



RBC NEWSLETTER: MAY 2018

Dear Church Family,

Now we are in May, we are now counting down the weeks to the start of **The Turning mission!** Our **discipleship course training** through the sermons and house-groups is going well, and seems to be provoking some good discussions. Our **ecumenical prayer breakfasts** to pray for the town, to bless our communities and to ask God to prepare the ground for the mission have also been much enjoyed by those who have been coming. This month's one will be part of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, and will actually be the last ecumenical prayer breakfast before the mission begins on 4th June! So please do make every effort to come along and pray for God's blessing on us all as we plan to go out in His name to bring that message of God's love for everyone to people who don't know Him yet.

By the time this letter is circulated the churches involved in the mission will have had a half night of prayer to pray for The Turning in East Sussex. The main **county-wide launch** will take place on 31st May in Victoria Baptist Church in Eastbourne. But there will be a **Hastings area launch** with worship and prayer for equipping on **3rd June at 7.30pm at His Place Community Church in Hastings**. From then on there will be worship and prayer opportunities every evening during the week of the mission in Hastings, but we will also be putting on some **worship and prayer evenings here in Rye** during that week.

In the mornings **every day from 4th-9th June** there will be **training** from 9.45am, **plus worship and prayer, before each team for the day goes out for an hour** to share the message on the streets that God loves everyone, and has an amazing plan for their lives. *Please do consider whether you would give this a go, and volunteer to be part of those teams.* Many who have stepped forward in fear and trepidation in other parts of the country have found that God has gone before them and set up divine appointments – also that He has equipped them beyond their wildest dreams and given them not just the courage to speak to people, but also the right words to say, and many have seen people open to prayer for healing, or to inviting Jesus into their lives. The responses have been amazing and we long to see God do something similar here – *but we do need you to be part of it.* Please let me know as soon as you can if you will volunteer, and what days you might be able to do.

As already mentioned, this month we have our **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** with prayer meetings every day of the week at 10 am in different churches (see details overleaf). The week culminates with our next **United Morning Service on Pentecost Sunday 20th May at 10.30am at St Mary's**, at which I shall be preaching! **After the service there will be a barbecue lunch in the church yard** for all who can stay, with proceeds going to Christian Aid. There will not be a service at RBC that day, so please do make every effort to come – don't be tempted to treat it as a Sunday off! Our United Services are such a wonderful witness to the Rye community of the churches working together. Thank you to everyone for all you do to serve God and His church here. May He fill you with His Spirit, and bring you His peace and blessing in all you do.

Your pastor and sister in Christ,

Fiona

New General Data Protection Laws

From 25th May we may only keep your data (contact details) if you have given your written consent. If you are a church member *or* a regular attender, please ensure you have seen Geoff A and signed the relevant form so we can continue to provide pastoral care for you as appropriate.

Gathering at "The Well"

The next meeting of The Well is on **Monday 14th April** – a visit to "Tea at the Farm" in **Icklesham from 2-4pm** -all (Ladies) welcome. Please let Mary; Jenny A; Barbara or Bridget know if you would like to go.

Engage

Our next Men's Fellowship gathering for a meal and chat will take place at **The Bell at Iden on Thursday 17th May at 7.30pm**. All (men) welcome. Please let Ian G know if you would like to come.

Coffee Plus Table Sale - Donations Needed

If you have any unwanted items that you could donate for our Thursday table sale at Coffee Plus – please bring them along on a Thursday morning. Various items in good condition (not jumble!) e.g. Ornaments; books; toys etc

All proceeds go to Hope Home in Thailand

Please help Foodbank by donating:

Cereal Soup Pasta / Rice
Pasta Sauce Beans Tinned Fruit
Tinned vegetables
Tinned Meat / Fish
Tea /Coffee Sugar
Toiletries Nappies UHT Milk
Gluten- Free Foods

NB. All items to have at least 3 months till use-by date, and tins to be in good condition (no dents!) please!

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

All welcome to each meeting. Praying for our work together as Churches Together; for the Turning Mission; and using the "Thy Kingdom Come" resources:

Monday 14th - 10am @ Methodist Church

Tuesday 15th - Methodist Church (led by the Friends)

Wednesday 16th - 10 am @ St Anthony's

Thurs 17th -10 am @ St Mary's (Communion)

Friday 18th -10 am @ Playden

Saturday 19th - 8 am @ Rye Baptist - Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 20th -10.30am Pentecost United Service @ St Mary's , followed by Barbecue lunch in aid of Christian Aid.

Gardening help needed!

If you know of anyone who would like to do a couple of hours gardening per week for a small remuneration, please speak to Fiona, or one of the leadership team, as soon as possible. Thank you.

Thinking about Baptism or Church Membership?

If you are feeling called to be baptised, or to become a church member, (or if you just want to find out more about what these might mean) then please do speak to Fiona. She will be delighted to explain, and/or help you explore whether God might be calling you to take this new step of faith at this time.

Prayer Corner

Although, due to changes in the laws for data protection, we will no longer be listing specific people's names for prayer on this newsletter, please do continue to pray for your church family and their families, especially where you are aware of specific needs. Every prayer counts and makes a difference, and all are much appreciated by those prayed for.