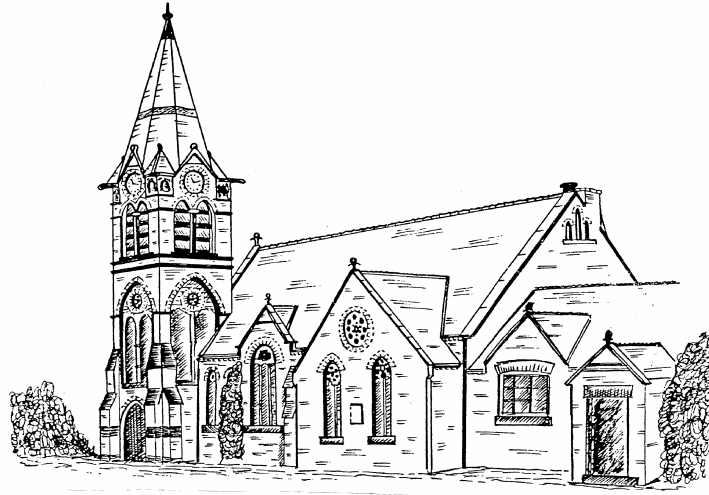


## Hornsea United Reformed Church

### Apart but Together News – July 2020

**Welcome to this short version of the church newsletter. The church building may be closed but 'church' is the people and we are still here!**



**The question on everyone's lips ....** When will the church building be open again?!

The honest answer is – we do not know.

There will not be one member of our fellowship who would not like to see the church doors wide open and the church full - but with no treatment for the Covid19 virus available and a, still relatively, high infection rate this is neither safe or desirable.

You will all be aware that churches had permission to open for Private Prayer from the 13<sup>th</sup> June provided strict Covid19 guidelines were followed.

This was discussed at the Elders meeting which agreed that, for the time being, the church would remain closed until we could guarantee the safety of all who may visit and those who would supervise.

We have carried out a risk assessment of the building and will need to put in place restricted seating, a 'one-way' system and sufficient sanitising points and cleaning provision before we can safely open, along with several other requirements yet to be announced.

Therefore, when, eventually, we do have permission to hold collective worship **it will not be as we knew it**. Which brings us to some very important decisions that will have to be made – and for these the Elders would like to ask for your help.

The Service on the 14<sup>th</sup> June looked at The Purpose of the Church under 3 headings: -

1. To worship God      2. Grow a God like community      3. To share the Good News of Jesus  
and the Elders would like you to think about the following questions ....

## **he Purpose of the Church**

### **1. To worship God**

- a) How have you managed to worship during 'lock-down'?*
- b) What makes you want to come to Hornsea URC at 10.30 on a Sunday morning?*
- c) What 3 things do you think are needed in an act of worship to God.*

### **2. Grow a God like community**

- a) What does a God like community look like to you?*
- b) Have you seen any evidence of this during 'lock-down'?*
- c) How do you think we can continue to build this in the future?*

### **3. To share the Good News of Jesus**

- a) Have you been able to share the Good News of Jesus in 'lock-down'?*
- b) Has anyone been able to share it with you?*
- c) In what ways should we share it in the future?*

*Over the next couple of weeks your Elder will give you a call and have a chat about these questions. There are no wrong or right answers and you may not cover all the questions but the conversations will help us greatly, in planning for the 'New Normal' as we return to worship together. Thank you.*

.....

## **Coronavirus Pandemic**



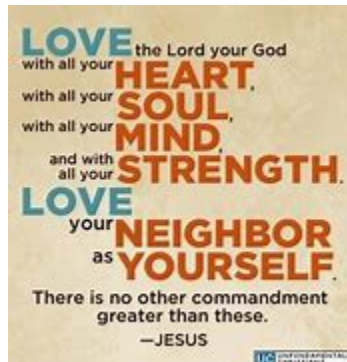
You may have read, or seen on the news, that during the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> we are all being invited to mark the birthday of the NHS and remember those who have died from the virus. So, on **Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>** we are offering the opportunity for you to come and light a candle in the church garden as an act of remembrance. This will take place **between 7pm and 8pm**. Please note that this is not intended as a 'gathering' and we ask that you maintain a safe distance, and move on when you are finished.

Thank you.

## **Apart but together hearts**

This month with your newsletter we have sent you some hearts.

Hearts make us think of love. God is love.



Jesus tells us to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your soul and with all your strength to love your neighbour as yourself.'

The hearts are joined together showing that although we are apart, we are still joined together in love.

When you look at your hearts think of your own family and close friends who you may not have seen for a while but who are very much in your heart.

Think of your church family. Imagine its Sunday morning and we are all together ready to worship God. Look around, who can you see? It may prompt you to send an email or telephone someone just to say hello, communication is important at this time.

