

Just to keep in...

# Contact

July / August 2022



**The Borough, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1NL**

[www.hinckleyurc.org.uk](http://www.hinckleyurc.org.uk)

*Minister*

☎ 01455 634398 / 07725 747936

*Youth Worker*

☎ 07930 628011

*Church*

☎ 01455 637518

Rev Andrew Mudharara

[revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk](mailto:revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk)

Rachel Cobb

[repoclehar@hotmail.com](mailto:repoclehar@hotmail.com)

[church@hinckleyurc.org.uk](mailto:church@hinckleyurc.org.uk)

## 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	Malcolm Hooke	
Children and Youth Work	Chris Sharrock	
Pulpit Supply	David Crick	
Music	David Crick	
Notices	Christine & Tony Thomas	
Flowers	Kathy Smith	
Catering	Ann Martin	
Contact Magazine	David Crick	

## Worship in July & August (10.45 am)

3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Rev Andrew Mudharara
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev Judith North
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev Andrew Mudharara ( <i>including Holy Communion</i> )
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev Lesley Moseley
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Mr Tim Lea
7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Rev Andrew Mudharara
14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mrs Julie Payne
21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Rev Andrew Mudharara ( <i>including Holy Communion</i> )
28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mrs Hazel Coley
4 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Rev Andrew Mudharara

## **From our Minister**

I pray that you will be having a great time with family and friends this summer holiday in the “sun”. I pray that we continue to take time to reflect on what God is calling us to do as individuals, couples, families, community and Church.

I believe God has called each and every one of us at a time such as this because He wants to partner with us and do great exploits in us, with us and through us. We have to take little steps at a time, learning to cooperate with God’s Spirit as we are being led into a dance by Holy Spirit. We need to be flexible enough to allow God to teach us the dance and lead us in all the steps. We will get some steps right and some wrong but God is a patient teacher. God will wait for us till we are in tune with the dance. God wants to work with us from where we are. We do not necessarily have to move away from our homes or towns to work with God. We are to make disciples of all nations as we live our day to day lives.

I encourage us all to ask God each and every morning to guide us towards what we need to do each day in relation to the mission of God. We are here for a purpose and it would be wonderful to try and accomplish that purpose with God as we serve our families, community and church family. I would like to reiterate that God has strategically placed you where you are and where you will be so that we and God can do great and mighty things together and God can change our lives for the better as we learn to work alongside the Spirit of God. We are called to be partners with God’s Spirit in the mission of God of “serving God, serving people and serving the community”. We need to keep our eyes on the ball as a local church in pursuing our mission statement. Our mission statement “Serving God, serving people, serving the community” reminds us of the reason we exist as a local church.

We need to look around each and every day of our lives for opportunities to “serve God, serve people and serve the community” as God strategically places us in situations, places and company of people. Let us seize every opportunity to partner with God in the mission.

I pray that God will help us through the Holy Spirit to fan the gifts in us (2Timothy 1:6) to do great exploits with God. AMEN

*Andrew*

## **News of the Family**

Please remember our family and friends in your prayers.

Dennis: is still in some pain and is awaiting further treatment.

Daphne H: has had Covid which has developed into pneumonia.

Yabom: is due to have her knee op on 5th July.

We continue to pray for those in the church family who are struggling with ongoing health issues, living in care homes or in need of extra support:

Annette D, Betty H, Beryl (Julie's mum), Ethel, Jackie H, Jan and Brian B, Joan, Joyce, Joyce and Arthur, Keith G, Keith H, Lily, Nanette S, Nessa, Norrie, Mollie H, Muriel, Paddy, Pat, Ruth, Sue D and Wendy and all of the church family who are receiving medical treatment, or have continuing health issues.

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 seeking permission first.

Contact me by email or telephone.

*Sue Saunders*

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

*Congratulations to all those celebrating birthdays in July & August:*

July: Julie Payne (on the 2<sup>nd</sup>), Charlie L (7<sup>th</sup>), Charles L (8<sup>th</sup>), Chris S (12<sup>th</sup>), Geoff S (17<sup>th</sup>), and Myra I (21<sup>st</sup>).

