

# EASTERTIME

## HOPE'S SONG

There's a story that started at Christmas  
When a baby was born in the night  
And those who came far who followed the star  
Were seeing a heavenly sight  
A heavenly sight

Well, the years hurried by and the boy, now a man  
Could make the blind see with a touch of His hand  
He was born to be King, He was Rabbi and Priest  
But the best that He had, He gave to the least  
He gave to the least

He was born and He died, almost 2,000 years ago  
He laughed and He cried, He felt all the fears we know  
But what does it matter? A story so strange  
Even if it is true, what does it change?  
What does it change?

Though He spoke like a prophet, like no one they'd heard  
This simple young carpenter, crowds hung on every word  
He hated injustice, He taught what is right  
He said, "I'm the way and the truth and the light"

His friends soon believed that truly He was the one  
The Saviour, Messiah, God's one and only Son  
But others they doubted, they did not agree  
So they took Him, they tried Him  
He died on a tree, He died on a tree

God has made a way for all who mourn and grieve  
Death will never be the end if you just believe  
There is nothing left to fear nothing Heaven knows  
For He died for us to give us life and to give us hope He rose

# OPENING DOORS



1  
Corinthians  
13 for  
Parents

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Jesus  
is not here.  
He is Risen



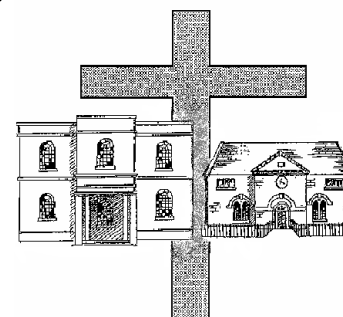
Newton  
News

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"See I have placed before you an open door" Rev 3:8



Congregational  
Federation



Ashby and Newton Burgoland  
Congregational Churches

Number 680

April 2018

**ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
Kilwardby Street  
1662

MINISTER : **Reverend Catherine Booton**  
The Manse, 20 Kilwardby Street,  
Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 2FQ  
Tel: 01530 563301

SECRETARY : **Mrs Margaret Howlett**  
16 Winchester Way,  
Ashby, LE65 2NR  
Tel: 01530 461774

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:30a.m. Family Church

HOLY COMMUNION: 3rd Sunday Morning in month.

For other activities during the week see Church Diary...  
Baptisms and Marriages by arrangement with the Minister.

\* \* \* \* \*

**NEWTON BURGOLAND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
The Green  
1790

MINISTER : **As Above**

SECRETARY: **Mrs Rachel Aucott**  
129, Leicester Road,  
Measham,  
DE12 7JG  
Tel: 01530 273260

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 4:00p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION: 2nd Sunday Evening in month

For other activities during the week see Church Diary...  
Baptisms and Marriages by arrangement with the Minister.

**Magazine Editor:** Mrs C. Morrissey 57, Pennine Way,  
Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 1EW  
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Magazine published monthly on last Sunday in each month. Please ensure that articles for publication arrive by **18th of the month**. Thank you.



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## EASTER BASKET

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

- 2 TIMOTHY 1:12 NIV

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate Easter this year, I wonder how you are feeling. Happy? Sad? Confused? Certain? Maybe something different or even a combination of some or all of these sentiments?

After all, during that week, we go through a real roller-coaster of emotions. We travel from the excitement of Palm Sunday; through the anger of Jesus' visit to the temple; the tranquillity of the visit to Simon's home and his encounter with the woman with the jar of perfume; the commemoration of the festival of Passover and the teaching during the Lord's Supper; the violence of Jesus' arrest; the untruths of his trial; the betrayal and denial of his friends; the horror of the cross; the sadness of Jesus' death; the confusion of his friends and then the happiness of the glorious revelation of the resurrection. There are more incidents that took place during that week we could mention and each one of those also has its own emotion attached to it.

So many different feelings, so many varied experiences wrapped up in one week - it never fails to take my breath away when I think about it. As I often remark, it seems that because we know the end of the story, we miss out on the experience of all those different events and the many emotions and don't take time to focus on them during Eastertime. But surely to walk with Jesus from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday means to experience the highs and lows of what he went through.

The story can only really impact us if we take the time to immerse ourselves in it and let it change our lives, our thoughts and our relationships, with the Lord and with one another.

