

Contact

November 2024

WELCOME to the November edition of CONTACT, the newsletter for those associated with Hinckley United Reformed Church.

God's Peace

As our spiritual view starts to turn to the Holy Land at this time of year, we invite you to pray unceasingly into the current situation in the Middle East. **Psalm 34:14**

***Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.***



Colchester Calling

Andrew's ministry at Hinckley URC by Church Secretary, Christine Thomas.

On Sunday 6th October our minister Andrew announced to the congregation that he had accepted a call to go to Plume Avenue and Tiptree URCs in Colchester and would be moving on in the new year.

Although we knew that he would not be staying with us long term I think I can say on everyone's behalf that the news came as a surprise, a shock even.

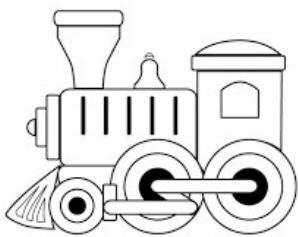
Andrew's service of Ordination and Induction to Hinckley and Daventry was held on 28th July 2018 following a unanimous vote in favour from our church meeting so he has been our minister for six and a half years.

Continued overleaf

We all know that there is a shortage of ministers and that we have to get used to the idea that we can no longer have the luxury of a minister all to ourselves but the reality is difficult to adjust to. Andrew and his family are very much loved and respected by all our church family and we will miss them very much. However we recognise that this is God's calling and give thanks that Andrew has followed that calling. He has been instrumental in building us up in faith and encouraging us to be confident in God's plan for our future.

Colchester Calling (cont'd)

We have benefited from his pastoral care, his wisdom and life experience, his encouragement and, not least, his dynamic preaching and strong faith. Our prayers will go with Andrew, Candid and Tavonga as they adjust to a new life in Colchester and we give thanks to God for them. Please pray also for faith in God's guidance for our church as we move into unknown territory.



2024 Toy Appeal



This festive appeal has been growing rapidly since launching in 2009, and marks a 'huge' partnership effort between Hinckley Council, County Council, Salvation Army, Hinckley Area Food Bank, and Work Link, as well as numerous other supporters.

It helps provide toys and food vouchers to hundreds of struggling families, thanks to the generosity and support of local groups, churches, businesses, and the public.

Donation bins around the town will also sport a QR code of the appeal's Amazon wish list, where donors can choose a toy, order it online, and send it directly to the organisers.

Alternatively, come along and join us to donate at our TOY SERVICE on Sunday 1st December (10:45am).

All toys donated should be brand new & toys for teenage boys especially welcome.

The logo for 'The Vine' features the words 'THE' and 'VINE' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Between the two words is a stylized white vine with several leaves, all set against a solid black rectangular background.

**Jessica
Harrison**

News from The Vine - Thank you to everyone who made "Bookshop Day" special - we always enjoy having customers who buy books! This month we will have more Christmas stock on the shelves in the form of ornaments, decorations and other festive gifts. We still have plenty of cards available as well as advent calendars etc. We will also have new stock in gifts and greetings cards so do keep an eye on our social media for updates (or pop in to see what's new!). We expect the Christmas selections of discounted books in the "Take Note" and Kids Corner" ranges this month and also the winners and nominees from this year's Christian Book Awards, which will also be on special offer, so there will be lots of inspiration for gifts! If you're not on social media but would like to be kept updated we do have an email list where updates are sent out so please let us know if you would like yours to be added to it. We are still seeking to recruit an Assistant Manager, so please keep this need in your prayers. Thank you for all your support.



November's Monthly Prayer Walk will take place on Friday 29th (9am) at the top of Castle Street, Hinckley (where the pedestrian area starts).

This is an opportunity for us to come together, regardless of whatever church (or none) we attend, to pray for our community & the people in it.

The prayer walk ends at 9:45am at our church where you can have some refreshments & are welcome to join our ecumenical prayer group at 10am.

GRAYS DRAMA ACADEMY students had an absolute blast performing their production of Shrek the Musical to a full house on Monday, October 14th! The audience was fabulous, and the United Reformed Church has such amazing acoustics. It was a pleasure to perform there. We look forward to performing our Christmas extravaganza 'A Christmas Cracker' on Monday, December 16th, and we thank the church for allowing us to stage our shows there. Here is our set along with some pictures of the students performing Shrek.

Jo, GDA



BACKPACK APPEAL



Do you have a backpack you seldom use? Do you have toiletries, a torch, a sleeping bag, some new socks, hat or gloves to put in it? Please donate your items to Paul (Community & Outreach)) so we can put together backpacks for those in our community sleeping rough, especially as the nights get colder.

NOT SO LONELINESS OF THE LONG-DISTANCE RUNNER

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers & support before & during my first half marathon. Knowing that God was with me got me through! I am so happy that I completed it in 2:23:37. Lots of love Jacqueline. Xx





AlterNativity

2024



Sat 9th Nov |
10am-2pm

Mary Forryan Centre
St Peter's Church
LE10 1LW.