August: Jimmy A (2<sup>nd</sup>), Carole W (6<sup>th</sup>), Donna H & Zoya (both on the 9<sup>th</sup>), Yabom (10<sup>th</sup>), Malcolm H (15<sup>th</sup>), Ann Martin (22<sup>nd</sup>), Tony T (27<sup>th</sup>)

*Anniversaries:*

Crawford & Marilyn and Rocky & Chris Sharrock (both couples on the 27<sup>th</sup> July and married the same year!); Andy & Donna (15<sup>th</sup> Aug), Trevor & Joan (29<sup>th</sup> Aug), Tony & Christine Thomas (30<sup>th</sup> Aug)

*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.*

## **International Friendship Centre**

Since the IFC opened up again, after being closed for two years because of Covid, there have been some changes. The war in Ukraine has affected that of course and we have the challenge, and the privilege, of welcoming refugees from Ukraine into our church group. Many of our former participants have not returned, probably because their circumstances have changed during the break, but we still see one or two of our 'regulars'. At the moment we are feeling our way and I personally am very grateful for the support that has been forthcoming. People from our church and others have been so willing to share time, talents and ideas and resources which has been very helpful and a real blessing.

We meet on a Monday from 12 noon until 1.30 pm and we are trialling a second session from 2-3 pm, with the intention of giving people opportunity to engage in more practical activities, but so far this session has not taken off. Today (20<sup>th</sup> June) we had nine visitors, one Polish, six Ukrainians and one 'supporter' who stayed from 12 until 2pm. We will go with the flow and change our way of doing things as we find out what people's needs are. Because of the influx of refugees there are many other groups starting up in the area to meet people's practical needs and give them opportunities to meet with the organisations and individuals who can help them. Finding hosts to give Ukrainians homes continues to be a high priority of course and so is learning English. The IFC has become part of that wider network of support rather than functioning only as an independent group as before.

The Pathways Centre at the Hinckley Baptist Church runs a Friday morning session for Ukrainians and those who support them. This has been very helpful and Karen and I visit it regularly to meet up with people, find out who's who and who does what, and talk to the Ukrainians who come along to find the help they need. Please pray for the Friendship Centre and for the wider mission to refugees and immigrants wherever they may come from. Pray for all those who need help, give thanks for all those who offer help and support, and pray for opportunities to bring them closer to God and His love.

*Christine*

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE Outreach Meeting Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 12noon**

*There are a number of events planned for the summer months and beyond that will require your help and support, e.g. Snapdragon Festival (3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Aug), Classic Car Rally (Sept 18<sup>th</sup>) There will be a meeting after the morning service where you can find out more. Please see Rob Cobb.*

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### **Sponsored Walk**

In October it will be 30 years since Ken (Woodward) died suddenly of a heart attack. To commemorate their dad, my daughters Ellie and Ange are planning a 30 mile walk to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation. Ken was a very active member of the Borough Church and there are members there who still remember him fondly.



The walk will be on 13 August, beginning at sunrise in Bradgate Park and ending in Hinckley. They estimate it will take 12 hours and are inviting anyone along for all, or part of the route. There is a JustGiving page and training progress can be followed on Instagram @30milesfor30years

Ange and Ellie are hoping to raise £500 and in a few days are already up to £400! There are a couple of donations from people associated with HURC. The JustGiving page is titled Ange and Ellie page.

I can't express how touched I am they have set themselves this task and beyond proud. Ken would have been so impressed with everything Ellie and Ange have achieved through all the years without him.

Thank you.  
Best wishes  
Love *Janet*

*The 'selfie' was taken during one of their training walks and is on the JG page.*



## Sunday Lunch - August 7th

A good number attended the 'Bring-your-own-picnic' lunch to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and Pentecost on 5<sup>th</sup> June. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship, Laura and Yabom won the quiz and Trevor won the quoits! The next lunch will be on **Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup>** after the morning service, where

again we ask you to bring your own lunch, but if you want to bring anything to share with others – please do so. Drinks will be provided.



