

Contact

July/August 2023



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

The Borough, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1NL

www.hinckleyurc.org.uk

Minister

☎ 01455 634398 / 07725 747936

Youth & Family Worker

☎ 07930 628011

Church

☎ 01455 637518

Rev Andrew Mudharara

revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk

Rachel Cobb

repoclehcarr@hotmail.com

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	Penny Randriamahavorisoa	

Worship in July/August (10.45 am unless stated)

2 nd July	Rev Andrew Mudharara (Parade Service)
9 th July	Rev Lesley Moseley
16 th July	Rev Andrew Mudharara (<i>including Holy Communion</i>)
23 rd July	Rae Morrall
30 th July	'Songs of Praise'
6 th August	Rev Andrew Mudharara
13 th August	Rev Michael Vidler
20 th August	Rev Andrew Mudharara (<i>including Holy Communion</i>)
27 th August	Nigel Roberts
3 rd September	Rev Andrew Mudharara

Minister's Letter July August 2023

I marvel at how God sees us Christians as expressed by Paul's letter to the Ephesians Church. Paul addresses the Church as the Saints and faithful who are at Ephesus (Ephesians 1:1). Paul is writing to the existing Church and calls them saints and faithful. I would like to believe that is how God sees us as Church, in particular Hinckley. We may not view ourselves as that, or may not be viewed by others as that or view others as that. But that is how God views us in Christ Jesus.

We may be accustomed to confine the word "saint" to persons who tower above their counterparts in holiness and manifest godliness and devoutness. The New Testament never does anything like that but regards all true believers in Jesus Christ as being, therein and thereby, saints. The word at bottom simply signifies separation. Whatever is separated from a mass for a specific purpose would be called, if it were a thing, 'holy.' But there is one special kind of separation which makes a person a saint, and that is separation to God, for His uses, in obedience to His commandment, that He may employ" the called out" which the Church, as He will. We have been called out to belong to God and for Holy use. We have been made "saints" through our faith in Jesus Christ. We may feel not worthy to be called saints but we through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

We are the faithful of God in Jesus Christ. The word "faithful" (Ephesians 1:1) here is not used in the sense of "trustworthy" or in the sense of "fidelity" as it is often employed, but in the sense of "believing" or "having faith" in the Lord Jesus. The apostle addresses those who were firm in the faith - another name for true Christians. We are the faithful of God because of our faith in the one who was, is, and will be, He who knew no sin, Jesus was made to be sin on our behalf, so that in Christ Jesus we might become the righteousness of God (2Corinthians 5:21).

We are who God's word says we are. The Covenant we have with God in Christ Jesus is dependent on the faithfulness of God. "I am convinced and confident of this very thing, that God who has begun a good work in you will continue to perfect and complete it until the day of Christ" (Philippians 1:6)

paraphrased Amplified Bible.
Rev Andrew Mudharara

News of the Family

Please remember in your prayers:

Ruth and her mum Paddy, who are finding life quite hard at this time.

John and Julie P and Julie's mum Beryl.

Sue D: who had a fall but is back in church.

Sally: who has been unwell and is undergoing further treatment.

We also think of:

Ann M, Betty H, Betty L, Dennis, Ethel, Ian S, Jan and Brian B, Jean C, Joan, John P, Joyce, Joyce and Arthur, Keith G, Keith H, Lily S, Margaret and Peter, Nanette S, Nessa, Muriel, Paul and Annette, Pat J, Sue T, Wendy, Margaret and Peter G.

We pray that all the children associated with our church have a wonderful and safe summer holiday.

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 and August:

July

Julie P (on the 2nd), Charles L (on the 7th), Charles L Snr (on the 8th), Chris S (on the 12th), Geoff S (on the 17th), Myra I (on the 21st).

August

Jimmy A (on the 2nd), Carole W (on the 6th), Zoya L (on the 9th), Yabom N (on the 10th), Malcolm H (on the 21st), Ann M (on the 22nd), Tony T (on the 27th).

