

London Road Congregational Church

The Envoy



Front Cover: London Road Congregational Church from Lorna Caddy

Below: Wintery Landscape in Nottinghamshire from Lorna Caddy

If you have any photographs you think may be suitable for our magazine, we would love to receive them. Please email them to the editor.

The deadline for submissions to the March/April 2020 edition of the magazine is 9th February 2020

In This Issue ...

What is a Congregational Church	3
Services	3
From the Minister	4 & 5
Calendar for January 2020	6
Calendar for February 2020	7
Film Club	8
Preaching Themes	9
Church Directory	10
Action Aid Update from Afghanistan	11 & 12



Website: newarkcongregational.com

Facebook: London Road Congregational Church Newark

What is a Congregational Church?

A Congregational Church is one that believes in the Trinity — Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Congregationalists share and respect each other's gifts, and worship, serve and decide things together as guided by the Holy Spirit at church meetings.

There are three principles:

- A church where Christ is the head, with no external hierarchy
- A church based on a covenant relationship with God and with one another, where seeking the mind of Christ is the basis of all that is done
- A church where all members are considered equal before God, and all skills and giftings are valued and recognised

London Road Congregational Church Services

Morning Worship takes place each Sunday at 11am. Holy Communion is celebrated during Morning Worship on the first Sunday of each month.

Café Service is held in the church hall at 10.30am. Breakfast is on offer with tea or coffee, and followed by a sincere service with a difference. Please see the calendars for when this service takes place each month.

Anyone is welcome to attend the services.

From The Minister

Dear Friends

We have now entered a new year 2020. The last year, 2019, was a difficult year; the uncertainty of Brexit, the need for a National Election (the third in five years), and concerns about employment, housing and the health service. Parliament itself was divided and unable to agree on the way forward for our country.

I am not a Minister who makes political statements, but I do believe that Jesus Christ wishes us to live a life following his lifestyle on earth. A lifestyle that shows compassion, hope and love, to live a life following our Christian faith. We cannot ignore the needs of others. We cannot fail to show love and respect to all those in our Christian Fellowship who also will be going through a healing process and the development process of moving forward to serve Christ.

The Congregational Federation, of which our church is a member, has also carried out a review to decide the way forward in 2020 and to heal past difficulties. If we look to the Bible **1 John chapter 4 verses 7 to 12** we find something which is very significant to use as an anchor to hang onto as we move into the New Year.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us. He sent his one and only son into the world that we might live through him. This is love, not that we love God, but that he loved us and sent his son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends since God so loved us, we ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in those and his love is made complete in us.

Recently, I read the comments from a Minister who said this — “I held a rather naïve idea about the gospel on human nature. Now some 32 years later even though it is tempered with experience, I still hold the same belief it goes something like this. I believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ is not just good news, it’s the best news ever proclaimed! I have always believed that if a person could just hear it they could somehow take their hands off their materialistic possessions and need for power for they are like the barnacles on a boat which slow the journey of spreading the Gospel.

Some people claim to be a Christian but do many things except share the love of Jesus Christ. There are churches which demonstrate more judgement, hate, anger and separation of love and grace. They have a

misunderstanding about God, Jesus's life and the world. but If people could just hear the message it would win them over."

Then he made this important statement "I know now that our words, my words, are not enough to bring someone to Christ. Not in themselves, but I hold onto the basic concept that the story itself is so good, so pure it so resonates with our human condition that if the person really could believe it they would believe".