Jacqueline Brown is fundraising for Alzheimer's Society in memory of her father-in-law. She is hoping to walk 900,000 steps between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 31<sup>st</sup> August. Here's her JustGiving page, if you would like to donate:

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stepupfordementia2022-jacquelinebrown?utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=stepupfordementia2022-jacquelinebrown&utm\\_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm\\_term=b7870c5381204feaa1c6c1c354c4caaa](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stepupfordementia2022-jacquelinebrown?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=stepupfordementia2022-jacquelinebrown&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=b7870c5381204feaa1c6c1c354c4caaa)

## Midweek Coffee

A number of members of our church are feeling called to start a midweek coffee morning / afternoon. The time and day of the week is still to be decided but it is hoped that this could be a regular event offering fellowship both for those within the existing congregation and for those who are currently not part of the church

fellowship. There is a particular desire to provide somewhere warm and welcoming, especially during the winter months, when some folk might be worried about the cost of heating their homes all day. If you are interested and would like to help, please see Carole Wallis or one of the Elders.



## Wednesday at One

6 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Mr Steve Vickers	St Mary's Church, Barwell
13 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Pas Derek Marvin	Trinity Lane Christian Church
20 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Mrs Anne Hayward	Holy Trinity Church, Hinckley
27 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Rev Andrew Mudharara	Hinckley URC
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	Mr John Moore	St John's Church, Hinckley
10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mrs Sheila Grice	Sapcote Methodist Church
17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Rev Solomon Bentu	Tilton Road Pentecostal
24 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Guest Speaker	
31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Rev Daniel Cheyne	Hinckley URC

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## Tuesday Lunch Event: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022

July's lunch will be jacket potato, salad and cold meat. If you would like to come, please let me know, thank you.

*Sue S*

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## News from the Vine

We are hiring! We are looking for Saturday help to start in September - this is a paid position and would suit someone aged 16+. The role is mainly serving in the coffee shop (which gets very busy on a Saturday) and involves serving customers, using the till, making drinks, clearing tables, washing up and assisting with the end of day procedure. If you would like to apply, please drop in with your CV and a covering letter explaining why you would be suitable for the role. The closing date is 15th August.

God Bless, *Jessica Harrison* Manager

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*Wonder is the basis of worship – Thomas Carlyle*



## Youth work – Summer 2022

Summer is here and we are very much looking forward to the Summer of Fun that is happening in Hinckley this year.

On Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug until Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Aug we will be providing the children's crafts at the Snapdragon Festival in Argents Mead in the town.

We need your help – if you can spare a few hours on these days between 11am and 3pm to sit at a table and help the children do crafts that would be brilliant – it's a wonderful, happy and busy event – so it would be good to have your support – Hinckley URC have several mentions in the local press regarding the event – so please come along.

A sign-up sheet will be at the back of church for people to fill in.

Also, we will be re-launching our Monday baby group in September to accommodate older children – so look out for more details.

*Rachel*

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## Commitment for Life Prayer - July 2022

Commitment  
for **Life**

### Prayer for Zimbabwe

Dear Lord, we thank you for watching over us as go through the Covid-19 era. As each day passes, we pray that you grant us wisdom to discover ways of overcoming the pandemic. Guide parents as they strive to look after their families in providing for food and online learning gadgets. Lord, we pray for all the youths in our country that they may desist from drug abuse and any forms of unprotected sexual engagements. Protect all women, and especially young girls, from gender-based violence, which has become rampant in our communities. Plant in every Zimbabwean citizen the spirit of love, peace, and tolerance. Guid all those in authority in this country to carry out their day-to-day tasks with humility, love, and diligence. We ask this Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Amen**

*Maud M Marangereke (Anglican Relief and Development in Zimbabwe – ARDeZ)*

**Rotas for July** *If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please see David Crick; if you can help on the Coffee rota, please see Ann Martin. If you are unable to fulfil your duty, please arrange a swap.*

	<b><i>Duty Elder</i></b>	<b><i>Door Steward</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</i></b>	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Ann Martin
<b><i>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Roger Moseley	Paul Deeming Julie Payne
<b><i>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Sue Saunders	Sue Saunders Heather Crick
<b><i>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Karen Jones	Sue Thain Kathy Smith
<b><i>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July</i></b>	David Crick	Richard Benham Jacqueline Brown