And best wishes to those celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries:

July

John and Julie P (on the 6th), Crawford and Marilyn P (on the 27th), Chis and Rocky S (on the 27th).

August

Trevor and Joan L (on the 29th), Tony and Christine T (on the 30th).

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.

Family work news – Summer 2023

I have had a busy but wonderful few months, doing various bits of church work, outreach and working alongside the community. It has been also great working with a great team and having the support from the church in prayer and much more.

Our sprouts group on a Sunday morning has 3-6 young people each week – we have recently looked at Acts and Paul and are currently looking at the “I am” sayings of Jesus.

We have been into the Brownies to do a DIY badge with them and the Guides to make bird tables – which was fun – thanks to those who helped. The Sparklers on a Wednesday and the Stay and Play on a Monday are always busy. We have lots of activities, many crafts and the children love the messy play lots (jelly – the best!) The Easter books the children received were much appreciated. We will be having a summer party with each group in July and Jabberjacks will be leading this.

I have enjoyed leading some assemblies at Westfield Infant School – again, one of my favourite parts of the job!! I have also recently completed an online course in Children and Young People’s Mental Health which I hope will benefit some of the families I work with.

We are very blessed to have a great relationship with the Borough council who we continue to work with. We had a great time at the St Georges Day Parade doing crafts with lots of children -a wonderful opportunity to be in the community. We will be doing crafts at the Snapdragon Festival which will be on Wednesday 2nd August until Friday 4th August, 11am – 3pm in Argents Mead. Please, please if you are able to sit at a table and talk, put your name down to volunteer at this wonderful event. It is another great opportunity to meet our community, share the love of Jesus with those who really need to hear it!.

Thank you to everyone who prays, helps and supports the work we do. God bless you all.

Rachel

Songs of Praise

On Sunday 30th July our morning worship will take the form of a 'Songs of Praise' service. If you have a favourite hymn or a particular hymn you would like to be sung, then please tell us and we will try to include it in the service. If you would like to say a few words as to why you've chosen the hymn that would be great, but it's not compulsory!

News from The Vine –

During the second half of July our Saturdays go very quiet as the dance school that we share the building with take their summer holiday. This means that on the Saturdays of 15th, 22nd and 29th July we'll shift our opening hours to 10am-3pm. It also means that if you fancy booking an afternoon tea or coming in to meet friends for lunch, we will be better able to accommodate you than on the usual, hectic Saturdays! Afternoon teas are a bargain at £9.50 a head and include a selection of four types of sandwiches, a large homemade scone with jam and clotted cream and two types of cake plus tea or coffee. We've had some excellent feedback from people who have experienced our afternoon tea and we enjoy making it an occasion of it. Please remember to book in advance by at least 48 hours with the contact details below.

We are still in need of volunteers – if you, or someone you know would be interested in joining our team for one session a week please do get in touch – thevinehinckley@hotmail.co.uk 01455 612345.

God Bless

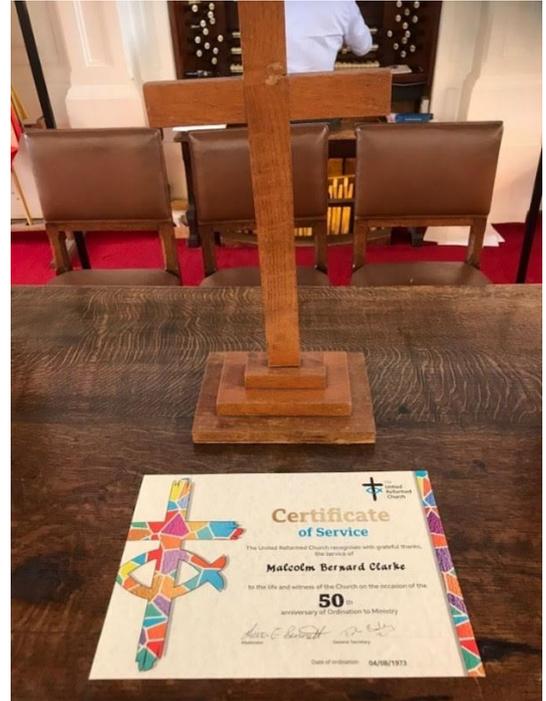
Jessica Harrison, Manager

A message from Karen:



P.S. There will be a Flower Festival at St. Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding on that day.

