

# Contact

November 2023



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

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

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## 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	Carole Wallis	
Contact Magazine	Penny Randriamahavorisoa	

## Worship in November (10.45 am unless stated)

5 <sup>th</sup> November	Rev Andrew Mudharara / Rev George Lea <i>(Thanksgiving Service)</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Rev Daniel Cheyne (Remembrance Sunday)
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Rev Andrew Mudharara <i>(including Holy Communion)</i>
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Paul Wake
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Rev Andrew Mudharara <i>(Toy Service)</i>

## Warm Space Drop-in (Thursday pm)

November 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruth and Phillip  
November 9<sup>th</sup> Kathy and Sylvia  
November 16<sup>th</sup> Sue and Ann  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> Chris and Phillip  
November 30<sup>th</sup> Ruth and Sylvia  
December 7<sup>th</sup> Kathy and Ann

## **Minister's letter November 2023**

Greeting to you and your families and friends in the name of the one who has called us to be “fishers of women and men” Matthew 4:19.

Jesus calls us to follow Him as the first priority, but Jesus calls us also to be in the business of reaching out to our fellow human beings and sharing the good news of His love for all peoples. We are called to this mission of “fishing people” with the assurance that we are not going to be on our own but we will always have the Holy Spirit working alongside us. God is aware of worries of being not up to the job of “fishing people” and has sent the Holy Spirit to comfort us, teach us, strengthening us for the challenge. I find that helpful to know that God has provided a teammate (Companion) to work alongside us who is God the Holy Spirit.

Our role is to share our experiences with God with the people we meet and make them aware of the love of God for all people. It is important for us to plant a seed of the good news in the hearts of people we interact with and the Lord will water and cause germination to happen. Sometimes God calls another person to water later on. We may not know what would happen to seeds we plant but God knows. We need to just do our part of planting seeds of good news into the hearts of people. We need to encourage ourselves to be in the habit of reminding ourselves of our role to “fish people” so that when opportunities arise for us to share the good news, we will be aware.

We each have different capabilities of fishing. Some are good at one on one, while some are called to attract big crowds but that does not make any capability better than another. We cannot ignore our mandate to fish people as long as we are following Jesus. We need not postpone this calling to share the good news with people as we go by doing our day-to-day business. Let us pray continuously that we will be able to recognise opportunities to share the good news when they arise.

The harvest (Fish) is plentiful but there is a shortage of labourers ( Matthew 9:37-38); would you join in with the Lord of harvest with your net or fishing line?

Rev Andrew Mudharara

## **News of the Family**

Congratulations to Megan R on her recent engagement to Rik.

Please remember in your prayers:

Kathy is now home following 12 days in hospital, resting and recuperating. Julie P is also home from hospital following a fall down the stairs. Julie will need to wear a neck brace until at least December.

Dennis S – is still being treated for breathing problems.

We also remember in our prayers both Sue D and Nanette S' families following the passing and funerals of both.

Betty L laser treatment went well and her vision has improved.

Malcolm C – had his hip op but his recovery is slow and painful and Jane is recovering from a broken wrist.

Anette D is having her 2<sup>nd</sup> cataract op Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

We also think of:

Ann M, Betty H, Betty L, Ethel, Ian S, Jan and Brian B, Jean C, Joan and Trevor L, Joyce, Joyce and Arthur, Keith G, Keith H, Lily S, Margaret and Peter G, Nessa, Muriel, Pat J, Sue T, Wendy and Malcolm .

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 November:*

*Glen C and Tom S (on the 5<sup>th</sup> ), Penny R (on the 11<sup>th</sup>), James H (on the 12<sup>th</sup>), Daphne H (on the 14<sup>th</sup>), Paul D (on the 16<sup>th</sup>).*

*And best wishes to those celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries:*

*Phillip and Janet L celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> (on the 10<sup>th</sup>)*

*Laura and Mike D (on the 20<sup>th</sup>).*

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

## PREPARING THE WAY

The advent period is always an excellent time to share the Gospel and, perhaps, invite others to church. Many unchurched recognise that Christmas is far too commercialised and are more open to the true meaning of the Word becoming flesh than any other time. The challenge for us as a church is to seize the God-given opportunity to engage with people while we are in the longer queues at the supermarket or interacting with younger ones filled with the excitement of receiving gifts. This year we will be posting Christmas cards through some of the households close to church and, as a personal touch, we will be asking everyone to sign several of them (possibly with a short message too if preferred).