AlterNativity is an annual event held on a Saturday in November with the aim of promoting a different view of Christmas giving. It 'aids' those in need or difficulty at Christmas by offering 'living gifts' for you to give your family and friends as an alternative Christmas gift to help the poor, hungry, sick and homeless. National and local charities have a stand at the event and tell you about the gifts they are offering and who they will help. Local and international charities that have proved popular in past years have been invited to partake again and we are currently waiting for the full set of responses. In most cases the gifts you chose will make a real difference in the lives of the beneficiaries – and hopefully bring a smile to the faces of all those involved in this 'giving triangle'

The plight of the thousands of refugees worldwide having had to run away from violence and cruelty in their own countries is still a regular feature on our news bulletins and is not going to go away. Their fate in the long term has yet to be decided and will clearly ask a lot of all governments and peoples, but in the meantime there are more pressing needs – food and survival kits. Usually we have one or two international charities providing these items, which can be supported at AlterNativity.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We collect items for the local food bank and for vulnerable people in the community, sometimes sleeping rough.

Are you able to donate? Our local community food bank has a particular need for these items:

baked beans, pasta sauce, biscuits, small tins of fruit and veg, 400g tins of veg, fruit juice, chocolate, confectionary.



HARVEST SERVICE

David Crick

Thanks to everybody who donated harvest produce for Hinckley Foodbank and Lawrence House. 76.8 kg of food with a nominal value of £182.02 was given to the Foodbank (plus a donation of £10), and a similar amount was taken to Lawrence House. It was all gratefully received and will help meet considerable need.

LAWRENCE HOUSE

Phillip Lindley

Lisa Bexton of the Hinckley Homeless Group has written on behalf of the staff, residents and Management Committee to thank the Church for the kind and generous donation of £10 and food from the Harvest Festival (6th October). She adds that they are grateful for the continued support received from the church in providing for the young people staying in Lawrence House.



HURC COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Don't be on your own Christmas Day!

Let us celebrate the birthday of Jesus together!

We will be holding a day of activities, party games and even Christmas lunch at the church, following the Christmas Day service.

Do you know someone that would benefit? Please tell us so we can book a place for them.

See Paul or Kate for more details.



Hinckley Christmas Lights Switch On (Friday) & Tin Hat Fair



*4pm Friday 22nd November (Switch On)
to Saturday 23rd November 2024*

Hinckley United Reformed Church will be holding festive activity tables, craft stalls and serving hot beverages. Friday Only

Sign Up Today



RAINBOWS | BROWNIES | GUIDES

Barwell, Burbage, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Market Bosworth, Sapcote, Sheepy Magna, Stoney Stanton

www.girlguidingleicestershire.org

Now is the time to order the **URC Reform magazine** for 2025. The yearly subscription is £29.50.

In an effort to contain costs the number of copies will be reduced from 10 per year to 8 per year at 6 week intervals but the content of each copy will increase so that there will still be 400 pages a year. I have always found the magazine informative and thought provoking and having read the October issue on AI challenging.

Please contact Malcolm Hooke if you wish to subscribe for the Reform Magazine.

I have 2 copies of the URC Prayer handbook left so again please contact Malcolm Hooke or Sue Saunders if you wish to have a copy.



A CHRISTMAS CRACKER

MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER 6-7PM

Tickets Available

@ HINCKLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH LE10 1NL

2024 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES

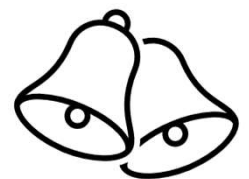
1 Dec (10:45am) Toy Service & Parade Service

8 Dec (7pm) Blue Christmas Service

22 Dec (4pm) Carol Service Sunday (no morning service)

24 Dec (7pm) Christmas Eve Communion

25 Dec (10am) Christmas Day Family Worship





The
United
Reformed
Church
East Midlands
Synod



Mental Health Training

Saturday 9 November 2024

10.00am - 3.30pm

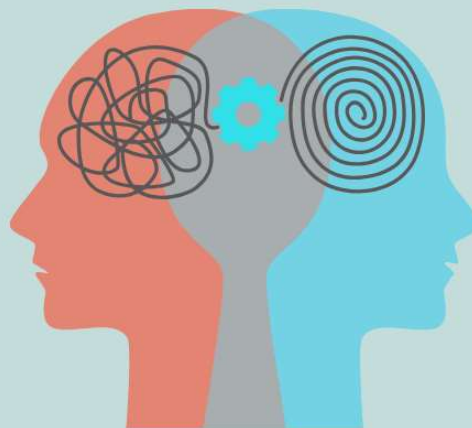
St Andrew's URC, Chesterfield

How can we recognise
when someone is
struggling?

**SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH
THEIR MENTAL HEALTH
IN CHURCH**

What is the best
way to help?

How can our church be
a place where people
feel cared for?