So whatever emotions you are feeling this Eastertime, may what Jesus went through on our behalf, have a real and lasting impact on all our lives and may it help us in our daily walk with God and all we do in his service.

Let's all be Easter people – people who live knowing the tomb is indeed empty – “He's not here, for he is risen!”

With Christian love

*Catherine XX*

**RELEASE!**

The innocent dies that the guilty may go free! Pontius Pilate was faced by a mob of angry Jews clamouring for the death of an innocent man.

His wife had warned him to have nothing to do with Him. She had suffered much in a dream that night.

It was for envy that the men had brought Jesus Christ before him claiming that he was king of the Jews, the son of his Father in heaven. Despite their hatred of Romans, who had imposed Roman rule on their land, they suddenly exclaim "We have no king but Caesar.

Pilate did not know how to wriggle out of the situation. There was one way - At the Passover Festival it had become the custom to release a prisoner. There was a notable prisoner - Barabbas, whose name ironically means 'son of the father'. Pilate would release him!

"What shall I do with Jesus?" and the cry comes back "Crucify him". We all know what happened on Calvary, just outside the city wall.

The innocent died that the wicked might live. He died that we might go free and go at last to heaven.

In one sense Pilate had the last word, for over the cross was the inscription "the King of the Jews" and despite pleas to alter it to 'He claimed to be the king of the Jews', Pilate refused to alter it.

There is no record of what Pilate felt as he heard of the resurrection but we know that Jesus bore our guilt that we might walk free and live in the power of the Resurrection.

M. Boshell



They hung a sign on the cross that read 'King of the Jews'.

Three days later the sign on the tomb read 'Vacancy'.

Our Redeemer lives!



(From 'A Basket of Gems' by Mark Stibbe)

**Useful Phone Numbers**

**Charities**

Age Concern	0800 00 99 66
Alcoholics Anonymous	0845 769 7555
Alzheimer's Society	0207 306 0606
Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB)	0844 499 2375
Child Line	0800 1111
Crime Stoppers	08800 555 111
Samaritans	08457 909090

**Emergency**

Electricity (Emergency/power cut)	0800 056 8090
Fire & Rescue (non-emergency)	0116 287 2241
Gas (Emergency)	0800 111 999
Police (non-emergency)	0116 222 2222
Severn Trent (emergency)	0800 783 4444

**GP Surgeries**

Castle Medical Group, Burton Road	01530 414131
North Street, Ashby	01530 417415
Measham Medical Unit, High Street	01530 270933
Ibstock House Surgery, High Street	01530 263467
NHS Direct	111

**Local Hospitals**

Coalville	01530 467400
Glenfield	0116 287 1471
Leicester Royal	0116 254 1414
Queen's Burton	01283 566333
Derby Royal	01332 265500

**Local Christian Agencies**

Ashbychurches.org	412339/413511
Ashby Youth for Christ	01530 560940
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	07790 542041
CAP National Debt Line	0800 328 0006
Fair2all	01530 417286
The Haven	01530 560921

**Others**

Ashby Library	0116 305 5917
Social Services	01530 275200
Ashby Town Council	01530 416961

### What's coming up for Ashby Youth For Christ?

Helen is travelling to Moscow (11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>) with Sue Garb from Burton Youth for Christ to visit the Moscow centre, and to explore ways that the centres can support each other. Pray for safety and for a God filled time.

Fort Rocky- Is an activity evangelistic weekend away in May. We have a group of YP from sk8ters that are interested in going. It will be an amazing opportunity for them to engage in outdoor activities, make new friends and encounter Jesus.

We will be running an Alpha group for our Rock Solid young leaders, each week before Rock Solid, as we want to ground our young leaders in the gospel. Please pray that God really impacts their lives, and that this will be a life changing experience for them.

In June we will be hosting a fundraising garden party, it will be a chance to socialize and meet the team whilst enjoying hotdogs, tea & cake and of course there will be games!

From September we are going to be running an after-school group at St Helens Heritage Centre, supported by church members. This is initially for the current year 9 students who will be going up to Ashby Grammar school in September but we hope to build on this group to enable more young people to hear about Gods love for them.

If anybody would like us to speak at their church please contact Helen at the office

### **AYFC Job Opportunity – Female Youth Worker**

We are looking for a female youth worker to join our passionate and God centred team to take on a role that would encourage and support young people in getting excited about God. This role would be based at the Ashby Youth for Christ office, and locations around the Ashby area, for 8 hours a week during term time only, this would include some evenings and occasional weekend work.