	<b><i>Coffee</i></b>	<b><i>Cashing</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</i></b>	Carole Wallis Ruth Griffiths	Sally Leggat Malcom Hooke
<b><i>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	Sally Leggat David Crick
<b><i>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Marilyn & Crawford Payne	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
<b><i>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
<b><i>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July</i></b>	Carole Wallis Ruth Griffiths	Sally Leggat Malcom Hooke

**Rotas for July** *If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please see David Crick; if you can help on the Coffee rota, please see Ann Martin. If you are unable to fulfil your duty, please arrange a swap.*

	<b><i>Duty Elder</i></b>	<b><i>Door Steward</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	Christine Thomas	Sally Leggat Ann Martin
<b><i>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	Roger Moseley	Paul Deeming Julie Payne
<b><i>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Aug</i></b>	Sue Saunders	Sue Saunders Heather Crick
<b><i>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	David Crick	Sue Thain Kathy Smith
<b><i>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Sep</i></b>	Karen Jones	Richard Benham Jacqueline Brown

	<b><i>Coffee</i></b>	<b><i>Cashing</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	Sue Thain Karen Jones	Sally Leggat David Crick
<b><i>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
<b><i>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Aug</i></b>	Carole Wallis Jacqueline Brown	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
<b><i>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Aug</i></b>	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	Sally Leggat Malcom Hooke
<b><i>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Sep</i></b>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	Sally Leggat David Crick

## Hinckley Foodbank News



Great News!

We have been nominated to be part of the Asda Foundation Green Token Giving online vote through our local Asda store Hinckley.

The vote is now live and voting will close at midnight on Friday 30th September 2022. The cause with the most online votes will receive a £500 donation with second place receiving £400 and third place £300.

You can vote for us by visiting [www.asda.com/green-tokens](http://www.asda.com/green-tokens) and selecting Hinckley from the drop-down box. You will be able to vote once every seven days, so please do return and re-vote in the following weeks.

Thank you for your support

*Chris Wright*

Deputy Manager / Fundraiser

07502 433055

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## Church Ramble

A walk through Market Bosworth Park was enjoyed by eight people in June. It was a very hot day so the shade provided by the trees was very welcome and we enjoyed great fellowship. Thanks to David and Heather for organising.

The July walk will be held on Thursday 14th at 2pm and the August walk on Wednesday 10th at 10am. Please let me know your availability as soon as possible. The venues are yet to be decided - suggestions always welcome.

*Tony T*

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*In all the history of Christianity, whenever there has been a new emphasis upon Jesus, there has been a fresh outburst of vitality and virility.*

*E Stanley Jones*

## **A -Z Bible Quiz**

*The answer to question 1 begins with A; question 2 begins with B etc.*

1. Where the disciples were first called Christians (Acts 11:26) (A...)
2. The blind man Jesus healed at Jericho (Mark 10:46-52). (B...)
3. Where Jesus lived (Matt 4:13). (C...)
4. Other than the Gospel of Luke, which book of the Bible mentions the angel Gabriel? (D...)
5. Methuselah was the oldest man in the Bible; who was his father? (E...)
6. Paul was brought to this Governor of Judea for trial (Acts 24). (F...)
7. The area where Jesus spent most of his ministry (and the name of a lake) (G...)
8. A word of Hebrew origin translated as 'Praise the Lord'. (H...)
9. The son of Abraham and father of Esau and Jacob. (I...)
10. Spent three days in the belly of a large fish. (J...)
11. Two books in the Old Testament dealing with Israel's history as a monarchy (K...)
12. The doctor who wrote a Gospel. (L...)
13. The last book of the Old Testament. (M...)

