luke

Ch. 10, v29-37, The Parable of the Good Samaritan.

v29: (An expert in the law) **wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus,**

“And who is my Neighbour?”

v30f: In reply Jesus tells the story in his parable.

v36: Finally, Jesus asks, **Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?**

v37: **The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on Him,” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”**

Ch. 16, v19-31, The Rich Man and Lazarus

v19f: **There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered in sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. They were neighbours.**

v22f: **The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment. He saw Abraham far away with Lazarus at his side. (In Heaven.)**

v24f: **So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham have pity on me’ ... But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony ... besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place’ ... which no one can cross. Clearly the rich man had not loved his neighbour.**

The Congregation was addressed by Adele Harris from **Hope into Action**, an organisation setting-up homes so that we can be neighbours to the less fortunate.

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 31st Oct. **God's Commandments**

Extracts from Deuteronomy Ch. 6, v1-9

(Ch. 5 **Records Moses' Ten Commandments.**)

Ch. 6, v1f: **These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you ... so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping (them)... so that you may enjoy long life.** Extracts from

Mark Ch,12 v28-34, **Jesus' Reinterpretation:**

The Greatest Commandment

v29f: **"The most important one,"** said Jesus, **"is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, The Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart**

and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength':

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. There is no commandment greater than these."

Loving our neighbour means putting our own concerns and interests aside.

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message from Sunday 7th Nov. **Our Church's Survival**

Extract from Psalm 137, v1-9

Jerusalem's inhabitants in slavery.

v1:- **By the Rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.**

The sermon was entitled "When you have left it too late!" Our minister asked the congregation to consider how our descendants in 60-year's time would feel if our Church met the same fate as Jerusalem had,

especially as our Church has been in existence since before 1700. He formed six discussion groups, each provided with paper for reporting and set the groups to discuss and answer the following four questions, asking how can we prepare our Church to survive those 60 years.

The 4 questions were

1. What are we prepared to change to help the Church to be strong long term?
2. What are we prepared to do now?
3. What are we prepared to throw away? Camel analogy with eye of a needle.
4. What are we prepared to keep?

The groups handed in the papers reporting their comments, for follow up.

The “Church in The Borough” needs to make an important contribution in the Community.

-----OOO-----

A reflection on the message from Sunday 14th Nov. **Remembrance and Thanksgiving**

Opening Reading from John 11, v: 21-27. **Martha’s brother has died.**
v21f: **“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”**

v23f: **Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha answered,**

“I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day,” Jesus said to her,

“I am the resurrection and the life.

The one who believes in me will live, even though they die, and whoever lives by believing in me will never die...”

Scripture Reading, 1 Thessalonians, 4, v: 13-18. Paul says to the people.

v13: **“Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.”**

v17: **“...(believers) who are still alive ... will catch up together with them in heaven to meet with the Lord Jesus.”**

After the reading, **Remembrance** followed with 2 minutes silence.

During Worship, there was **Thanksgiving** for the lives of Miss Anne Brown, Mrs Margaret Garratt, Mr Ken Dawes, Mrs Cynthia Bowler, Mrs Marjorie Newton and Mr John Mason.

Fond and affectionate memories were expressed for each individually. Two further families were remembered in the prayers. Zoya and Ferrand both lost parents during the lockdown and were unable to travel abroad to be with their families.

Brian Beagley

Contact Information

Please take great care when sharing these contact details with other people. This information will not appear in the version of Contact on the church website.

Church Secretary	Christine Thomas	
Treasurer	Sally Leggat	
Premises	Contact the church	
Children and Youth Work	Chris Sharrock	
Pulpit Supply	George Lea	
Music	David Crick	
Notices	Christine & Tony Thomas	
Flowers	Kathy Smith	
Catering	Ann Martin	
Contact Magazine	David Crick	

Commitment for Life Prayer - December 2021

A Prayer for Christmas

Kevin Snyman

Commitment
for **Life**

Ho! Ho! Ho! Dearest God, as we hear Santa's sleigh approaching this Christmas Eve, may the gifts under our Christmas tree be bigger and better than ever! Yes God, far, FAR bigger portions of food for the hungry! A much, MUCH better economic system – one that works brilliantly for the poor and really not-so-well for the super-rich! Much, MUCH more justice for the oppressed. Far, FAR bigger takes on the rich. Huge windfarms and batteries that decimate fossil fuel companies, and not forests and lakes. Ah yes God, may the this be the biggest, bestest Christmas ever! Ho, Ho, Ho – **Amen**

*The Vine Christian Book & Coffee Shop
6A The Borough
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1NL*

Dear Christine

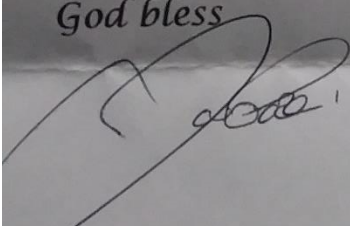
Following our recent Vine Trustees meeting it was unanimously agreed that from this coming December that we should recommence payment to the URC for rent on the Vine Bookshop.