Use your hearts when you pray. On one side you could write on the names of people or situations that you are concerned about and on the other side you could write on names or things you are thankful for.

And always when you look at your hearts know that you are loved.



## **Apart but together worship July**

We have some 'visiting' ministers in July-

July 5<sup>th</sup> Rev. Keith Himsworth

July 12<sup>th</sup> Rev. John Brown

July 19<sup>th</sup> Suzanne Punter.

They will be 'visiting' us online, so if you are still not sure how to access our online services, you can find them at <https://hornseaurc.org.uk/apart-but-together-worship>.

Email [urchornsea@gmail.com](mailto:urchornsea@gmail.com) if you would like further information on the Zoom services. If you are not online and you would like to receive the service on a CD or memory stick please ring the Barretts on 532857.

## Alternative August advance notice

During the month of August, we had planned for our Sunday Worship to be 'alternative', for us to be all together and to look at well-known Bible Stories in a new and exciting way. Little did we know at that time how 'alternative' our services would have to be! So, look out for stories about "boats". There are quite a few in the Bible- can you guess which we will use? All will be revealed!

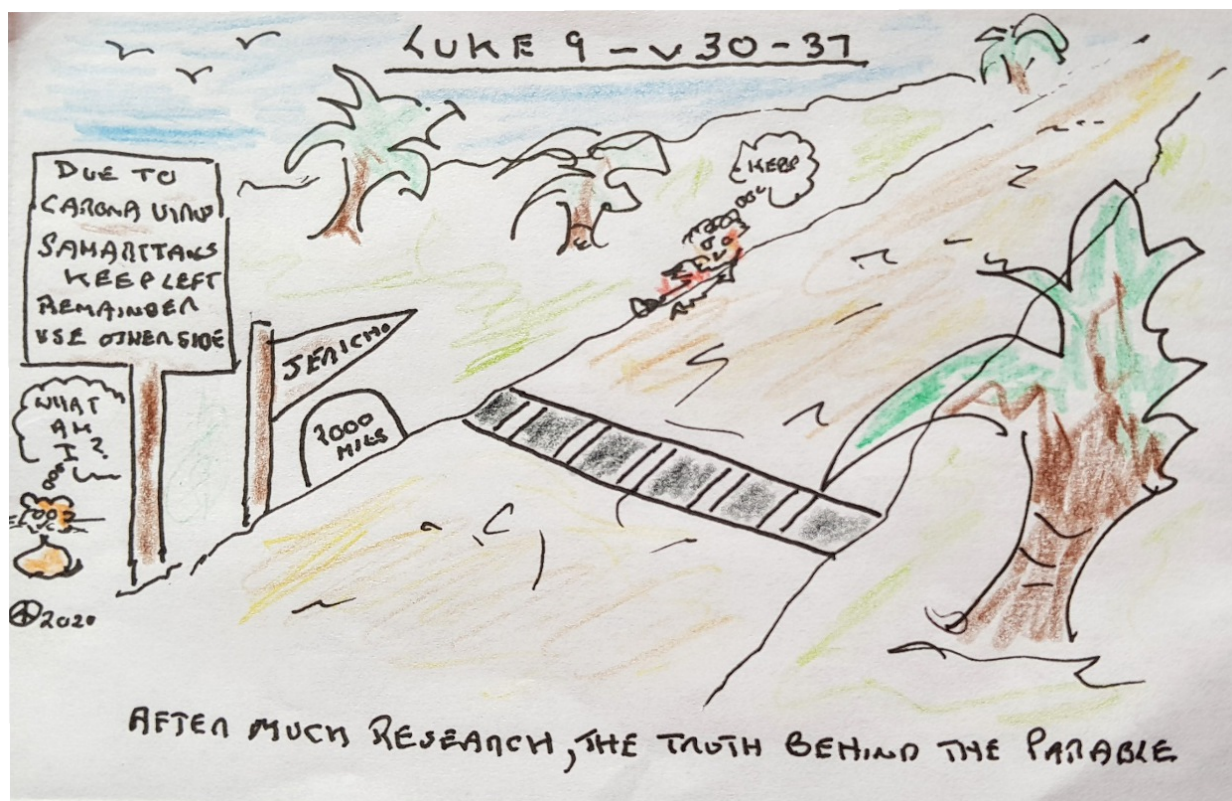
## It has been a long time!



A couple of people have mentioned that their Church Giving envelopes are beginning to stack up – if you would like someone to collect them and bank the money please ring Margaret on 01964 533576

If you would like to set up a Standing Order with your bank our details are

Lloyds Bank  
Hornsea United Reformed Church  
Sort Code 77 12 22  
Account No. 08086060  
Many thanks.



Thanks Allan!

If you have any news or pictures or anything to share in the newsletter, please e mail – [mjtbarrett@hotmail.com](mailto:mjtbarrett@hotmail.com).