For more information about this role please contact our Centre Director, [helen.davis@yfc.co.uk](mailto:helen.davis@yfc.co.uk)

**Open Team Time – Tuesday 1st May at the Ashby Methodist church. A time for prayer and sharing what God has been doing through Ashby Youth for Christ.**

**For more information about what we do get in touch on 01530 560940 or [office.ayfc@gmail.com](mailto:office.ayfc@gmail.com)**

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



The speaker for our meeting on 8th March was Mrs Pam Bull.

Pam handed out some cards with a reading on from Zephaniah Chapter 3 V. 17.

'The Lord your God is with you,  
 He is mighty to save,  
 He will take great delight in you,  
 He will quiet you with his love,  
 He will rejoice over you with singing.'

In the Bible it says that God will be with us always He told Joshua that he would always be with him especially on the mount.

**God will never abandon you.** He said 'I will never leave you, or forsake you,' . Joshua 1 v 5

God will never leave you to go alone. The Lord your God is with you.

What do we want saving from ? Could it be sin. God gave his only son to save us. As Christians we know that he is with us all the time and will never forsake us.

He is mighty to save.

**God will take delight in you.** We are the work of his hands and we are created in the image of God. He has created us all. God was delighted in Adam and Eve and was pleased with his creation . We are delighted in what we make in just the same way. God is pleased with what we do and don't do.

**He will quiet you with love.** We are calmed by prayer to God when we are stressed, upset, and have many other things on our minds. He will be there when we cry and he will send you his love although it might not feel like it at the time. He will calm you every time  
 We need him even if we don't realise it .

Parents take pride in their children, love them and rejoice in them just like God does

### **He will rejoice over you with singing.**

It was good to have Pam with us again. She shares a lot of warmth and encouragement in faith with us.

Christine Manning



## Who is my Neighbour?

When the Lawyer asked this question, he wanted to put Jesus on the spot, and force Him into saying something that was heretical. Instead Jesus told probably one of the best known parables in the Bible. It's teaching still challenges us today; if we want the world to see God's love it is our actions that demonstrate it - better than the best speech.

In 1960, some 40 million people worldwide were made refugees by war or disasters. Coverage of the suffering sparked a spontaneous outpouring of compassion among UK Christians, who sent money to the Evangelical Alliance. A fund, known at first as EAR, the Evangelical Alliance Relief fund was created to distribute the funds to evangelical agencies caring for the needs of refugees around the world. Money kept coming in to this fund throughout the decade.

In 1967 former curate George Hoffman was hired by the Alliance to develop the fund's work. On 29 May 1968, George and members of the Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund Committee met for the first time, determined to marry Christian compassion with practical action; the vision from which Tearfund (The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund) was born.

Tearfund works in partnership with the local church as they show God's love through their actions in their community: These 'partners' work with the poorest members of society to bring long term improvement. From the very beginning prayer was at the heart of Tearfund's work and so it continues today. As you read please pray for their work in Iraq.

There are currently more than 3.4 million internally displaced people in Iraq, many of whom have made a perilous journey to escape ISIS. Most live in temporary shelter, often without safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, leaving them vulnerable to life threatening diseases:

'We are so thankful for you, as you brought the water tanks and hygiene kits. They have helped us live a life here.

' Lina\* and her five children arrived at a temporary settlement after seven days fleeing ISIS.

- Give thanks that they are safe, and ask that Tearfund's hygiene kits and water tanks will reach many more people like Lina to protect them from disease.

Tearfund is working in recaptured areas around Mosul to provide water and electricity so the former inhabitants who fled can return.

- Lift up this project and ask that Tearfund and its partners could help restore basic services for people when they return.

Nasim\* and Asma\* fled from ISIS with their four young children in 2014.

'When we arrived here there was nothing, it was like a desert,' Asma told us. Since then, Tearfund has negotiated a water pipeline extension and installed 1,800 water storage tanks in their area.

- Pray for this work, that Tearfund could increase the number of settlements it reaches with the blessing of a clean water supply.

plants. For the baskets the raffia is dyed and then woven into fabric on hand looms.

Fair2all not only has fair trade chocolate Easter eggs but also beautifully decorated Papier mache eggs – a classic symbol of Spring! Like the ring boxes that we also stock they are handmade and intricately hand painted with traditional designs. This work provides an income for artisans who live with their families in the rural mountain areas of Kashmir where work opportunities are minimal. They work for a family business, who in addition to paying their workers fairly has built a hospital in Sri Nagar.