As the nights draw in our minds also turn to those sleeping rough or sofa-surfing. While there is provision at other organisations, we should also be prepared to provide for those in need where we cannot refer people on. To this end, we are equipping 4 backpacks (named Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) containing essential and useful items for people without a stable place to stay (toiletries, torch, Bible, etc). The box for these collections will be in the corridor near the side entrance. Please take the time to view the list and see if you can contribute, ideally from items tucked away at the back of your cupboards. We are also asking people to sign up to purchase Hinckley URC branded water bottles, profits from this will go to the provision of bottles for the backpacks.

I will be in the States with Kate from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November. This trip involves speaking in churches, Christian groups & at a Christian university in Tennessee about our churches' future outreach to young people in the Hinckley area. The focus of the trip is to establish a sports ministry structure for American student-missionaries to visit us for short periods next year & beyond to share the Gospel with young people in our community through sports activities. Please pray for this work to be blessed and that we see its fruit next year.

*Paul Wake, Outreach Worker.*

### **Tuesday Lunch Event: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

November's meal will be meat pie and vegetables followed by fruit crumble. Please let me know if you would like to attend, thank you.

*Sue S*

# **AlterNativity 2023**

*Touch the heart of someone you love  
with a special gift this Christmas so that  
someone in real need can benefit from it.*



**This year's event will be held on**

**Saturday 11th November 2023 from 10am - 2pm**

**Mary Forryan Centre, St Peter's Church, Leicester  
Road, Hinckley LE10 1LW.**

For those unable to attend on the day please take  
advantage of our mail order forms. Gifts maybe  
purchased until 9th December 2023.

Copies of the form are available in church or from  
<https://www.hinckley-alternativity.org.uk/Home.shtml>

Send your completed form to...

**"AlterNativity", St Peter's Priory, Leicester Road,  
Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1LW**

## **Advance notice for Christmas**

The Carol Service will be on Sunday 17th December at 4.00pm. There will be no morning service on the 17th.

On Sunday 24th December, Christmas Eve, there will be a morning service as usual at 10.45 and also a communion service at 7.00pm

Christmas Day: there will Family Worship at 10.00am



## **Commitment for Life Prayer for the month Jesus is our Neighbour**

By Simon Peters, former Walking the Way Project  
Manager

Commitment  
for **Life**

Loving God, in every aspect of our lives, the places we live and work, laugh and play, learn and grow, you are there, guiding and nurturing us in your ways of love, peace and justice. If that goes for us, it goes for everyone else as well. Sometimes, it's easy to find you. A warm handshake from a stranger, a meal served by a friend or a hug from a loved one are all signs that you are alive and active amongst us. At other times, though, we find it hard to recognise you in others. They may not look like we look, think like we think, live like we live or worship as we worship, and yet, whether we can sense you or not, you are there, working through them.

Help us to recognise that, in the same way you live in us, so you live in all our neighbours: those whom we know and those we do not, those whom we relate to and those we do not, those whom we like, and those we do not. May we always look for you, and find you, in everyone, friend, stranger or otherwise. In Your Precious Name, Amen.

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

The harvest produce that was given to Foodbank amounted to 71.5kg worth approximately £169.46, plus donations totalling £100. (Some of this was food and money donated prior to harvest). A similar amount of food was taken to Lawrence House so a big thank you to everyone who contributed.

*David Crick*

### **Monthly Church Ramble**

Again we were blessed with the weather on our walk in October. 10 people were able to come on a walk round Bagworth Heath Wood - an old mining area which has been forested and now comprises a couple of lakes, many paths - which are not shown on a map and where one can easily get lost - and a good central path which is part of the national cycle network. Underfoot, off the main track, the grass paths were quite wet but fortunately no mud to fall over in!

The next walk will be on November 21st. Time and destination to be decided. Please let Tony know if you are coming.

## **News from The Vine**

Thank you to everyone who visited us during Christian Bookshop week and made the most of our offers. We had a good week despite it falling in half-term and there being some stormy weather! We had a fantastic time with our visiting author Emily Owen. All her books are still in stock so if you missed it you can still read her story in “Still Emily” or peruse her selection of devotional books.