Fifty Years a Minister



The **Revd Malcolm Clarke** marked the 50th anniversary of his Ordination at a service at **Hinckley URC** on Sunday 4th June. With Synod Moderator the **Revd Geoffrey Clarke** in attendance, Malcolm was presented with a certificate in honour of his half-century's service as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. We add our congratulations to Malcolm on this significant milestone.

(From East Midlands Synod news)

Hope into Action House

The purchase of the Hope into Action house should hopefully be completed soon. By the time you receive your next Contact, the house should be decorated, furnished and ready to receive tenants. Fingers crossed!!

Thank you once again to those of you who are storing things for us. If you think you have something you could donate, please check the list in the vestibule or speak to Karen, Richard, Lesley or myself.

We are also trying to raise money to buy items which have not been donated. There is a table in the front vestibule with plants and chutney for sale. Any donations of cash will be gratefully received by Richard.

Thank you once again for your support. Carole

Baby Basics – Hinckley.

We would just like to say thank you to those who knit for us, pray for us and donate items to this wonderful charity. We have been truly blessed by everyone's generosity. In 2022 Hinckley were able to give out 23 referrals to help local families with everything they need for a new baby. In 2023, we have already supported 25 families and have more referrals ready to go out. The need is great in our area so thank you for your support.

In April, we were delighted to go to London for the National Baby Basics conference where we met with the other 50+ centres in the country.

Amazingly, Baby Basics UK supported 43,622 families and children in 2022, and we know all of the centres have increased their numbers so far this year. Please keep praying and if you want to know more – speak to Rachel Cobb.

Thank you again

Rachel and Claire – Baby Basics – Hinckley.

Commitment for Life Prayer for the month

Commitment
for **Life**

*Action Prayer with Greta – Israel and the occupied
Palestinian territory*

Bubble Prayers

Equipment – small pots of bubbles. Praying with bubbles can be fun, but can be best done outside as if you spill it then it can be very slippery and hard to clean up.

God loves you and wants to take care of you. Tell God something that you are worried about or are fearful about and ask God to help you. Blow the bubbles and burst the bubbles as a sign that you are giving your worry and fear to God. Looking at the colours in the bubbles, thank God for the world and wonders of creation. Amen

Prayer

Dear God, we thank you for the freedom we enjoy in this country, that we can walk to school relatively safely, and we have access to hot and cold running water 24/7. We pray for your protection over all children who live in constant fear each day. May they know that you are with them and give them strength and courage to face whatever the day brings. Amen

Christian Aid News.



£370 was raised for our church collection during May for CA week and £35 was raised for the CA quiz. The quiz was won by Mollie H who was the only person to get all the answers correct.

The amount was considerably down on previous years and reflects the demands that we all have, but many thanks for whatever donations you have given.

Christian Aid Charity Curry Night at the Windsor Tiffin, Burbage on Wednesday 26th July at 7.00pm. Ticket price £22. Tickets are limited and will quickly be taken up. Please see Malcolm Hooke if you would like to go.

Rotas *If you can help on the Door Steward rota, please see Penny Randriamahavorisoa; 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 2nd July</i>	Sue Saunders	Jacqui Brown Heather Crick
<i>Sunday 9th July</i>	Karen Jones	Richard Benham Sue Saunders
<i>Sunday 16th July</i>	Christine Thomas	Paul Deeming Ann Martin
<i>Sunday 23rd July</i>	David Crick	Kathy Smith Sue Thain
<i>Sunday 30th July</i>	Roger Moseley	Sally Leggat Julie Payne
<i>Sunday 6th August</i>	Sue Saunders	Jacqui Brown Heather Crick