Hope we can welcome you to fair2all soon.

Currently we are open Tuesday – Friday 10.30 – 4.00 and Saturday 9.30 – 5.00. fair2all, 17 Bath Street, Ashby, LE65 2FH  
01530 417286 follow us on facebook Mandy

### The Billy Graham Connection

It wasn't until I read Roy Crowne's tribute to Billy Graham that I was reminded that it was Billy Graham who set up British Youth for Christ in the UK in the mid 1940s

As a musician Graham Kendrick was on the platform of one of the Mission England events and saw the hundreds of people coming forward. It was Graham Kendrick's recollection that reminded me of the vast organisation behind the campaigns – Hundreds of churches were recruited not only to pray for the outreach events but also to welcome the thousands who made a declaration of faith.

Let us not forget that Graham Kendrick together with Ishmael (Father God I wonder how I managed to exist...) and many other Christian songwriters can trace their Christian journey through Youth for Christ.

Have you been encouraged by some of the tributes to Billy Graham you have heard or read? If part of your 'faith story' includes a Billy Graham connection please can you write a few lines to share and encourage others?

I am sure I am not alone when challenged to invite someone to an event at church that I doubt what good it will do. If we can hear your testimony of how an invite to a Billy Graham event has made a difference in your life I am sure we will be encouraged to take a step of faith and give that invite or share part of our faith story.

Please write a few lines to encourage us all – send them to [mandymcintosh2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mandymcintosh2000@yahoo.co.uk) Let's hope we get enough to spread them over the next couple of magazines; you don't know how many people you will be encouraging!

Many Thanks

Mandy

**McLean's**

In January, Jonny had the opportunity to return to their first church planted 20 years ago in Lopburi. He was privileged to meet up with men he had disciplined who are now pastoring churches and planting churches themselves.

Ann has been working hard within the school in which she teaches to ensure that the Safeguarding policies are all in place to highly professional level all in time for a full Safeguarding audit by external auditors. This has been made much easier by their calm, positive but determined attitude of their new temporary headmaster.

Matthew has been short-listed for a scholarship at a local 6th form school which specialises in A-levels and will move there in August.

He is currently studying hard for IGCSE's and has found his knee injury a blessing in disguise as it has forced him to remain immobile and allowed him time for revision.

Bethan has chosen her ICSE options and will begin her course later this year. She asks for prayer to stay calm as she begins it and also to stay close to Jesus at school.

Joshua has begun to question Christianity a lot more and as a result is growing in faith.

**Exam time**

World wide it will shortly be exam time, and students everywhere should have their noses to the grindstone. May Christian students witness by the calm way in which they revise and the peaceable way in which they do it. 'God is their refuge and strength' (Psalm 46)

Michael and Caroline White will be upholding those at Essex University.



**Welcome Spring**

A great way to welcome Spring would be to invest in a beautiful Madaraff; ideal for popping a picnic in for days out or keeping your lunch and other goodies safe under your desk. A new selection has just arrived at fair2all.



These baskets are strong and long lasting. The strength comes from the construction – the inner basket is woven penjy which is covered by a variety of woven raffia 'fabric' making them attractive and colourful. Strong leather handles are riveted on to the basket and leather corners are added to make them a very durable. Madaraff baskets are made under fair trade conditions in Madagascar.

This means that everyone who has worked to produce your basket has been paid a fair wage for their work. The raffia fibres are the veins of the leaves of the Raffia Palm, often used by gardeners in its natural form for holding plant grafts together and as a 'natural string' to tie

A key part of Tearfund's hygiene work is training and promotion, encouraging people to practise and pass on good techniques to protect themselves and others from disease. In the Dohuk area of northern Iraq, Tearfund has so far reached 6,000 households with hygiene promotion.

- Ask God to bless this project, that people will be enthusiastic and receptive and that many will stay healthy through it.
- Pray for those in positions of power and authority in Iraq, that they would have wisdom in how to lead and would do so effectively, with compassion for all.
- Pray for peace and the effective provision of services and infrastructure to benefit the people.

