

Just to keep in...

Contact

May 2022



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Psalm 107.1



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Minister

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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	Ann Martin	
Contact Magazine	David Crick	

Worship in May

1 st May 10.45 am	Lynne Cooper
8 th May 10.45 am	Martin Gage
15 th May 10.45 am	Rev Daniel Cheyne (<i>including Holy Communion</i>)
22 nd May 10.45 am	Rev Dr Janet Wootton
29 th May 10.45 am	Rev Andrew Mudharara
5 th June 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.

From our Church Secretary

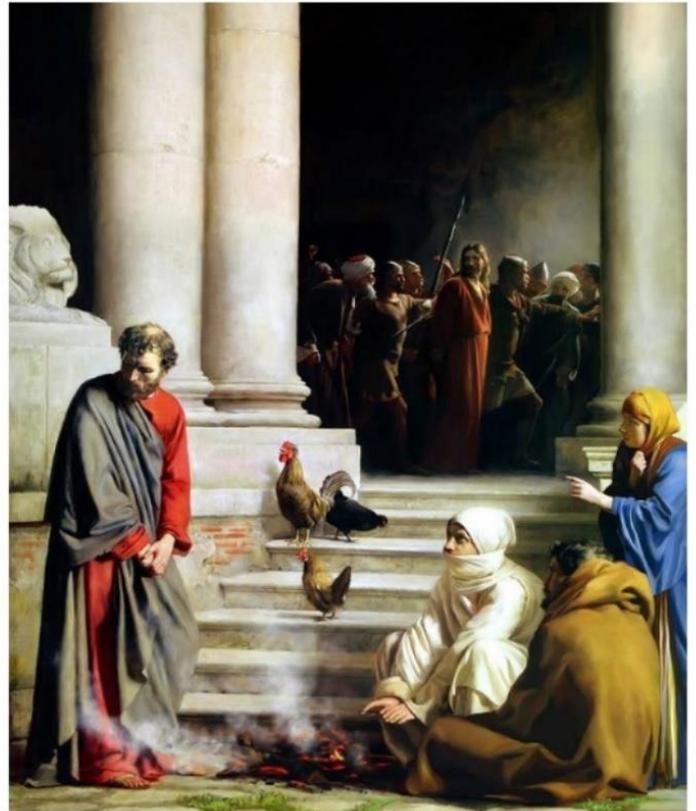
Dear Friends,

As you know, our Minister Andrew, Candid and Tavonga are in Zimbabwe until 8th May enjoying a long overdue visit to their family. We pray that they will be blessed by their time together and come back uplifted and refreshed.

During the Lent period we have enjoyed the ministry of Johnny O'Hanlon, a student pastor from Westminster College, Cambridge. He has been sharing with us, and the Daventry congregation, his thoughts on 'The Way of the Cross' which included a moving service on Maundy Thursday. Those of us

who attend the Thursday prayer group have had the privilege of sharing in his presentation of 'The Passion of our Lord' over a period of 3 weeks. Johnny has explored the subject through the work of artists and poets through history together with Bible readings and prayer and it has been interesting to see how Jesus's journey to the cross has been portrayed by different artists over the centuries. This painting shows Peter's denial of Jesus (Mark 14:69-72). The crowing cock is in the centre of the picture. Jesus and the women on the steps are both looking at Peter for different reasons and he turns his head away. This was accompanied by the poem 'The Look' by Elizabeth Barrett Browning which you can find on the internet. The two questions we were asked were: *"How do you think Peter felt?"* and *"Have you ever allowed fear to get in the way of trusting God wholeheartedly?"* It was the resurrected Jesus who forgave Peter and challenged him with *"Feed my sheep"*. Jesus never gives up on us – there is always the opportunity of forgiveness and a new start. Can we, as individuals and as a church, the body of Christ, rise to the challenges we are presented with? Please pray.

May the love of God refresh and renew you with the Easter message,
Christine



The Denial of Peter by Carl Bloch

Be still and aware of God's presence within and all around.

This prayer from Each Day and Each Night, Celtic prayers from Iona by J.Philip Newell

What do your first notice when you look at this painting?

News of the Family

Please remember our family and friends in your prayers.

We offer our sincerest condolences to Carole W and her family. Tony passed away Thursday 7th April with Carole by his side. There will be a private cremation on Wednesday 11th May followed by a service of Thanksgiving at the church with the time to be confirmed.

Sue D is still struggling with some health issues and concerns for her family. Paul's hospital procedure on Friday 25th March went well and it was good to have Paul back in church. A number of folk have been unwell with covid, thankfully fairly mildly so it is good to see them back in church.

