



RBC NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

Dear Church Family,

Apologies that our normal monthly newsletter is somewhat late being issued this month. The reason is, of course, that I only returned this week from my sabbatical – a wonderful time of peace, relaxation, spiritual input, theological reading, visiting other churches and quality family time. Thank you so much for allowing me this time to re-charge my batteries – it has done me the world of good, and I feel so much better for it!

The lateness of issuing the newsletter does mean that this one is being circulated on the anniversary of our first Churches Together United Morning Service. Amazingly a whole year has passed and three have taken place now since this time last year when Methodist, Church of England and Baptist congregations in Rye first trialled having *morning worship with Communion, together!* Some from other congregations have joined us too, which has been wonderful, and on each occasion these gatherings have totalled over 80 people, and the feedback has been overall really positive. So, Happy Anniversary! And a huge warm welcome to our brothers and sisters from other churches joining us today!

Another new ecumenical venture we would like to introduce soon is a Monthly Prayer Breakfast (on 3rd Saturday of the month) to pray for our community of Rye and District, and for the mission and ministry of all the churches. All are welcome – it will start on 21st October at 8 am in the RBC church hall – a simple breakfast followed by prayer in a variety of styles, and maybe the other clergy will take a turn in leading this on subsequent months. Prayer is, of course, the 'powerhouse' of the Church - and is essential for the success and guidance of all that we do in Jesus' Name. So we want to pray blessing on our community and for what we do in all our churches in both separate and Churches Together initiatives, but also - with the possibility of taking part in "*The Turning*" mission next year - the idea is to pray that God will prepare the ground, and plant the seeds, and that a significant spiritual harvest might be seen here. "*The Turning*" mission has seen remarkable results in varying parts of the country. Most recently in Wales, over 9 days, 3351 people prayed prayers inviting Jesus into their lives, following conversations on the streets! It would be wonderful to see something like that happening here! Please do join us on 21st Oct and in subsequent months to pray for that.

The end of September /beginning of October is traditionally the time in the Christian Church when we celebrate the agricultural harvest being safely gathered in. Here at RBC our Harvest Festival service will be next Sunday, 24th September, where we are focussing on, and collecting for, this year's BMS (Baptist Missionary Society) Appeal, which this year happens to be about Hope Home in Chiang Mai, Thailand, where our own Marguerite Kenward spent a fruitful three months on placement earlier this year. Such a worthwhile cause. A Harvest Supper will take place on the following Saturday evening (30th) where the menu should include some Thai food. Do book up if you would like to come – again all welcome.

Praying for God's richest blessing for us all as we love and serve Him,

Your friend and sister in Christ, **Fiona**

RBC Harvest Festival

RBC Harvest service – next Sunday 24th Sept

Harvest Supper – Saturday 30th September 7 for 7.30pm (*please put your name on the list*)

Harvest Festival Collections this year to BMS Appeal for Hope Home, Thailand (where Marguerite did 3 month mission placement this year.)

Envelopes available next week

Engage!

Our Men's fellowship group resumes on **Thurs 21st September** with a meal at **The Robin Hood, Icklesham**. Please let Ian know asap if you would like to come. All (men) welcome. October meeting on 19th Oct. Venue tbc.

Gathering at "The Well"

The September meeting has already taken place but all (Ladies) welcome to the next meeting on **Mon Oct 9th** from 2-4pm – tea, cakes, and an opportunity to chat and make new friends.

MRC Commendation for Molly!

Congratulations to Molly Boot who has been warmly commended to the Baptist Union for training as a Baptist Minister, by the Ministerial Recognition Committee . She commences her 2nd year of training in October .

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!

New!!! Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast

– to pray for our community – starting on 21st October 8am.

All welcome!

@ RBC downstairs hall on 3rd Saturday of the month – 8-9am.

A simple breakfast, and time to pray for blessing on our community, and for a spiritual harvest of people coming to faith and seeing their lives transformed through knowing Jesus.

A preparation for 'The Turning' mission, and to undergird all that our churches do together and separately in ministry and mission.

Please come along and pray with us for the Rye & District community.

Reminder: RBC Church Members' Meeting!

The next church members' meeting will take place on **Monday 16th October at 7.30pm. Please book the date!**

Prayer Corner

Please keep these folk in your prayers:
Molly Boot (starting 2nd year as Minister in Training)

Linda Jones & family

Joy Toft

Alan Strudwick

Eric & Jenny Anstead & family

Fiona & Ian Gill & family

Alan & Kay Young & family

Barbara Baker & family

Ni and Jenny Foy and family

Stan Estcourt

Ernie & Eve Palmer

Kathy Waller

Pat & Graham Smith

David Setchell

Tim & Helen – our BMS Church Partners