

Dates for your Diary

Until We Can Meet Again:

Every Sunday:

"Sunday Service" - From the United Reformed Church website to read or listen to as a podcast; including prayers, readings, hymns and sermon.

Every Day:

"Daily Devotions" - Short Bible Reading, Reflection and Prayer available from the United Reformed Church website to read or listen to as a podcast.

Always:

These are of course, in addition to what we are most grateful for; the help and support of our own local Churches and those that work tirelessly in, with and around them.

Finally:

As ever; many thanks to all of those who have contributed to this issue of Good News magazine; especially at this strange and difficult time.

The Good News

From; Long Buckby, Creton,
Crick and Kilsby
(North West Northants Pastorate)



June 2020 — August 2020

Long Buckby

Secretary:
Lucy Faulkner 07738 156722

Junior Church:
Norman Chandler 01327 843813
Peggy Bond 01327 842234

Creton

Secretary:
Carolyn Wilson 01604 505650

Crick

Secretary:
Brenda Morgan 01788 822564



Kilsby

Secretary & Treasurer:
Val Janes 01788 822751

Newsletter Editor: Andrew Bodsworth
07758 165 030 editor@longbuckbyurc.org.uk

Minister:
Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
minister@chezkemp.net

A Message & News from the Minister

Shut-In but not Shut-up

Dear Friends,

Greetings from my computer to all of yours across the Pastorate!

I have been told that space is not so limited on an Electronic magazine so I may be writing at some length!

Are we reassured by slogans and euphemisms? You do not need me to tell you these are "challenging times" nor that we need to "stay in" and "support the NHS"- the catchphrases threaten to become a nervous tic, dropped into conversations along with discussions of how you are getting provisions and where self-raising flour might be lurking! I offer you instead three W's.

Witness

I think of my life as mundane, not at all extraordinary and yet along with, I don't know how many other people, I took part in a bit of unexpected history. In early May I was part of a virtual congregation as we Inducted the Rev'd Geoffrey Clarke into the post of Moderator of East Midlands Synod.

My computer screen displayed the protagonists- each sitting in their own home as in turn they spoke. The Rev'd Nigel Uden, one of our two Moderators of General Assembly presided. The right hands of fellowship offered were virtual; we didn't sing any hymns; some words from the Methodist Welcome service were included and Geoffrey's wife Judith shared the settee with him as she read one of the lessons; their sons and at one point the family dog put in an appearance- it was an Induction unlike any other and yet exactly like every other- the uniqueness of the moment held within the history of those who have gone before- so Welcome to our new Synod Moderator. Please pray for him and Derek our new Training Officer as they make virtual contact with the synod and each begin this exciting new stage of their Christian journey.



For All Churches

Church funds

Needless to say bills are still coming in, for Ministry and Mission Payments due to the United Reformed Church in London and the Synods and other general items. Long Buckby's outgoings are about £1000 a month.

Thank you

In the lock down treasurers are grateful that a number of people have arranged to pay money into the church bank accounts already.

Tax refunds Gift Aid and GASDS

We collect Tax refunds on church collections and other gifts to the churches The Government gives us a quarter extra on any Gift Aided money or GASDS money. The GASDS system enables us to claim on any gift received that is £30 or less in any one payment that is not already a Gift Aided item. Anything given over £30 does not attract Government help through the GASDS system.

Your help will be appreciated

It will please the Treasurers if you could help by paying in any contributions to your church. Your Treasurer will be happy to receive cash or cheques or better still the bank details can be provided so that you can pay money in direct. It will help if non Gift Aided items were £30 or less each time you paid money in!

For All Churches

Meet Azrah* from Pakistan (Taken from a TEAR Fund Letter)

Azrah is 26 and lives with her four children. She felt isolated - most of her time was spent on housework and looking after her children. In the monsoon season there was lots of extra work in the fields which she had to help out with too.

Tearfund's local partner invited Azrah to join a Women's Empowerment Group in her local village. These groups bring women together to learn, socialise and grow in confidence. They are vital in helping people to overcome poverty as they give women the tools needed to transform their own lives and the lives of those around them.

At her group, Azrah was taught sanitation practices - like hand-washing and boiling water before cooking - to protect her family against preventable diseases. She also learnt about how to prepare for and keep her family safe in emergencies. This is because Pakistan is a high risk country for natural disasters. Azrah also learnt how to prevent child marriage and received teaching on her rights as a woman.