Andrew, Candid and Tavonga left for Zimbabwe on Easter Sunday afternoon for 3 weeks. We pray that they have a wonderful time with all their family and for a smooth uneventful journey home.

We continue to pray for our church family either in care homes or in need of extra support:

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

Congratulations to Tom Sharrock who will be going to Buckingham Palace in May, along with his proud Mum and Dad, to receive the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, an event much-delayed by the Covid pandemic.

Dave Brown has left Cadent and starts a new job with Burbage Custom Windows on 9th May.

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.

Sue Saunders

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Congratulations to all those celebrating birthdays this month:

John H (on the 3rd), Ferrand (8th), Yuri & Malcolm C (both on the 9th), Ethel (10th), Mollie H (12th), Rob (14th), Laura D (15th), Lily S (25th), & Candid (29th).

And the following couples have their wedding anniversaries in May:
Dave & Jacqui (on the 15th), Arthur & Joyce (24th), and Andrew & Candid (26th).

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.

Fellowship Walk

Will those people interested in attending the next Fellowship Walk please either contact Tony Thomas or David Crick with their availability. The suggested dates are Wednesday 18th May either starting at 10 am or 2.30pm. Alternatively Thursday 19th May in the afternoon starting at 2pm.

Thank you

Tony T

Dear All,

A note / a reminder - I want to be called by my Given name: **MALVOLIA.**

Malvolia Benham (Mrs.)

True worship doesn't put on a show or make a fuss; true worship isn't forced, isn't half-hearted, doesn't keep looking at its watch, doesn't worry what the person in the next pew is doing. True worship is open to God, adoring God, waiting for God, trusting God even in the dark.

N. T. Wright

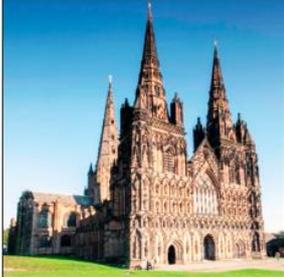
Wednesday at One

4 th May	Rev Peter Bolton	Hope Community Church
11 th May	Rev Anthony Thacker	St Mary's Church, Hinckley
18 th May	Mrs Gwen Coley	Hinckley Methodist Church
25 th May	Rev John Hall	Higham Way Baptist Church

Tuesday Lunch Event: Tuesday 17th May 2022

After over 2 years we are attempting to once again hold the Tuesday lunches at the church. The next meeting will be on 17th May at midday. It will be fish and chips that we will buy in. Due to various reasons many of the previous roles are now no longer able to be carried out so the 17th will be an opportunity to see who would still like to attend on a regular basis, who would be able to help and/or have any suggestions on how we can proceed with this event. If you would like to attend, please let me know.

Sue S



**Festival Theme
Unity**

**Festival of
Church Music**
Lichfield Cathedral
Saturday 21st May 2022
6.30pm
Choir of 200 voices
The Officiating Minister
Rev'd Dr. Janet Wootton
Festival Conductor - Peter J Williams
Organist - Rufus Frowde

Visit the website
<http://www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk>
ADMISSION FREE

News from the Vine

In May we are re-launching our afternoon teas! These comprise of a selection of sandwiches, a freshly baked scone with jam and clotted cream, two sorts of homemade cake and tea or coffee - all for £8.00 per person!! Booking is essential with at least 48 hours notice. We will also have afternoon tea vouchers that can be purchased to give as a gift. We're happy to cater for after-hours bookings for larger groups - just give us a call to discuss your requirements.

In May we expect the latest selection of "Take Note" books, CDs and DVDs - what will be in the next delivery is currently a mystery so all the more reason to drop in and have a browse and pick up one of the free brochures, which details all the books etc! Everything in the Take Note range is at a discounted price, so well worth having a look at.

During the Queen's platinum jubilee, we will close on the bank holidays and over the weekend so we will be closed on June 2nd, 3rd and Saturday 4th.