It would be right and proper to express our gratitude for your generosity during COVID 19, your financial support has been so helpful especially during those many months when our doors were closed to the public

We have now been able to return to a six-day opening albeit reducing our opening time to best address a reduction in volunteers who are able to support the work of the Vine

Times will continue to be tough, however as we now have a steady income and have been in receipt of some local authority grants it is only fair to pay our monthly rent whilst also acknowledging our thanks to the URC our caring and supportive landlord

God bless



*John Moore
Chairman*

Christmas Carol Quiz (Answers on page 23)

1. In '*The Twelve Days of Christmas*', how many swans are swimming?
(a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 9 (d) 11
2. What are the missing lyrics? *Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is ____*. (a) light (b) bright (c) right (d) white
3. The words for '*Once in Royal David's City*' come from a poem by Cecil Frances Alexander. Who wrote the music?
(a) Henry John Gauntlett (b) Hector Berlioz (c) Felix Mendelssohn
(d) Frederic Chopin
4. Which of the following are Advent carols? (you can choose more than one!) (a) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (b) Away in a Manger
(c) This is the Truth Sent From Above (d) Joy to the World
5. What are the missing lyrics? *O Little Town of Bethlehem, How ____ we see thee lie*. (a) small (b) sweet (c) safe (d) still
6. Which beloved carol is also known by its French name, '*Minuit, Chrétiens*'? (a) Silent Night (b) O Holy Night
(c) See Amid the Winter's Snow (d) Past Three O'Clock
7. '*Adeste Fidelis*' is one of today's most loved carols. What is its English name? (a) Sussex Carol (b) O Come All Ye Faithful
(c) Joy to the World (d) Coventry Carol
8. In which famous carol does '*the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head*'? (a) Once in Royal David's City (b) Little Donkey
(c) Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (d) Away in a Manger
9. Fill in the blank. 'Ding dong merrily on high, In ____ the bells are ringing'
(a) Bethlehem (b) Paradise (c) Heav'n (d) Jerusalem

A young boy was taking part in the Christmas nativity play and was playing the part of one of the Wise Men. "We bring you gifts.", he said, "Gold, myrrh and Frank sent this."



**Hinckley All Age
Community Choir**
Starting on 23rd November
6.30pm -7.30pm
Hinckley Methodist Church
Albert Road, Hinckley

For more information contact Claire
- 07554 784049
hinckleyfamiliesworker@gmail.com

Meeting Tues 30th Nov - 6.30-7.30pm

Christmas is God lighting a candle; and you don't light a candle in a room that's already full of sunlight. You light a candle in a room that's so murky that the candle, when lit, reveals just how bad things really are.

Tom Wright

Who is he in yonder stall,
At whose feet the shepherds fall?

*'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story!
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory!
At his feet we humbly fall,
Crown Him, Crown Him Lord of all.*

B R Hanby

BUMPS AND BABIES

PARENT AND BABY GROUP (0-1 YEAR)

Monday 10.00am – 11.30am

Hinckley URC

Email – Rachel our Youth Worker on
repooolehcar@hotmail.com for more
information or to book a place (numbers are
limited)



Men and women everywhere sigh on December 26 and say they're glad Christmas is all over for another year. But it isn't over. "Unto us is born... a Saviour". It's just beginning! And it will go on forever.

Eugenia Price

Carol Singing

Churches Together are organising Carol Singing around the Christmas Tree in the Market Square on Friday 10th December at 4.00pm. Please come along if you are available.



A limited number of copies of this magazine will be printed and available in church this month for those who do not have access to a computer. Thank you to all those who have been printing off copies to give to other people. To save you paper (and ink!) you can now pick up copies at church for this purpose. If we run out of printed copies, please inform David Crick.

Answers to Quiz

1. (b); 2 (b); 3 (a); 4(a, c & d); 5 (d); 6 (b); 7 (b); 8 (d); 9 (c)

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 1st December	Christmas Lights Car Ride
Friday 10th December	Churches Together Carol Singing
Sunday 5th December	Church AGM
Monday 10th January	Mental Health Awareness Training
Saturday 29th January	Mental Health Awareness Training

Regular Meetings

Every **Monday** Chat and Prayer session on Zoom - log in after 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start and ending about 8.00pm

Tuesday Weekly Bible Study Group – see Richard Benham for details

Wednesday-at-One – Wednesday 1.00pm

Wednesday Monthly House Group – meeting via Zoom.

Next meeting Wednesday 8th December 7.30pm.

Thursday – Prayer meeting for future of the church 11.00 Front Foyer

Friday prayer group 10.00am (in the church).

If you need any help using Zoom please contact Tony Thomas.

Please submit material for the February edition of Contact by Sunday 23rd January. Articles can be emailed to dghc1@btinternet.com. The next edition of Contact will be available on Sunday 30th January.

Thank you to everybody who has submitted articles this month and throughout the year. Without your articles the magazine would just be a list of rotas, so please keep them coming in!

Can I take this opportunity of wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year, David (Editor)