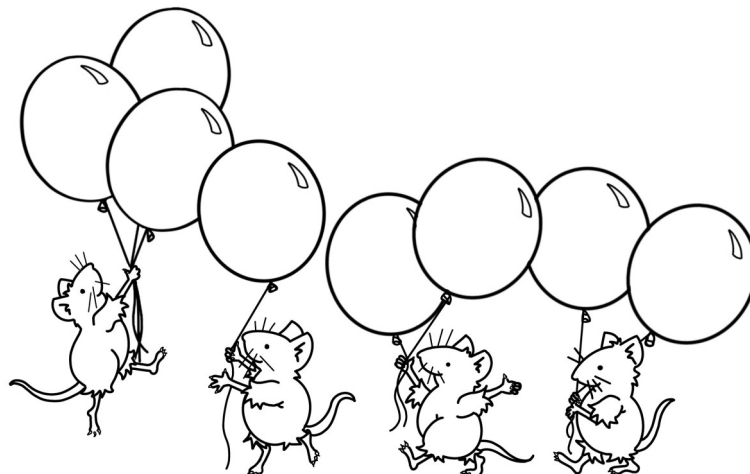
We must remember the comforter that our heavenly Father sent to us the gift of the Holy Spirit. We must always listen and be guided by the Holy Spirit remembering that source is greater in knowledge in love and understanding than any earthly mortal could ever have. We must be humble in our faith.

In 2020 I will continue to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit daily, my Faith will be demonstrated by my life and the way that I live and minister through the grace of my God. I pray that 2020 will be a time when we come together as Christians not just within our church but within the whole Christian church which Jesus Christ is Saviour and Leader. We will listen more in times of silence to the voice of the Holy Spirit. May we spread the story of Jesus Christ's life, do what we can to make the world full of God's Glory and Love.

Gail and I wish you all very Happy New Year and a Peaceful and Loving 2020.

Your Friend and Minister

Ken



Calendar for January 2020

Saturday 4th 10am Just Sing! Community Choir in church hall

Sunday 5th — 11am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Preacher: Reverend Ken Hague

Flowers: Parents and Toddlers

Wednesday 8th 7.30pm Film Club, 22 Ringrose Close, Newark

Thursday 9th 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 10th 10am Friday Focus

Sunday 12th — 11am Morning Worship

Preacher: Martin Frost

Flowers: Jean Dobbs

Thursday 16th 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 17th 10am Friday Focus

Saturday 18th 10am Just Sing! Community Choir in church hall

Sunday 19th — 11am Morning Worship

Preacher: Reverend Ken Hague

Flowers: Maureen and Janet

Wednesday 22nd 7pm Bible Book Club

Thursday 23rd 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 24th 10am Friday Focus

Sunday 26th — 10.30am Café Service

Preacher: Mark Taylor

Flowers: Kath Clawson

Thursday 30th 10am Parents and Toddlers

7.30pm Pub Theology

Prince Rupert, 46 Stodman Street, Newark

Friday 31st 10am Friday Focus

Calendar for February 2020

Saturday 1st 10am Just Sing! Community Choir in church hall

Sunday 2nd — 11am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Preacher: Reverend Ken Hague

Flowers: Pat Corah

Thursday 6th 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 7th 10am Friday Focus

Sunday 9th — 11am Morning Worship

Preacher: Martin Frost

Wednesday 12th 7.30pm Film Club, 22 Ringrose Close, Newark

Thursday 13th 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 14th 10am Friday Focus

Saturday 15th 10am Just Sing! Community Choir in church hall

Sunday 16th — 11am Morning Worship

Preacher: Reverend Ken Hague

Flowers: Friday Focus

Thursday 20th 10am Parents and Toddlers

Friday 21st 10am Friday Focus

Sunday 23rd — 10.30am Café Service

Preacher: Mark Taylor

Flowers: Ann Harris

Wednesday 26th 7pm Bible Book Club

Thursday 27th 10am Parents and Toddlers

7.30pm Pub Theology

Prince Rupert, 46 Stodman Street, Newark

Friday 28th 10am Friday Focus

Saturday 29th 10am Just Sing! Community Choir in church hall

Sunday 1st March — 11am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Preacher: Reverend Ken Hague

Film Club

Film Club has continued to meet (almost) every month throughout 2019.

The way Film Club works is that we take it in turns to choose a film, then we all watch it during the month and meet up at our home on a Wednesday evening to talk about it. I choose some clips for us to watch and prepare some topics for discussion. We always find some issues arising from the films that provoke a healthy discussion and almost invariably matters come up that touch on morality and ethics. Although the discussions are not overtly Christian, and members of the Club are not all people of faith, I do from time-to-time introduce a religious perspective into the discussion where it seems appropriate.