Azrah's life is now unrecognisable. Our local partners appointed her to support and oversee groups in 16 villages near where she lives. In one group, she taught women advocacy skills so the women could apply for a local government grant and transform their community. 'By attending training, I have started to believe in my own capabilities,' Azrah says. 'I aim to transform the lives of women in the villages I visit, so that they can live their life with liberty, and in the pursuit of happiness.'

A Message & News from the Minister cont'd

It made me think of the conspiracy theorists who claim there never was a moon landing- but just an elaborate televised "landing" in a studio. Some people like to watch soap operas and reality shows on TV and sometimes those people they do not know become more real to them than their own family and neighbours. Those of us living alone during a time of isolation may find technology provides an invaluable link with family and friends... I remained in my own home to witness the service of Induction, yet I have no doubts that it actually took place and that Geoffrey is now well and truly "in-post".

Elders of our churches have been getting familiar with Virtual meetings and decided it felt good to be able to see and hear each other, in spite of our initial teething problems.

It's not possible to deliver the magazine to everyone any more than it's possible to call in on each other, but hopefully everyone has been contacted regularly by their Elder on the phone as one means of pastoral support.

Worship

It now seems likely that we shall not be able to return to worship in our buildings, as we formerly have done, for some time to come. For now this is our "Normal". I hope you have been finding opportunity to worship. Several people have spoken to me about how they worship each Sunday.

There are various services which folk have been enjoying weekly; on TV and the Radio and from the Internet. The URC daily devotions team have provided a complete URC service (technically a "podcast") each Sunday (complete with hymns!). If you would like to join with others in that please let your elder know and we can either point you to the way to listen "live" to the service, or if that is not possible, we can download the entire service as a typed document and print it off for you. The URC service features a monthly celebration of Holy Communion which is quite special.



A Message & News from the Minister cont'd

Widening Horizons

It is also possible to download booklets that have been put together which might be used as a group study (although they are dated through this year, they could be used any time.)- Janet Tollington's studies on Jonah and the current studies on the Basis of Union are not as dry as you might fear!...to read alone or with others...anyone feel like doing a Zoom Bible Study? Think of it like a Book Club.

So this is a new normal for now. I've worshipped in an armchair, I've witnessed an Induction too from my study. I've Zoomed with the Elders, and next week will be Zooming with an Ecumenical national committee I sit on. Zoom also brings my Pilates class into my lounge! In July I shall be meeting our new Moderator and Training Officer via "lifesizecloud". It's all a learning curve.

Carolyn is learning German, and Sylvia's family have weekly family get-together's and quizzes across the country and world.... who said you can't teach old dogs new tricks (myself included)- we old-uns are having fun as silver-surfers.

I share you with a prayer with maritime references which Geoffrey brought to his Induction Service.



Long Buckby News

Gwennie Wilks 1925 -2020

The funeral has taken place of Gwennie at the Rugby Crematorium. A memorial service will be organised by Elizabeth when we are able to use the Church again for large numbers.

Gwennie was the longest serving member and elder in our church by a very long way. Baptised and Married in the then Congregational Church.

Now we look forward to the opportunity celebrate her life in due course. In the mean time we remember a very active woman who was involved in so many things in Long Buckby. W I Darby and Joan Football Cricket Plays. With all these activities we also know that she was a caring family person enjoy many happy years with her Husband Charlie and the ever increasing family.

In the mean time we extend our love to Theresa Marilyn Daphne and Diane and all the grandchildren and Great Grand Children.

The following usual events and activities are **currently suspended**; but we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible:

- ◆ **Charity Coffee Morning** on the first Saturday each month, 10.30 am—11.30 am (Not January)
- ◆ **Ladies Circle** first Wednesday each month at 2.15 pm.
- ◆ **Lunch Club**—2nd Friday each month 12.30 pm for 1.00 pm

Long Buckby News

Flower Rota from August (if the church reopens)

It's not really expected that the church will open before August. If it does the flower folk will be hearing from Peggy

2 nd	August	Lucy Faulkner
9 th		Myra Griffiths
16 th		Andrew Bosworth
23 rd		Lucy Faulkner
30 th		Group Service at Crick



Birthdays

June	Andrew Bosworth Sue Cross Alan Ketley
July	Myra Griffiths
August	Sophie Ellison

For Prayer: This quarter we asked to remember

- A. Youngsters who are feeling the pressure of life because the Virus has altered the way they study.
- B. Those known to us who are in Care homes. May they be kept safe.
- C. Remember that we are in a group of four churches. Please pray for vision for our church and the other three churches. May work not become too great a burden.
- D. The way forward in times that are completely new to us all.
- E. Think your way round the church and pray for the Congregation Organist and preachers.

