

Hornsea United Reformed Church Newsletter October 2022



Our worship in October is based on our church Mission Statement. This statement came out of much discussion and prayer, involving the whole church, trying to define what we stand for here at Hornsea U.R.C. What does it mean to be church here in Hornsea?

We strive to be a people that-

- 1) Celebrate God's presence
- 2) Love and serve all in the same way that Jesus loves and serves us.
- 3) Proclaim Jesus crucified and risen in all we do.
- 4) Nurture disciples.

So, for the first four weeks in October our Sunday worship will be based on this Mission Statement.

October Worship: -

- 2nd October Celebrate
9th October Love and serve (including Holy Communion)
16th October Proclaim
23rd October Nurture (including Baptism)

We then begin our '30 days with Isaiah'

Bible Month

30th October Isaiah- Tough Love

If you miss any of the services you can find them on our dedicated YouTube channel - just search Hornsea URC on YouTube to find us.

Bible Month

Isaiah is a highly significant book that sits right at the centre of the Bible – not only in terms of where it appears, but in terms of its theological significance. It encapsulates the core strands of the Old Testament, summarising the story and struggles of Israel, and proclaiming God's plans and promises for its people.

It is also referenced again and again by the New Testament writers who are eager to demonstrate that Jesus and the early Church can be seen as the fulfilment of those plans and promises. In short, it is one of the best texts for helping us to trace a story-arc through the whole Bible; hear God's heart for God's people, appreciate what the writers of the New Testament are saying, and reflect on who Jesus is and who we are called to be as the Church today.

The book of Isaiah is set in an interesting time. It was a time of great political shifts, of international instability, of social tensions, and – in the end – catastrophic upheaval.

May God use his word to speak to us in our own 'interesting times'

Here is a link to a YouTube 'advert for the series if you would like to know more: -

<https://youtu.be/IJecdhCi6PE>

Bible Book Club

For October we will be reading part of the book of Isaiah, which is the subject of our Bible Month starting on the last Sunday in October. We decided to read chapters 55-66. We always meet on the last Wednesday of the month which will be **October 26th** at 2pm and 7pm in the hall.

Faith and fellowship

This group continues to meet on Tuesday afternoons, and newcomers are always welcome. Please speak to Val or Ann Bosworth for more details.

Christianity Explored

The Saturday morning Christianity Explored get togethers are a chance to reflect back on the previous Sunday service. We meet at 10a.m. in the hall.

Music- something new: -

Following the popularity of singing together at Alternative August services, we are hoping to start an informal music/singing group for all ages. If you would like to join and sing or play old and new music, please let us know. Also, we would like to know if you prefer evenings or Saturdays? If you can't sing, just come and make a joyful noise. Val

Elders News

Following a unanimous decision at the Church Meeting, we are delighted to welcome Ilena Williams as a new Elder. With Ann Bosworth, who recently returned as a serving Elder, our team now numbers 13. We have our next Elders meeting on Wed 12th October and we would value your prayers for this. Thank you.

Church Meeting

Hot off the press! Here are the minutes from the Church Meeting held after the service last Sunday, October 2nd. Thank you to all who attended and contributed.

Minutes of Church Meeting of Hornsea United Reformed Church October 2022

Members and friends present 25, Margaret Knapton in chair

Opening Prayer

Pastoral Prayer book had been included in the Service.

Minutes of Last Meeting: were accepted

Matters Arising: none

Seeking New Elders: Ilena's name was brought to the meeting and unanimously agreed

Property Progress: Mark had displayed on the notice board the architect's plans and people were asked to look at these. We are now at the stage of asking for tenders and hope to start the work in January. Offers of alternative places to worship were considered and it was decided to leave the decision to the worship group as to where we meet during building work. January and February would be preferred time as the Music Society are not holding concerts then. Other organizations use the hall and would not be interrupted. An extraordinary meeting will be held to finalize details. Offers of financial help and gifts have been made and are still being sort. It was suggested that people may like to make a pledge where money would only be used if there was a shortfall. Thanks were given to Mark, Lynn, Sharla and Margaret for their work on this.

Christmas Fair/Gift Service: It was suggested that we should hold two fairs this year. One to raise money and another to give out Christmas items. The items given out would be to an invited audience and new items only. The gifts may be given out through other charities to avoid attaching any stigma to them. How this is done needs to be thought about carefully. A working party needs to be set up.

Warm Hub: For this we need to work with Christians Together. The idea is that, because of high utility bills, the church could provide a warm center for people to meet, keep warm, chat and have a warm drink during the day. We would do this one day a week, with other churches opening on other days. People were asked to consider how they could help supervise the hall and provide drinks.