Sunday 13th August	Karen Jones	Richard Benham Sue Saunders
Sunday 20th August	Christine Thomas	Paul Deeming Julie Payne
Sunday 27th August	David Crick	Kathy Smith Sue Thain
	Coffee	Flowers
Sunday 2nd July	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	
Sunday 9th July	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	C. Mashiri
Sunday 16th July	Ruth Griffiths Karen Jones	
Sunday 23rd July	Carole Wallis Jacqui Brown	R.Cobb
Sunday 30th July	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	
Sunday 6th August	Sylvia Ellis Chris Sharrock	S.Ellis
Sunday 13th August	Ruth Griffiths Karen Jones	
Sunday 20th August	Carole Wallis Jacqui Brown	K.Smith
Sunday 27th August	Christine Thomas Ann Martin	

Wednesday at One

July 5 th	Rev Andrew Hall	St Catherine, Burbage
July 12 th	Rev Simon Wearn	Holy Trinity, Hinckley
July 19 th	Fr. Frank Daly	St. Peter's, Hinckley
July 26 th	Mrs Anne Hayward	Holy Trinity, Hinckley
August 2 nd	Mr John Moore	St. John, Hinckley
August 9 th	Rev Tom Brown	St. John, Hinckley
August 16 th	Rev George Lea	Hinckley URC
August 23 rd	Rev Solomon Bentu	Tilton Road Pentecostal, Burbage
August 30 th	Rev Andrew Mudharara	Hinckley URC

Warm Space Drop-in (Thursday pm)

July 6th Chris and Sylvia
July 13th Ruth and Ann
July 20th Kathy and Phillip
July 27th Sue and Sylvia

August 3rd Chris and Ann
August 10th Ruth and Phillip
August 17th Kathy and Sylvia
August 24th Sue and Ann
August 31st Chis and Phillip

September 7th Ruth and Sylvia

News from Hinckley Area Foodbank June 2023

Dear Friends,

We would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported us over the difficult times we have all experienced in the last few years.

7177 emergency food parcels were given out last year; that's 64,593 meals. 1/3 of these went to children under the age of 16.

In the last financial year, 2022-23, we saw a significant increase in people using Hinckley Area Foodbank. We saw a 32% increase in people compared with a 37% increase nationally during the year. You can find see

the Trussell Trust latest statistics at <https://www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/latest-stats/>

With this increase in demand, we are constantly looking for donations to keep pace with the need. If you can help by putting a tin or packet in the collection bins we have in churches or at supermarkets, we would be very grateful.

Our most wanted items list includes:

- Cereals 13-16 portions
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned vegetables, all sizes
- Tinned fruit, all sizes
- Tinned or instant custard
- Tinned meat
- Tinned fish, all sizes
- UHT or dried milk
- UHT juice or squash
- Shampoo
- Male and female deodorant
- Nappies sizes 4,5 and 6

Other ways to help.

The Trussell Trust have launched their Guarantee the Essentials campaign:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-involved/campaigns/guarantee-our-essentials/>

In the last financial year, food banks in the Trussell Trust network have seen the highest ever level of need, distributing close to 3 million (2,986,203) emergency food parcels — including more than a million to children. This is the most parcels the network has ever distributed in a single year.

Our social security system should support anyone in need of help, but right now it's not providing enough income to cover the cost of life's essentials, with most people at food banks in receipt of Universal Credit.

We're calling on the UK government for an 'Essentials Guarantee' to make sure that the basic rate of Universal Credit is at least enough to afford the essentials we all need, such as food, household bills and travel costs.

You can find out more by following the above link.

Thank you

Julie Baker, Project Manager

Recalling the Ministry for May - June 2023

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

-----000-----

In reflection on the message for Sunday 21st May 2023.

Ascension

Call to Worship, Psalm 68, 32-35

<https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=554373741>

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the LORD.

Today's Reading is from John 17, v20-26. Jesus Prays for All Believers.
Note: in the previous passage (v9-19) Jesus is Praying for His Disciples.

