



# GREASBROUGH UNITED CHURCH



*February 2017*

The Lord will guide you continually. Isaiah 58:11

## *Heading for Spring*

I don't know about you but I'm glad it's February, not because I like February but because it'll soon be Spring. Already we have signs of new life in our gardens, the aconites giving a golden glow in the dark, dank earth and the snowdrops already bursting out their beautiful little heads.

Brings a smile to your face, doesn't it. Such a welcome sight reminding us of God's wonderful creation which renews every year.



On the other hand, it can't have gone unnoticed, yes, I'm referring to the controversial decision in America. We're all aware of that saying – '**a new broom sweeps clean**' and we've seen marches being organised both there and in our own towns and cities objecting to the decision made. The broom seems to have churned some dirt up.

However, sometimes we have to trudge through the grime to find a clear path, but it's important that we look and listen to our SatNav – our Lord – to guide us through.

As the dust settles and the picture clears maybe that door which had been closed will re-open just like a bud bursting in Spring.

*Pat*



# News

Well as I mentioned before, time is flying and we are already planning for Easter studies and services, Christmas seems just a distant memory now but I am sure you will be interested to know that I have received confirmation that our Christmas Shoe boxes went to children in Swaziland this time. Here is an excerpt from the letter:

*“THANK YOU for bringing Good News and Great Joy to a child in Swaziland. Your kindness means that one more precious child experienced the joy of opening a very special gift and the hope that comes from knowing that someone, somewhere, cared enough to pack it especially for them. Thanks to the generosity of individuals like you, all over the United Kingdom, 882,647 children, in 17 countries, received a gift to remember”*

A forward notice for your diaries is the 2<sup>nd</sup> March when we will be hosting a Mission & Care group meeting for the local URC churches which will take the form of a Songs of Praise evening starting at 7.00pm. There will then be 3 Lent studies on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March in preparation for Easter. More details to follow.



As you are aware we have recently been collecting our half yearly Missionary money to sponsor “Andrea” through his schooling near Bethlehem. So far £118.70 has been received towards this but it is not too late if anyone else feels able to give a donation to such a worthy cause. Please pass them on to Martyn. A Big Thank you to all who have helped with this and also Operation Christmas Child.



We learnt a few weeks ago that Mavis who attends the Wednesday Friendship group had fallen and broken her ankle. She has been staying in a Nursing Home until care could be arranged for her at home. Hopefully by the time you read this she will have come home and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Our first Social Evening of the year has been arranged for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm which will be a Soup & Sweet meal followed by dominoes. This will be a good time of fellowship/fun to brighten the dark February evenings. If you would like a lift, then please see me.

## Prayer this month

We ask that you pray for:

- The Government as we move into Brexit;
- Our own Church family.



Jean

# WORDSEARCH



## Golden Rule

Find these words in the grid above. The words may be in any direction – forwards, backwards, upwards, downwards or diagonal. After you have found all the words, use the leftover letters to form a mystery answer.

**Answer:**    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

- |             |               |             |             |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Blessings   | Friendship    | New Command | Receive     |
| Coat        | Golden Rule   | Numbers     | Reward      |
| Commandment | Jesus         | Others      | Shirt       |
| Community   | Kindness      | People      | Sinners     |
| Curses      | Luke          | Perfect     | Sons of God |
| Disciples   | Mark          | Persecute   | Speck       |
| Do Good     | Mercy         | Plank       | Thankful    |
| Father      | Money         | Poor        | Virtue      |
| Followers   | Most High God | Praise      | Warnings    |
| Forgive     | Needy         | Pray        |             |



## *Spirit of peace*

Wind of God, blow strongly,  
break the walls of hate,  
sweep away divisions;  
open wide love's gate.  
Heal and cleanse and strengthen  
hearts that still are cold  
and, in every language,  
let your truth be told.

Harmonising Spirit,  
spread your flame of peace  
burning brighter, stronger,  
light of love increase.  
Fill with warmth and brightness  
every darkened place.  
Let your joy and radiance  
shine on every face.

Gentle, dove-like Spirit,  
soothing frightened hearts,  
strengthen and encourage  
till all fear departs.  
Then strong cries for justice  
will at last be heard;  
ears, long closed, will listen,  
by these voices stirred.