The Vine is still in need of volunteers so if you know anyone who may be interested in joining our friendly team and helping us to keep on doing what we do, then please point them in our direction - we can be contacted by phone (01455 612345), email (thevinehinckley@hotmail.co.uk) or in person. Thank you

God Bless, *Jessica Harrison* Manager

A Prayer for Ukraine (*Thanks to Christine for sending this in*)

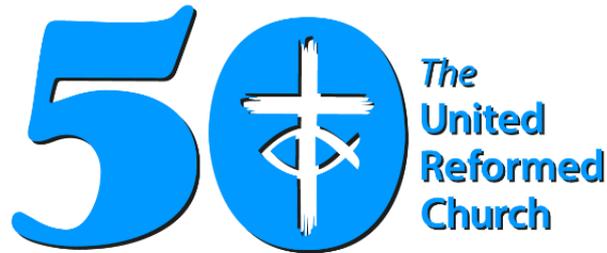
God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen**

Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell

Rotas for May *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.*

	<i>Duty Elder</i>	<i>Door Steward</i>
<i>Sunday 1st May</i>	David Crick	Sue Thain
<i>Sunday 8th May</i>	Sue Saunders	Sally Leggat Ann Martin
<i>Sunday 15th May</i>	Karen Jones	Sue Saunders
<i>Sunday 22nd May</i>	Christine Thomas	Paul Deeming Julie Payne
<i>Sunday 29th May</i>	David Crick	Sue Thain Kathy Smith
<i>Sunday 5th June</i>	Roger Moseley	Sally Leggat Ann Martin

	<i>Coffee</i>	<i>Cashing</i>
<i>Sunday 1st May</i>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	Sally Leggat Malcom Hooke
<i>Sunday 8th May</i>	Sue Thain Karen Jones	Sally Leggat David Crick
<i>Sunday 15th May</i>	Marilyn & Crawford Payne	Sally Leggat David Crick
<i>Sunday 22nd May</i>	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	Sally Leggat Christine Thomas
<i>Sunday 29th May</i>	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	Sally Leggat Tony Thomas
<i>Sunday 5th June</i>	Sue Thain Karen Jones	Sally Leggat Malcom Hooke



Faith – Hope – Love – Since 1972

You are warmly invited to

A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration

**of the United Reformed Church's
50th Anniversary**

**Saturday 1 October, 2022
3pm-5pm**

**Methodist Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate,
London SW1H 9NH, where the Uniting Assembly and
first General Assembly took place**

You are also invited to an Open Church House event on
the same day: 10am-1pm at United Reformed Church
House, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT

Book your free tickets: www.bit.ly/urc50

50th Anniversary website: www.urc.org.uk/50

A hymn for Ascension Day (Thursday May 26th)

*Hail the day that sees him rise,
Ravished from our wishful eyes!
Christ, a while to mortals given,
Re-ascends his native heaven.*

*There the glorious triumph waits:
Lift your heads, eternal gates!
Wide unfold the radiant scene,
Take the King of Glory in!*

*Him though highest heaven receives,
Still he loves the earth he leaves;
Though returning to his throne,
Still he calls the world his own.*

*See! He lifts his hands above;
See! He shows the prints of love;
Hark, His gracious lips bestow,
Blessings on his Church below!*

*Master, parted from our sight,
High above the azure height,
Grant our hearts to you may rise,
Following you beyond the skies.*

*Cast ourselves before your throne,
Here our heaven of heavens to own,
There we shall with you remain,
Partners of your endless reign.*

Charles Wesley

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.
Luke 24:50-53 (NRSV)

Prayer for Bangladesh

Living, loving God,

We pray for the people of Bangladesh who continue to face appalling hardship in the face of poverty, disease and extreme climate events. Grant us the courage to listen to their pain and look at their suffering instead of looking away. We pray that the rich countries of the world will respond with compassion and generosity to the requests for medical equipment and vaccines, and act now to address the causes of climate change which have such devastating consequences for the poor and disposed.

We thank you for the work being carried out in transformational and empowering local projects and pray for love, courage, and daily renewal for all those serving throughout the country. Help us to keep hope alive in your world today. **Amen**

Lindsay Cross (Jesmond URC)

Christian Aid News



CA Quiz. Quiz sheets are now available at the back of the church. The theme this year is: 'find the shopping trolley items'. A suggested minimum donation of £1 per sheet. Closing date Monday 23rd May.

CA week from Sunday 15th May until Saturday 21st May. As a church we no longer take part in the 'house to house' collections but we will have a church collection and envelopes for your donations will be available within the church or in the copy of the magazine. Envelopes will be available throughout May and can be brought to church and placed in the basket provided. Please sign up for the gift aid.

Last year the Methodist churches delivered 'Delivery only envelopes' that could be returned to a given address. This turned out to be a great success and raised almost the same amount as the previous house to house collections.