*Answers on page 18. Questions for N-Z will appear in the next edition!*

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*Signing the register at a wedding the best man couldn't make the pen work.  
"Put your weight into it", said the vicar.  
So he duly signed the book: John Smith (11 stone 4 pounds)*

*Prayer for the legacy we leave behind*

Generous God, your blessings in our lifetime are immeasurable. We are humbled and grateful. We thank you for material gifts of a safe home, food to eat and clothes to wear. We thank you for your beautiful creation, with life growing all around us. We thank you for the love of friends and family who are with us for all our precious moments. When we look ahead to the day when you eventually take us home, let us not be afraid or feel sad for the things that we leave behind. Let us rejoice in the lasting legacy that we can pass on to others through our values, our talents, and our generosity with your blessings. We know that everything we have is yours and so what we leave behind matters, to our family, our church, and our wider global neighbours. Give us a generous heart so that we may plant seeds of your love to flourish for generations to come.

**Amen**

*Kerry McMenamin (Christian Aid)*

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## **URC parking – Polite notice**

There have been some parking issues in the church parking area – resulting in the fire exit being blocked and access to The Vine restricted, especially for mobility scooters or prams/pushchairs etc. It also takes people away from their jobs to sort the car park out when people have been blocked in, thus creating safeguarding issues.

The car park is for The Vine staff, for the dance school staff (who have been allocated a pass) and members of the church who have been allocated car park passes.

The Vine has a spare pass which can be made available on the day, but it is important that if you need to use the car park for a particular reason you should contact Christine or Tony Thomas so that they can communicate with other users.

Thank you for your co-operation.

*Andrew & the Elders*



## ***A hymn of praise for creation and providence***

*I sing the almighty power of God,  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.*

*I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at his command,  
and all the stars obey.*

*I sing the goodness of the Lord,  
that filled the earth with food;  
he formed the creatures with his word,  
and then pronounced them good.*

*Lord, how your wonders are displayed  
where'er I turn mine eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!*

*God's hand is my perpetual guard,  
he guides me with his eye;  
why should I then forget the Lord,  
whose love is ever nigh?*

*Isaac Watts*

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In 1972 churches from the Congregational Union of England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church of England joined together to form the United Reformed Church. Have you any recollections of the URC coming into being in 1972? Were you at the Borough then, or a member of another congregation, deciding whether to join this new church? It would be good to include your recollections in a future Contact magazine. Please send any interesting snippets to the Editor.



**Faith – Hope – Love – Since 1972**

## Recalling the Ministry for May- June 2022

**(NEW FEATURE:** *If you are reading on-line, click on the Bible references below to access the readings)*

In reflection on the message from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022,

Bible Readings: Acts 2:1-4 & Acts 2: 42-47  
*The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost & The Fellowship of Believers*

John 15:5-17 *I am the Vine, You are the Branches*

The Sermon reflected philosophically on how God's creation progresses eternally, onward from Christ coming, bringing his Holy Spirit to guide us, always, as our lives develop. Perhaps we each have a favourite hymn this guidance brings, which recalls God's love for us, for example, in the beauty of his creation and the bounty it brings to our lives. Our lives are shaped through joys such as the springtime, but there are sorrows too, but the Spirit's guidance overcomes them through God's amazing grace. So "Amazing Grace" was the final hymn and expresses our lives, into eternity.

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In reflection on the message for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Call to Worship from Psalm 150. **Praise the LORD.**  
**Praise God in His Sanctuary.**

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 10:1-9 *The Silver Trumpets.*

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 2:5-10 *The Living Stones.*

Sermon:(series: **Part 6**): **"Do not neglect your Priestly duties."** In Part 5 on Easter Sunday, it was noted that Jesus becomes the **Great High Priest** to whom we have access. So Peter can write, **"...you (like living stones) are a royal priesthood."** With Christ as the cornerstone, it is the Priestly duty of each one of us, according to our abilities, to serve God righteously, joining together in praise and prayer, ministering to the needs of others and each other, and proclaiming the love of God for all, knowing that through our service, God (see OT reading) will remember us.

In reflection on the message for Pentecost Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Call to Worship: words from Luke 24, v49: *Jesus said, "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with the power from on high."*

Reading: Romans 8: 14-17 *Life Through the Spirit.*

Sermon: "**Tarry ye in Jerusalem,**" (said Jesus to his disciples Luke 24, v49.) to await empowerment by the Holy Spirit. In the OT, Israel's God is the Father, now we have the beginning of the Christian Church and God becomes the Three-In-One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is vital that we receive the Holy Spirit in our hearts, to empower us and give us confidence to serve God as his children (Romans 8, v16/17), and by carrying out our Priestly duties (see last Sunday's sermon).