Shoeboxes: these will go to the Ukraine this year.

We will also be doing stockings for the homeless again this year.

Youth Resolution: The meeting agreed to take to Synod the resolution 'General Assembly asks all the councils of the church, and where appropriate their 'committees', in the light of the fact that most people begin their journey with Jesus between these of 4 and 25, to prayerfully reflect upon that, and in the light of that reflection to act accordingly'. In this we are asking that all committees think and pray about how they can better resource these age groups.

Keyboard: Money left by Margaret Hopkins will be used for this. It is being investigated. It was asked if we could use 'Gloria' more and this was agreed.

Comments on Services: it is always good to hear peoples' comments on how the services have gone. We do listen. We do not expect to please everybody all the time as we try to do things in a variety of ways. It was agreed to hold a Church Chat before long.

A.O. B. None

Date of next meeting to be arranged.

Meeting closed at 1.06 with the grace.

Shoeboxes



I have been told that most of our boxes from the UK will be going to Ukraine. So, I feel we really need to make an effort this year. I can accept donations of goods or finance any time now. The usual things are allowed, something warm, something to wash with, writing supplies. Sweets are not encouraged and nothing war related. Clothes are not to be put in a box as we do not know the size of the child receiving the box.

Thank you

Kathy

Church Chat

We have recently had some comments about our Sunday services and how we present them, so it seems like a good idea to have another Church Chat. These are just what it says- a chance to chat together about anything to do with Church- helped of course by tea and cake! It is important that everyone's voice is heard so please put this date in your diary-

Saturday 15th October 10am-12 noon in Church

We would love to see you there

Speaking of tea and cake-

Faith and Food

There will another of our occasional afternoon social events on **Wednesday 12th October, 2pm-4pm** in the Hall. These are an opportunity to invite those who maybe can't get to church on Sundays or are new to church, or just want to 'catch up' with others in our church family. There will be some singing and celebrating our faith together. It would help greatly if you could-

- Bring someone along
- Bring/send a cake (please let Margaret know)
- Pray for those attending.

Thank you.

Pumpkin Party (working title!)



Christians Together in Hornsea are organising an event for families and children at Halloween.

It will be on **Monday 31st October**, at the Parish Hall and gardens at around 4.30pm. There will be Fun, Food and Games for all ages - children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and there will be 'take home treats' for all the children.

Details are being finalised, so do listen out for announcements. Help- welcoming families on the evening, spreading the word etc. would be really appreciated. Please ask Margaret for details.

Looking Forward to next Month

We have a church lunch on 6th November, a Quiet day on 12th November, and Sunday 27th November is Advent Sunday!

Annie's Eco Corner

Hi Everyone,

A somewhat reflective piece this month, following our recent Wydale visit by some of the Eldership team, but first a huge thank you to everyone who came along and helped out at, and supported the Green Fair last month. It was felt to be a success from everyone involved, and as with all new projects there are ideas and suggestions we will take away and reflect on for the next fair, but the feedback from everyone has been very positive.

As a follow up there is a green 'eco' group with some of those who organised and attended the fair, who have a common goal of promoting and starting up local, green, low environmental impact businesses and projects in the town and surrounding area. We are currently meeting every 2-4 weeks on a Thursday evening. If it is something you'd like to be involved with please ask Margaret, Ilena or myself for details of the next meeting. As projects start to establish meetings can possibly be held less frequently, but at the moment we are looking at lots of different ideas.

As I mentioned at the beginning, four of us on the Eldership team went to Wydale Hall near Scarborough for an Elders Day- or rather afternoon, evening and morning! It was the first time I've been and I found it a deeply spiritual place. Large woodland areas, flower borders, lawns and gardens with seats and 'hidden' benches among the planting- ideal for sitting quietly and reflecting and 'letting go' of the hustle and bustle of normal life.

I found the whole experience very moving and even emotional at times- being in the middle of beautiful gardens and unspoilt nature with only the sound of birdsong was truly spiritual- Psalm 46 verse 10 came to me-

Be still and know that I am God

I truly felt that God was there in that garden. it made me reflect on how well we are, or more realistically are not, succeeding in the stewardship and care of our planet, and how often we make time to just sit quietly and enjoy the beautiful world around us. Being able to sit in the garden or park and watch the birds and marvel at the trees, plants and flowers renews our spirit and makes us feel so much better. I can marvel at beautiful sunrises and sunsets, the

stars in a clear sky, the relentless tides which never stop. All of which have been continuous for millions of years. Just stop, look and reflect and thank God for His amazing creation.

Blessings to everyone,

Ann

Coming up soon-

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Saturday 22nd October

Hornsea Town Hall
Newbegin, HU18 1PB
7.00pm onwards