<https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=554373818>

Sermon: The Ascension Prayer. In the highly pastoral prayer, Jesus is aware of the difficulties the disciples will have after his going and prays for God to help. The Holy Spirit is being sent to help them so they will keep confidence to continue to preach Christ-Crucified to the world. Jesus prays that the Love and Power he receives from the Father will be passed on to the disciples (inherited by them) and so to all believers, who, down the ages, will jointly inherit Christian Love and Forgiveness. Knowing how much we matter to God, as individuals, in our Church and how much we are Loved by God, we can show the Love of Jesus to people we meet in our lives.

Communion was spread on His Table and we all shared in the Love of Jesus.

-----000-----

In reflection on the message for Sunday 28th May 2023.

Pentecost

Call to Worship, Joel 2 28-29 & 32. The Day of the LORD

Extracts from Luke 24, v36-49. Jesus appears to the Disciples

<https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=554373943>

Extracts from Acts 2, v1-13. The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost.

<https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=554374081>

Address: It is obvious that the disciples did not understand the resurrection events. When Jesus appeared to them, he was able to calm their troubled minds, reminding them of His teachings that the Scriptures prophesied that the Messiah would come, and rise on the third day. He asked them to stay in Jerusalem because His Holy Spirit would come to empower them, including for the forgiveness of sins. So the reading from Acts 2, in which they witnessed the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, they were strengthened in their faith and confidence to stand-up-for-Jesus in their task ahead. The power of His Spirit in them was clearly impressing the folk from the many countries who had come to the Festival in Jerusalem.

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message for Sunday 4th June 2023.

Call to Worship for Trinity Sunday:

Extracts from The Soft Petals of Grace by Thom M Shuman, 2013-2016.

Called:

To sing to the One who has created all that is good.

To follow the One who meets us every moment of our lives.

To be taught by the Spirit, who moves in us.

Extracts from 2, Corinthians Ch 13. V11-14, Final Greetings.

v11: Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

v12f: Greet one another with a holy kiss. All God's people here send their greeting, v14: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Extracts from Matthew, Ch. 28, v 16-20. The Great Commission.

v18f: Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, v20: and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Sermon: "Are You With Us?"

God the creator is with us always – not just when we are in the church – but every moment of each day and night. ("You have searched me, Lord, and you know me..." : Psalm 139) God is in Jesus who came from God for

three decades 2000 years ago, and through the cross meets us in our lives ever since, bringing love and peace. God is in the Holy Spirit who is in us as our guardian and teacher. Our Almighty God is awesome and is with us always.

A Certificate for Golden Ordination was presented, by Rev Geoffrey Clarke, The Moderator of the East Midlands Synod, to Rev Malcolm Clarke, who was previously minister of this church for many years.

-----OOO-----

In reflection on the message for Sunday 11 th June 2023
The Service began with a welcome “May the Lord be with you”. A repeated blessing (sung) “Peace to you”. And a Psalm.

Extracts from John 14, v23-31, God’s Love and Peace.

<https://bible.oremus.org/?ql=554374374>

Sermon “Peace.”. We often give “going-away presents” as a sign of friendship. This is what Jesus is doing in the reading. The disciples were unhappy that Jesus was leaving – they did not understand why. In v27, “Do not be troubled,” Jesus said, “Peace I give you.” It was Jesus’ “Bequest” to them (a word we would use in our wills). “Peace” is Christ’s special gift to all who believe in him, delivered by the Holy Spirit (v26).

To people who are non-believers, peace simply means lack of conflicts (wars). This ignores the peace Jesus promises his followers which is shared in our Christian Church families. Jesus’ peace is personal as well as global. (“Beyond all understanding.”)

-----OOO-----

Thanks to Brian Beagley for summarising these services for us.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 1st July – 12 mile sponsored walk at Bradgate Park

Wednesday 26th July – Christian Aid Charity Curry Night at the Windsor Tiffin

Wednesday 2nd -Friday 4th August – Snapdragon Festival, Argents Mead

Sunday 27th August – Open garden at Stoke Golding

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

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 20th August. Articles can be emailed. The next edition of Contact will be available by Sunday 27th August.