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022,  
**Trinity Sunday**

The Bible Reading was from John 1: 1-18 *The Word Became Flesh.*

Message: **The Trinity. God in Three Persons.** The **Father** was the Creator. In Genesis 1, v3, we read "**The Word**": **And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good.** John the Baptist, in our reading, was introducing **Jesus** as "**The light that shines in the darkness... and so ...The Word Became Flesh.**" At Pentecost, the third person of the **Three-in-One**, the **Holy Spirit** was sent by God to be our comforter and our guide, to bring the **light** of God and Jesus to reside in our hearts and our lives.

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In reflection on the message for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Call to Worship: words from Psalm 23

Before we get to the Book of Esther Chapter 4, it helps to have "**The story so far**". In Ch.1, we introduce King Xerxes, ruler of 127 provinces from India to Cush and his wife Queen Vashi. After much partying and showing

off his domain to his cronies, he bids his attendants to (v 11) *to bring before him Queen Vashi, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the peoples, for she was lovely to look at.* Vashi refused to come. The king was advised (v 19f) *to give her royal position to someone else.* And the king issued an edict; *all women will obey their husbands.* In Ch. 2, the king looks for a new queen from a cast of many! Esther was one of these. She was an orphan who had been adopted by the Jew, Mordecai, enslaved to Babylon.

Her Jewish background was not revealed to the king. Esther was the winner of his favour and became The Queen replacing Vashi. Mordecai Uncoveres a Conspiracy; two of the king's officers conspired to kill the king and Mordecai discovered the plot and told Esther who told the king, who was grateful to Mordecai. In Ch.3, there is a Plot to Destroy the Jews. The king's favourite, Haman, was honoured by other nobles who were expected to kneel to him, but Mordecai would not, because he was a Jew. Haman found out and planned to kill not only Mordecai by all the Jews. Haman tried to bribe the king to do this, but the king said keep your money and do as you please. Haman sent an edict, in the king's name, to the 127 provinces with instructions to annihilate all the Jews.

So, to our reading from Esther 4: 1-17 **Mordecai Persuades Esther to help,**

We have to read on to discover the outcome. **The story continues.** In Ch.5, Esther put on her royal robes and stood before the king. When he saw Queen Esther, he was pleased and held out his gold sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the sceptre. The King asked, "What is it Queen Esther? What is your request?"

You will have to read on to find out what happened to the Jews. **But Queen Esther was strategically placed** to do her bit for the Jews and God.

Sermon: **You are strategically placed** to do your bit for God.  
God has a task for each of us, however big or small.  
We can turn to God in prayer when we need help.

*Brian Beagley*

Answers to quiz: 1. Antioch; 2. Bartimaeus; 3. Capernaum; 4. Daniel; 5. Enoch; 6. Felix; 7. Galilee; 8. Hallelujah; 9. Isaac; 10. Jonah; 11. Kings; 12. Luke; 13. Malachi
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## Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Outreach meeting** (after the morning service)

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2pm** Fellowship Walk

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August ‘Bring your own lunch’** after the morning service

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 10am** Fellowship Walk

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September** East Midlands Synod URC Jubilee Celebration

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September Classic Car Rally** – morning worship will be featuring the Christian Motorcyclists’ Association

## 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**

Next meeting Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm (Christine & Tony’s garden)

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

**Thursday 7.30** Music group practice - all welcome

**Friday** Prayer Group 10.00am (in the church).

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

Please submit material for the September edition of Contact by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August. The next edition of Contact will be available on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

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*Thank you to everybody who has submitted articles this month.*

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The  
United  
Reformed  
Church  
East Midlands  
Synod

# Jubilee Celebration

# 50



Illustration by Mark Boech

**Commemorate -  
Celebrate - Create!**

## Saturday 10 September 2022

10.00am - 3.30pm at the **De Vere Jubilee Conference Centre**, Nottingham



Praise, **workshops** and **fun** for all ages

**£5 per person** including refreshments voucher

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