Our Christmas cards and Advent stock are all out. This year many of the packs of cards are packaged in cardboard instead of plastic and those still in plastic wrappers are recyclable. This month, more Christmas stock will appear on the shelves such as decorations and ornaments. The Christmas “Kids Corner” books have arrived with some lovely new Christmas titles as well as more general titles making great gifts for all ages. We expect our new “Take Note” books mid November. Do check out our social media for updates on new arrivals. If you are not on Facebook or Instagram, we are launching an email mailing list so customers who want to can get updates on what’s new as well as events and offers. Please ask us when you are next in to be added.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November from 10am-2pm the annual AlterNativity event will take place and The Vine will be there. It’s this event that funds our ability to give free meals to those in need throughout the year who are referred to us. Do please support us and all the other good causes at this fantastic event.

Once again we are taking customer orders for The Leprosy Mission. You’ll find catalogues on our counter – there is no minimum order so just let us know what you would like.

*Jessica Harrison, Manager*

## **CHURCH AGM**

**A reminder** - the church AGM will take place after worship on 19th November.

Please continue to think and pray about who you might approach to serve on the Eldership. Nominations are requested by Sunday 5th November and forms and information are available on the table in church.

Thank you  
*Christine.*





**Hinckley United  
Reformed Church**  
**The Church in the Borough**

# **Thanksgiving Service**

**To remember those we have lost**

**Sunday November 5th 2023 at 10-45am**

During the service we will give thanks and praise God for the memories of those who have died during the past year. Candles will be provided for you to light and



If you know of anyone who has died recently and you would like them to be included in the service, please contact George L.

There will be another dimension to the service this year. We will remember and thank God for all those who have left money to the Church and thank Him for those who have given of their time and talents to the Church over the years.

*A big thank you to Brian Beagley for all his hard work producing Recalling the Ministry. It has been much appreciated and I am sure will be missed.*

*Penny Randriamahavorisoa, Editor*

**Rotas** *If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please see Penny Randriamahavorisoa; if you can help on the Coffee rota, please see Carole Wallis. 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 5<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	David Crick	Kathy Smith Sue Thain
<b><i>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Rob Cobb	Sally Leggat Julie Payne
<b><i>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Sue Sanders	Jacqui Brown Heather Crick
<b><i>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Karen Jones	Richard Benham Sue Saunders
<b><i>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</i></b>	Christine Thomas	Paul Deeming Ann Martin
	<b><i>Coffee</i></b>	<b><i>Flowers</i></b>
<b><i>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	
<b><i>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	H. Crick
<b><i>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Ruth Griffiths Karen Jones	
<b><i>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</i></b>	Carole Wallis Jacqui Brown	C. Thomas
<b><i>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</i></b>	Marilyn & Crawford Payne	

## Wednesday at One

November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Lay Pastor Sheila Grice	Sapcote & Stoke G Methodist
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Andrew Hall	St. Catherine, Burbage
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Tom Brown	St. John, Hinckley
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs Gwen Coley	Hinckley Methodist
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Andrew Mudharara	Hinckley URC
December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Simon Wearn	Holy Trinity, Hinckley

### *For Peace and Justice*

O Most High,  
Your people rage over the Land,  
war and terror engulf those who seek to follow You,  
hundreds have died, thousands have been wounded,  
and this is just the beginning.

Jesus, Incarnate Word,  
give strength to those working for peace in the midst of war;  
doctors, nurses, and medics tending the wounded,  
fire fighters and rescue workers pulling people from the ruin of their lives,  
regional leaders calling for calm.

Eternal Flame of Love,  
teach us all the ways of peace;  
bring to justice those:  
who wage war, violence and terror,  
who limit life, steal land, use law to oppress.

Eternal Trinity,  
show us quickly how to turn away from violence,  
pursue costly justice  
and live in peace with each other and with the earth. Amen.

## Dates for your Diary

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Thanksgiving Service  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Alternativity 10-2  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – Tuesday lunch  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Church AGM  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Church ramble  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Carol Service, 4pm (no morning service)

## 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**

7.30pm at the Crick's Wednesday November 1<sup>st</sup>

**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 December/January edition of Contact by **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November**. Articles can be emailed. The next edition of Contact will be available by Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November.