A Message & News from the Minister cont'd

Prayer attributed (though not collaborated) to Francis Drake- used at Geoffrey Clarke's Induction 2020:

Disturb us, Lord, when
we are too well pleased with ourselves,
when our dreams have come true
because we have dreamed too little,
when we arrived safely
because we sailed too close to the shore.
Disturb us, Lord, when
with the abundance of things we possess
we have lost our thirst
for the waters of life;
having fallen in love with life,
we have ceased to dream of eternity
and in our efforts to build a new earth,
we have allowed our vision
of the new Heaven to dim.
Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas
where storms will show your mastery;
where losing sight of land,
we shall find the stars.
We ask you to push back
the horizons of our hopes;
and to push into the future
in strength, courage, hope, and love.
For this we ask in the name of our captain, who is Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Continue to pray for one another and know that you are held in love.

Shalom,



Creaton News

Like other Churches, although not able to meet, Creaton URC have been making use of Zoom video conferencing for Elders Meetings and Margaret expresses "the hope that you will hold us all in your prayers as we will you; Blessings and Peace"

The following usual events and activities are
currently suspended

but we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible:

Poppies Coffee Shop:

From 9.00 am to 12 noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Poppies is closed on Thursdays and Tuesdays. Everyone is very welcome



For the Men:

Creaton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon



'Pilots'

meets on a Monday night in term time from 7.00pm.
Details are available from the Church Secretary.

You are warmly welcome to join us for Sunday Worship & Junior Church.

For more information on the activities at Creaton United Reformed Church, please visit the Creaton website www.creaton.org.uk

Lectionary Readings contd.

August 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - August 2, 2020

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7,16
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost - August 9, 2020

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - August 16, 2020

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - August 23, 2020

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

Thirteenth after Pentecost - August 30, 2020

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28



Lectionary Readings contd.

July 2020

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - July 5, 2020

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalm 45: 11-18

or Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - July 12, 2020

Genesis 25:19-34

Psalm 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 19, 2020

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalm 139: 1-11, 22-23

or Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - July 26, 2020

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

or Psalm 128

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52



Kilsby News

Mission Statement

The purpose of this church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for all people of any age to worship and to learn about the faith.

Val passes on the sad news that Mrs Dorothy Whitehead peacefully passed away in hospital at the age of 96. Although not able to attend, given the current circumstances, prayers and poems were shared from individual homes at the time of the funeral with the support of Cecil and Pam Gill.

The following usual events and activities are

currently suspended

but we look forward to their return as soon as it is possible:

Community café

The purpose of the café is to provide somewhere where you can meet up with friends old and new to have a chat and enjoy refreshments together. Held every Monday and Thursday from 9.00am until midday.

Sewing Group

The sewing group meets at 2pm every other Friday, contact Val for details.

Scrabble Club

Wednesdays at 1.00pm

Crick News

Mission Statement

The purpose of this Church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for people of all ages to worship God and to grow in faith.

Greetings to you all from Crick,

I do hope you are all keeping well during the lockdown and avoiding the virus.

I think we are all discovering ways to keep ourselves busy - gardens have never been so well weeded!

Others have been busy with wool and knitting needles; there is even a beautiful corona quilt.



We look forward to resuming our usual coffee mornings and lunches.

We were looking forward to celebrating the 200th anniversary of our present building in August, with a joint service and lunch. Perhaps 2021 will be a better year to celebrate after all.

My husband's lockdown project has been to write a history of the chapel, and non-conformism, in Crick. We are still researching a list of ministers; we have reached 1950, and are now relying on people's memories!

We are doing our best to keep in contact with each other and we are all well. After a long spell in hospital, Brenda Tomalin is now in Anya Court in Rugby, and being well looked after.

Birthday wishes to Margaret Lane Simms and Kathleen Green in June, and Gwyneth Nisbet in August.

Keep well, stay safe - we look forward to meeting up again in the not too distant future

Jenny, on behalf of all of us at Crick URC.

Lectionary Readings

June 2020

First Sunday after Pentecost - June 7, 2020

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Psalm 8

or Canticle 13 (or Canticle 2)

Second Sunday after Pentecost - June 14, 2020

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

Psalm 116:1, 10-17

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)

Third Sunday after Pentecost - June 21, 2020

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - June 28, 2020

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