*Dear Lord, we pray for an end to the conflict in Iraq. Please bless Tearfund's work providing water and help people avoid disease. Give the millions of displaced Iraqis strength and hope for the future. We ask that they will soon be able to return home and that both their temporary settlements and their original towns and villages will have the water, sanitation and hygiene they need. Amen.*

*'This is what the Lord says: do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed.'* – **Jeremiah 22:3**


For more information on the work of Tearfund as they celebrate 50 years of 'Following Jesus where the need is greatest' see

[www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org)

Mandy McIntosh

\*Names have been changed to protect identity





**Christian Aid Week 2018: 13 - 19 May**  
**Ashby churches events for Christian Aid**

**Saturday 24th March Barn Dance** 7.00 - 9.00 pm Holy Trinity Church Hall  
Adults £5, Children £2.50 (to include nibbles and soft drinks)  
From CA representatives or Tel 01530 467183  
Raffle Bring your own wine/beer and glasses

**Friday 6th April Quiz Evening** 7.30pm Trinity Church Hall  
Adults £5 (to include nibbles and soft drinks)  
From CA representatives or Tel 01530 467183  
Raffle Bring your own wine/beer and glasses

**Saturday 7th April Coffee Morning**  
10am - 12.00pm Congregational Church  
Coffee and Cakes

**Saturday 5th May Big Brekkie/Coffee n cake**  
10.00am - 12.00pm Baptist Church

**Thursday 17th May Christian Aid Lunch**  
12.00 - 2.00 pm Methodist Church  
(Suggested donation £6, to include soup, ham and chees 'ploughman's',  
Posh puddings, tea or coffee)

## 1 Corinthians 13 for parents

I can read bedtime stories till the cow jumps over the moon and sing "Ten Little Monkeys" until I want to call the doctor... but if I don't have love, I'm as annoying as a ringing phone.

I can chase a naked toddler through the house while cooking dinner and listening to voice mail. I can make the best cakes and tea in the neighbourhood and I can tell a sick child's temperature with one touch of my finger... but if I don't have love, I am nothing.

Love is patient while watching and praying by the front window when it's 30 minutes past curfew.

Love is kind when my teen says, "I hate you!"

Love does not envy the neighbours' swimming pool or their brand-new car, but trusts the Lord to provide every need.

Love does not brag when other parents share their disappointments and insecurities,

and love rejoices when other families succeed.

Love doesn't boast, even when I've multi-tasked all day long and my partner can't do more than one thing at a time.

Love is not rude when my spouse innocently asks, "What have you done today?"

Love does not immediately seek after glory when we see talent in our children, but encourages them to get training and make wise choices.

Love is not easily angered, even when my 13-year-old acts like the world revolves around her.

Love is not self-righteous when I remind my 17-year-old that he's doing 83 in a 60-mph zone, but rejoices in the truth.

Love does not give up hope.

Love always protects our children's self-esteem and spirit, even while doling out discipline.

Love always trusts God to protect our children when we cannot.

Love always perseveres, through blue nail polish, burps and other bodily functions, rolled eyes and crossed arms, messy rooms and sleepovers.

Love never fails.

But where there are memories of thousands of nappy changes and painful labour, they will fade away.

Where there is talking back, it will (eventually) cease.

Where there is a teenager who thinks she knows everything, there will one day be an adult who knows you did your best.

For we know we fail our children, and we pray they don't end up in counselling, but when we get to heaven, our imperfect parenting will disappear. (Thank you, God!)

When we were children, we needed a parent to love and protect us.

Now that we're parents ourselves, we have a heavenly Father who adores, shelters us and holds us when we need to cry.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these \*is\* LOVE!!

## Belonging - Life as a Syrian refuge

Bombs, machine gun fire - these were the constant sounds in my hometown in Syria. One night my parents sat me down and told me their plan. They said that I was to travel on my own to England. I would spend one month walking to the nearest port before spending some months on a boat to England. Once at the port I was packed onto a small motorboat with about fifty other people. We spent what felt like forever at sea with little room. It was horrible.

My parents also told me that in England there was a distant relative who would take me in to live with them. At the port I scanned the crowd but all I saw was... nothing. They weren't there. Had they forgotten me? I had come 4000 miles, risked my life to get here and for what? A huge wave of desperation crashed over me and I sank to my knees and wept. After I had consoled myself, I looked around the port. As I looked round, I noticed a small shack. Outside was a sign saying "Call a contact".

I went over and looked in. On a desk sat a telephone and phone book. I went in and looked for the telephone number. I found it, dialled it and nervously waited...