Malcolm Hooke

Recalling the Ministry for March - April 2022

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

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 20th March 2022

Call to Worship: Psalm 107, v1-9, **Give thanks to the LORD.**

Extracts from Bible Reading from Isaiah 60, v19-21: **Everlasting Light.**

v19f: **The sun will no more be your light by day,...**

**for the Lord will be your everlasting light...your God will be your
Glory...**

**The Lord will be your everlasting light and your days of sorrow will
end.**

v21: **Then all your people will be righteous...they will possess the
land for ever.**

Extracts from John's Gospel 1, v1-14: **The Word Became Flesh.**

v1: **In the beginning was the Word.**

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God

v2f: **He was with God in the beginning...Through Him all things were
made.**

v 4: **In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.**

v5: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not
overcome it.**

v6f: **There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He
came as a witness**

to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

v9: **The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the
world.**

v10: **He was in the world...but the world did not recognise him.**

v12: **Yet to all who did receive him...he gave the right to become
children of God.**

v14: **The Word became Flesh and made his dwelling among us.**

Sermon: **What makes us to be church – part 3**, continuing how the old-testament Tabernacle (“church”) at the centre of the community (“Borough”) served the people as the dwelling place of God -The Everlasting Light – God’s light shining on us. In the Christian world, God’s light comes through Jesus, giving the right of all, to become Children of

God, forming a Royal Priesthood of Believers in God's Covenants. **We joined together in Communion.**

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 27th March 2022

Extracts from Luke's Gospel 15, v1-3 & v11b-32: **The Parable of the Lost Son.**

v1-3: **Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathered around to hear Jesus.**

But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

But Jesus told them this Parable.

v11b: **"There was a man who had two sons.**

v12f: **The younger one said to his father, '...Give me my share of the estate.'**

So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and

there squandered his wealth in wild living.

...He began to be in need...and hired himself out...to feed pigs.

v16: **He longed to fill his stomach with the pods the pigs were eating.**

v17f: **When he came to his senses he said...'I will go back to my father,**

and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

v19: **I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'**

So, humbly, he went back to his father, but his father was filled with compassion and welcomed his return with a celebration.

v24: **'For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'**

v25f: **Meanwhile, the elder son...became angry. So his father said to him...**

v31f: **'My son...you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. We had to celebrate and be glad...this brother of yours...was lost and is found.'** “

The congregation was given opportunities to pray at Prayer Stations set up around the church, to encourage their prayers by providing tactile objects, religious pictures, etc.

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 3rd April 2022

Extracts from Hebrews 10, v19-25: **A Call to Persevere in Faith.**

v19f: Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Holy Place

by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain,

that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience

and having our bodies washed with pure water.

v23: Let hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

v24f: And let us consider how we may spur one another towards love and good deeds,

not giving up meeting together...but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Sermon: **What makes us to be Church 4**, continuing, about the OT-Tabernacle, describing how The Holy of Holies was hidden behind The Curtain, which separates the 'public' area from God's area, the priest's domain. The Hebrews are being told, in chapter 10 that **"Jesus...opened for us...the curtain, that is, his body ..."** Alluding to Jesus death (e.g. Matthew 27, v51f) when **"the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom...and the tombs broke open..."** Resurrection, which the Cross made available to all

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In reflection on the message from Sunday 10th April 2022
Call to worship from Psalm 118, with responses.

Extracts from Luke's Gospel 19, v 28-40: **Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King.**

v28f: **Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached**

Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you,

and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ridden.

Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?'

Say, 'The Lord needs it'"

v35f: **They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on it and put Jesus on it.**

As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

v37: **When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives,**

the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices.

v38: **"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"
"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"**

v39: **Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"**

v40: **"I tell you," he replied, "If they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."**

Talk: **What Shall We Shout About?** All God's Good Gifts. Hallelujah!
All Four Gospels tell the story of Palm Sunday, the start of the journey to the Cross and Easter Sunday. The Resurrection of Jesus promises believers the Gift of Eternal Life.

Brian Beagley

It is not only by the imitation of Christ, but by actual union with Him, that love becomes and remains the driving force of the soul. R H Benson

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 17th May 12noon Tuesday Lunch

Saturday 21st May 6.30pm Free Church Choirs Festival - Lichfield Cathedral

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 using Zoom.

Next meeting Wednesday 11th May (tbc) 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 June edition of Contact by Sunday 22nd May. Articles can be emailed to dghc1@btinternet.com. The next edition of Contact will be available on Sunday 29th May.

Thank you to everybody who has submitted articles this month.

*Church committees consist of three types of people...
those who make things happen,
those who watch things happen and
those who haven't a clue what's happening!*