What does the Bible
say about mental
health?

With Dr Cheryl Hawkins from Encourage Mental Health
A workshop focusing on how we can welcome, support and disciple those
who struggle with their mental health in our church and communities

To book your place please visit: <https://bit.ly/urcmentalhealth>
or call Hannah Holmes at the Synod Office: 0115 9609241



From Independent Chapel to Hinckley United Reformed Church

(part 5) By Phillip Lindley

The Westfield Congregational Church In 1946 it was decided to erect a prefabricated building on a site in John Nichols Street, to serve as a Sunday School for an area being developed as a housing estate. Teachers and leaders were supplied from the church in The Borough.

Late in 1949 a request was made by the members at Westfield (the name adopted for the building) to form themselves into an independent body. In 1950 the Westfield Congregational Church became independent.

In 1963 the Westfield Congregational Church members voted to re-unite with the Borough Church. The Assemblies of God Church then rented the building for a number of years.

A Resolution was passed in 1985 “*that the land and buildings formerly known as the Westfield Congregational Church ... be sold and the proceeds used for the redevelopment of the buildings of Hinckley URC.*” The building was sold to J.H.Mason & Son in 1986, and houses now occupy the site.



Congregational Church to United Reformed Church In 1970 there were proposals to form a union of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches in England, and in 1971 the national assemblies of the Congregational Church voted 89% in favour of the Union and the Presbyterian's 79.3% in favour. The scheme was referred back to local churches for their decision on whether or not to join the proposed United Reformed Church. The Church Meeting at Hinckley Congregational Church voted on the Scheme of Union on 27th October 1971, but failed to raise the required majority.

In 1972 a Special Church Meeting on 25th October voted in favour of the Scheme of Union, and in 1973 the Leicestershire District of the new United Reformed Church had 20 churches, 11 ministers and 1,528 members, with the Hinckley church having the second largest membership (after St.Stephen's, Leicester).

Contacts & Social Media

HINCKLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
The Borough | Hinckley | Leicestershire | LE10 1NL



01455 637518



www.hinckleyurc.org.uk



Hinckley United Reformed Church "The Borough Church"



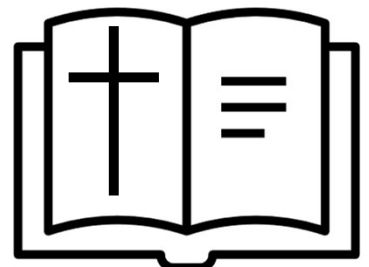
hinckley_urc

ROLE	CONTACT	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MINISTER	Rev Andrew Mudharara	01455 634398 / 07725 747936	revandrew@hinckleyurc.org.uk
FAMILY	Rachel Cobb	07930 628011	repooolehcar@hotmail.com
OUTREACH & COMMUNITY	Paul Wake	07591 527942	community@hinckleyurc.org.uk
SAFEGUARDING	Chris Sharrock	-	chris.sharrock@ntl.world

NOVEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES

Speakers for Sunday Services, starting 10:45am

- 3rd Rev Andrew Mudharara / Rev George Lea
Thanksgiving (Memorial) Service
- 10th Rev Andrew Mudharara Remembrance Sunday
- 17th Rev Lesley Moseley (Communion)
- 24th Nigel Roberts
- 1st Dec Toy Service



- MONDAYS** **STAY & PLAY** | Children's Playgroup
Welcome to all with children 5yrs & under
10am-noon (side entrance). Term-time only.
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRE | Help &
support with practising English for speakers of other
languages. noon—2pm (side entrance)
- WEDNESDAYS** **SPARKLERS** | Children's Playgroup (5yrs & below)
Group primarily for childminders with 5yrs & under
9:30-11:30am (side entrance). Term-time only.
WEDNESDAY @ONE | ecumenical service for all
1pm-1:30pm (front entrance)
- THURSDAYS** **DROP-IN** Chat & Coffee/Tea. All welcome
2-4pm (front entrance)
- FRIDAYS** **PRAYER GROUP** | All welcome
10-11am (front entrance)
- SUNDAYS** **SERVICE** | All welcome. Children's group.
10:45am-noon (front entrance)

MONTHLY PRAYER WALK | All welcome

Friday 29th November at the top of Castle Street, Hinckley.
Ending at the church @9:45am.

HOUSEGROUP Please see David Crick & Rob Cobb for details.

Wednesday @One Services

Wednesday at One services are a half hour ecumenical service available to all, regardless of church or doctrine. Starting at 1pm.

Weds 6th Nov Daniel Cheyne, Hinckley URC

Weds 13th Nov Robin Hanford, Hinckley Great Meeting

Weds 20th Nov Solomon Bentu, Pentecostal Church Centre, Burbage

Weds 27th Nov Andrew Hall, St Catherine's, Burbage

For more information, please contact Charles Leggat 07754702241

All are welcome with teas & coffees served after the 30-minute service.