A Monologue by Harry Booton



### Wooden Reminder

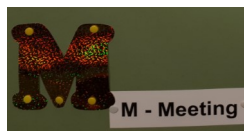
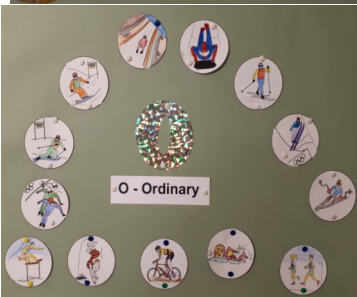
Some people think we worship,  
An old rugged, wooden cross.  
They laugh at us and say it was,  
The way they killed our boss.  
It could have been a hangman's noose,  
A spear, or sharpened sword.  
It could have been a heavy rock,  
They used to kill my Lord.  
It could have been an arrow's tip,  
The blade of someone's knife.  
It could have been a pit of flames,  
They used to take His life.  
I know they do not understand,  
To them it makes no sense.  
It's not the instrument of death.  
It's what it represents.  
It could have been so many things,  
To cause my Lord his loss.  
But, the thing that I remember most,  
He GAVE it on a CROSS!

by Poppy

( [www.inspirationalstories.com](http://www.inspirationalstories.com) )



# TRANSFORM



This is a pictorial record of the series we have followed over the last 9 weeks in our Sunday services

# You are invited to the LIFT OFF DISCO

On SATURDAY 21ST  
APRIL

From 5pm TO 7pm

At Ashby Congregational  
Church

£2.50 per person entry  
including refreshments  
(Proceeds to the Church  
Projects Fund)

COME ALONG AND ENJOY  
AN EVENING OF GOOD  
MUSIC

WHY NOT BRING SOME  
FRIENDS?

If you would like to request a song  
to be played on the night please  
email [dj@ejtechy.party](mailto:dj@ejtechy.party)



# Spring Fair and Plant Sale

**Where:** Ashby Congregational Church, Kilwardby Street

**When:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May

**Time:** 10am to 3pm

Refreshments,  
Plants, Games,

Cakes and  
lots more...

**FREE ENTRY**



## Special Prayers are needed for :-

Betty Asher; Joyce Beaman; Ron Beaman;  
Muriel Boshell; Margaret Fletcher;  
Michael Golightly; Sue Golightly; Pat Haywood;  
Pat Haywood's Family as they mourn for her son's  
Mother-in-law;  
Joyce Beaman & Family as they mourn for Ron;



## Give Praise and Thanks for :-

The opportunity to worship with other churches around  
our town at the World Day of Prayer Service.  
Our Mothers and other important women in our lives, as  
we celebrated Mothers' Day today.  
The Families helped by Ashby Food Bank this month.

Please continue to pray for friends who need our prayers

## Celebrating our Birthdays

Please Pray for those who have Birthdays in April

- 4th - Rachel Hedges
- 16th - Brian Botham
- 17th - Kemberley Aucott aged 13
- 26th - Alice Morrissey



A happy birthday to you, A happy birthday to you,  
May each day of the year, may you feel Jesus near.  
A happy birthday to you, a happy birthday to you  
May you know God is there with you.



**ASHBY CAR SERVICE**

The car rota will now run as an 'on request' service. Please ring

Margaret 461774  
 Carolyn 467929  
 or David 07732372472



if you would like a lift to any of our services."

**ASHBY FLOWERS**

<b>April</b>	1st	Mrs A. Perry	IN MEMORIAM
	8th	Mrs P. Haywood	IN MEMORIAM
	15th	Mrs S. Golightly	
	22nd	Mrs N. Hutton	
	29th	Mrs B. Bosworth	
<b>May</b>	6th	Mrs B. Asher	IN MEMORIAM



The East Midlands area has chosen our church to be Church of the Year for 2018. We were asked to write an article for the LINK and thought you might like to read it...

The first Congregational Church in Newton Burgoland was formed in 1790 by the Rev. William Ludford. Initially he preached from the house of Mary Haywood (where he lived until 1807), but a decision was made in 1796 to build a small chapel, paid for by the Rev Ludford and friends. This chapel was located on the opposite side of the Green from the current chapel.

The church soon outgrew this building, and a second was built on the current site (along with a house for the minister), opening in 1807 and having the word "HEPHZIBAH" ("in whom is my delight") over the entrance. Rev Ludford was the minister for over 30 years until his death in 1821. His remains were interred in front of the pulpit and a memorial tablet was erected to his memory.