Usually around ten people attend although we have had up to twelve. We have to use two rows of seats in our lounge to accommodate everyone and we may soon need to employ ushers to show people to their seats. Around half of those who attend are not regular attenders at our church services.

Amongst the most interesting films we have looked at in 2019 are:

Three Billboards outside Ebbing Missouri – this is now one of my favourite ever films, raising issues about justice and retribution. We also discussed whether there is an argument or compulsory DNA database to help with crime detection.



Zulu – featuring the real-life character of Gonville Bromhead VC, educated at Newark's Magnus School, the film provoked discussions about imperialism, cultural differences and the glorification of war.

Edie - a story of an old woman who wants to climb a Scottish mountain, following a long abusive marriage; we looked at the subjects of regret and whether it's ever too late to make a fresh start.

It's a Wonderful Life – the classic Christmas film with its themes of self-sacrifice, the morality of business and recognising the importance and impact of each individual life.

Our 2020 meetings will start on Wednesday 8th January when we'll be talking about 'Swimming With Men' starring Rob Brydon.

For more details email newarkcongregational@virginmedia.com

Mark Taylor

Preaching Themes



When we had our recent visioning day one idea that came up was whether the week-by-week preaching might be based around a theme. It was thought that now we have a settled preaching team of Ken, Mark and Martin who take 4 services each month between us it might be possible to coordinate our efforts in preaching and teaching to some extent. The idea is that covering the same issue over a prolonged period and having three interpretations might prove helpful to the congregation.

We got together to discuss this recently and agreed to give it a try. Our idea is that we will concentrate on one theme over a two-month period. This won't mean that every preaching session will cover the same ground and there will be scope to react to events and inspiration as we see fit. But overall we expect to offer several sessions on the chosen topic.

Our first topic, for January and February, will be **reconciliation**. We are conscious that as a country we have been through a lengthy period of turmoil and conflict over the last few years. Following the recent General Election we thought it would be useful to consider what our faith can tell us to help us to move forward together, whatever our views on the issues, in mutual acceptance and respect.

We have agreed to continue to meet together regularly as a ministry team. There'll be a new theme for March and April. Let us know what you think.

Ken, Mark and Martin

Smile Line

Zebra

Little James, aged four, was looking at a picture book. When he came to a picture of a zebra, his mother asked him what animal that might be. Jimmy thought for a moment and then replied: "That's a horse who has eaten genetically modified corn."

Church Directory



Minister
Reverend Ken Hague

Tel: 01724 343702
Email: k.hague@ntlworld.com



Secretary
Mrs Joan Anderson

Tel: 07710 612064



Treasurer
Mrs Debbie Taylor

Tel: 01636 689352



Organist
Mr Steve Caddy

Tel: 07753 743786
Email: steve.m.caddy@gmail.com



Bible Study & Film Club
Mr Mark Taylor
22 Ringrose Close
Newark

Tel: 01636 689352
Email: m.taylor17@ntlworld.com



Magazine Editor
Mrs Lorna Caddy
133a Barnby Gate
Newark

Tel: 07965 631882
Email: lorna.c.coleman@gmail.com

If you wish to be added to this section, please give your contact details to the editor before the deadline for the next edition.

Action Aid Update from Afghanistan

السلام من رضا ولد حسين علي است من صنف هفتم مكتب هفتم
من صنف ورزش و فوتبال می کنم برای من خوبه (دوران کسب که می توانم بهر دوام
باز می کنم قریح سر میزن شده می می معروف کار روزانه است

My name is Reza son of Hussain Ali, I am
grade seven, I play football everytime with my
brother.

Reza



Dear Taylor!

My warmest greetings from Bamyan.

This is the holy month of Ramadan. We fast for
one month. We do not eat and drink whole day. We fast to
remember all these poor people who do not have food for
eat. At the end of Ramadan we pay money or somethings
valuable for poor people.

Recently Actionaid, Jesso started an English and computer
course for people with disability. The trainer also from disabled
people. I think it is a good opportunity for them. They can
learn and they can find a job as their teacher.

Allah bless you and your family

Message collected by: M. Ali C-S.O

AFGHANISTAN

AF00700432

Raza



act:onaid