Come then, lively Spirit,  
fill this world of pain,  
end the reign of violence,  
set us free again ...  
Free from all oppression,  
let the fighting cease;  
enmity behind us,  
build your world of peace.

*Wendy Ross-Barker*

*I have been driven  
many times,  
to my knees by  
the overwhelming  
conviction that  
I had no-where  
else to go.  
Abraham Lincoln*



“HYMN NUMBER 28, OMITTING VERSES ONE, THREE, FOUR AND FIVE . . .”

*Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet*

Remember the rainbow,  
just like God does:  
the promise He gives us,  
His contract with us and all living beings.

Rainbow creator:  
help us to be as colourful,  
help us to be as careful.

*Hannah Warwicker*



### ***Sunday Services***

Held at 10.30am every Sunday.

#### ***Preachers***

5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Pat Critchlow
12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Phil Critchlow
19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Barrie Thomas
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Rev Simon Copley
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Rev Jenny Park

### ***Friendship Group***

Held at 2.00pm every Wednesday.

#### ***Speakers***

1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Rev Jenny Park
8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Rev Simon Copley
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Open meeting
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Rev Brenda Hill
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Open meeting / party (Margaret Gould will be 80, shhh)

### ***What's on***

**Social evening with soup and sweet –**

13<sup>th</sup> February @ 6.30pm

**Services at Cherry Trees and Greasbrough nursing homes –**

16<sup>th</sup> February @ 2.00pm

**Songs of Praise –**

2<sup>nd</sup> March @ 7.00pm

### ***Bible study and prayer group***

These are held at 34 Green Street on Tuesday mornings at 10.00am and are a valuable time of learning and sharing God's Word. It is a very relaxed gathering and all are welcome.

### ***Contact us***

If you would like to know anything about the church please contact:

➤ Rev Simon Copley (01709 814471)

➤ Phil Critchlow (01709 555704)

Email: [Greasbrough.United.Church@sky.com](mailto:Greasbrough.United.Church@sky.com)

## Who's who: David Hathaway

David Hathaway was born in London in 1938, the younger twin son of Rev William George Hathaway. At that time, David's father was working with George Jeffreys, founder of the Elim Pentecostal Churches. In 1950, at the age of 18, David pastored his first church in Dorking in Surrey. He was full-time pastor and evangelist for 14 years in the UK from 1950 to 1964.



After 11 years as a full-time pastor and evangelist in Britain, David's ministry to Russia and Europe began in 1961 when he organised the first ever expedition to Jerusalem by road, through the Iron Curtain countries to attend a World Pentecostal Conference on the Day of Pentecost. He had no money to go, but was challenged to do the impossible, set up an expedition and go by road! What he had done proved so popular, he began a tour company to take tourists on the overland route to the newly formed state of Israel through the communist countries, Turkey and Syria.

With official licences to travel all over Eastern Europe, it was whilst crossing communist Europe that David saw the desperate spiritual need in the communist countries. Out of this experience, David began smuggling Bibles into Russia and Eastern Europe. At first, he took a few copies on trips with tourists. Later, using a specially designed coach, he was able to take up to 5,000 Bibles or 10,000 New Testaments at a time.

He had delivered more than 150,000 before he was eventually arrested on Midsummer's day 1972 at the Czech border when the secret compartment was discovered. David was accused of attempted sedition and violation of customs regulations. He was arrested, tortured and then sentenced to five years in prison. He served less than 1 year of his sentence and in 1973 was released at the request of the then UK opposition leader, the former Prime Minister, Harold Wilson.

In 1976 he organised the successful worldwide campaign for the release of Georgi Vins, a renowned Russian pastor from Kiev, sentenced to long years in a Siberian prison for his faith. After this, David continued to go into the underground churches to preach. During the 1980s David continued to travel all over Europe – Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, even back into Czechoslovakia.

In 1985 David held a series of powerful meetings in Hungary – he got permission to minister in Catholic Churches, which were not only packed, but hundreds were standing outside. Towards the end of the 1980s he began to openly hold services and conferences in the Eastern Bloc countries. When the communist Eastern Bloc countries collapsed, in the 1990s he continued his work. In 1995, David launched his Prophetic Vision magazine.

In recent years David has been working in Israel to help the Holocaust survivors from the Russian and former Eastern Bloc countries, both spiritually and materially.