The gallery and extra schoolrooms were added in 1840 where village children were educated, An extra room was also added to the Minister's house (now occupied by the caretaker)

The pipe organ was presented to the Church in 1935 by John Haywood Compton, founder of the "Compton organs" company of London and son of one of the earliest church secretaries mentioned in the records, also named John Compton.

More recently, in 2008, work was undertaken to update the building - removing several pews and installing a small kitchenette area thus allowing the building to be used more widely by the community - including the mobile Post office and local Rainbows, Brownies and Guide groups.

The garden was updated last year to offer a quiet space for reflection for the people of the village - thanks to grants from CF and the Menorca opencast community fund.

Although we are a small fellowship, we have a heart for loving God and our community and offer what we have to benefit those around and bring glory to God. We support the work of the Ashby Food Bank, through collecting food at our Harvest Festival and during the year, also Ashby Street Pastors and other charities.

**OUTREACH** - Please remember in prayer the following who have preaching engagements in April

**Rev Catherine Booton**

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Sunday services
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> – Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Integrated Training weekend at Nottingham
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Baptism of Georgia Hall
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly at Heather school Assembly at Newton school
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	Ashby foodbank Tesco collection
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly at Ashby C of E school
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lift-off disco
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Leading worship at Middleton by Wirksworth Congregational Church
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly at Heather school Assembly at Newton school



**APRIL 2018**

SUN 1st	4.00 pm	- Easter Service
SUN 8th	4.00 pm	- Rev C. Booton
SUN 15th	4.00 pm	- Mrs R. Aucott
SUN 22nd	4.00 pm	- No Service
SUN 29th	4.00 pm	- Mrs R. Aucott

**Baptismal Prayers**

On Sunday April 8th we shall remember in prayer, all those brought to us for Baptism

Kimberley Aucott

We shall also pray for Ashby Youth for Christ & all Street Pastors

**VERSE AND PRAYER FOR APRIL**

“Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges, he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names.”  
(Philippians 2:6-9)

Dear Jesus, thank you that you were prepared to come and live in this world and to die for all of us so that we can come back to God. Help us to live our lives knowing that the tomb is empty and you are alive again. May we serve you with all we have until your resurrection glory shines throughout the world.

**Amen**

**APRIL 2018**

SUN	1st	EASTER DAY	
	9.00am	Communion Service followed by breakfast	
	10.30am	Family Service	<b>Rev Catherine Booton</b>
Weds	4th	7.00pm Bible study	
Fri	6th	CCG 2	
Sat	7th	10am-noon	Coffee Morning & Cake Stall for CHRISTIAN AID
SUN	8th	10.30am	Family Service including baptism of Georgia June Hall <b>Rev C Booton</b>
Tues	10th	10.00am	Prayer meeting in the manse. All welcome
Wed	11th	7.00pm	Deacons meeting
Thur	12th	2.00pm	Guild Fellowship Speaker: Mrs Jan Shepherd Hosts: Glenda Booton & Stuart Manning
Fri	13th		CCG 3
SUN	15th	10.30am	Family Service with COMMUNION followed by Church lunch <b>Rev C Booton</b>
Wed	18th	7-8.30pm	Bible Study in the lounge
Fri	20th		CCG 4
Sat	21st	5-7pm	'Lift-off' Disco (for page 9 for details)
SUN	22nd	10.30am	Family Service <b>Rev Catherine Booton</b>
Thur	26th	2.00pm	Guild Fellowship Social Afternoon Hosts: Margaret Fletcher & Glenda Booton
Fri	27th		CCG 1
SUN	29th	10.30am	Family Service <b>Rev Catherine Booton</b>
<b>MAY</b>			
Fri	4th		CCG 2
Sat	5th	9.30-11.30am	'Lift Off' for all youngsters
SUN	6th	10.00am	Breakfast followed by
		10.45am	Informal Worship <b>Rev Catherine Booton</b>
+ advanced notice ...			
Sat	12th		Area event & Assembly in our church
		11am-1pm	Morning session led by a team from Christian Council on Ageing - "How do we express our love & care for the more mature?"
		2.30 -4.30pm	Area Assembly followed by refreshments
Sat	19th	10am-3pm	Spring Fair (see page 10 for details)