

Hinckley Methodist Church Magazine and Notices March 2026



Minister - Rev'd Edward Sakwe

t: 01455234929

m:07472920066



Welcome to this monthly edition of the Church 'Magazine' with the notices for March 2026.

Please share your opinions with either the editor or members of the Church Leadership as to how, going forward, it could be improved. Also, you don't need to wait until the end of March to send in any items to be included in the April edition. Best, Richard Smith (Editor)

Brian Vallance

As this magazine went to print we heard of the passing of our friend Brian Vallance. Brian was a loyal member of our fellowship for many years and his contribution was great, not least his work with others on the DARE refurbishment of our building and the reordering of our worship area. We thank God for Brian's faithful service and hold Helen and the family in our hearts and prayers.

Some Thank Yous

Thank you The coffee morning on January 31st raised £210 for Loros. Thank you all for your support. Deanna and Carol.

Thank you to all who supported and helped with our coffee morning last week, a total of £192.00 - £30-00 for Kitchen use was handed to Church funds Thanks Eddie Spencer

FLOWER ROTA - MARCH 2026 - AUGUST 2026 There is a new Flower Rota on the board for March 2026 until August 2026. As you can see, there are a lot of VACANT dates for flowers. If you feel you can put flowers on the Communion Table for any of the dates, please let me know - Cynthia Jordan 01455 890453.

A big thank you to all who provided flowers for the last Flower Rota.

EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

There is a story about a three- year old girl, Nicole. Nicole was as anxious for Easter to come as she had been anxious for Christmas to come.

One day as Nicole and her father stopped at a shoe shop to buy her a new pair of shoes.....she once again said, 'I can't wait for Easter Daddy'

Her father asked, 'Do you know what Easter means, my daughter? Nicole replied, 'Yes.' 'Well, what does Easter mean?'

In her three year old way, with arms raised, a smile on her face, she said, 'Surprise!'

The one consistent element in the Gospel accounts of that Easter morning is that everyone was surprised. No one expected an empty tomb, much less the presence of the risen Christ.

Nearly 2000 years later, we're still celebrating the good news of the empty tomb and passing it on to those who haven't yet heard or don't yet believe.

Because of the empty tomb our hearts can be filled with joy.

Because of the empty tomb, our homes can be filled with faith, hope and love.

Because of the empty tomb, we know that the promise of eternal life is true.

We thank God for the glorious surprise of Easter and for the love we see in Jesus Christ.

May Easter bring us comfort as we gratefully recall that Jesus loved each one of us and died to save us all.

Yours in His service, Edward Sakwe

Sunday worship at 10.30 am at Hinckley Methodist Church

March 1st Colin Haddon - Parade Service

March 8th Rev Edward Sakwe - Holy Communion

March 15th Karen Berry - Mothering Sunday

March 22nd Rev Steve Hoggar - Church Anniversary

March 29th Rev Brian Kennard - Palm Sunday

April 5th Colin Haddon - Easter Day Holy Communion

Lent Course Meetings – Tuesdays at 11.30 am

March 3rd led by Gwen Coley

March 10th led by Rev Edward

March 17th led by Gwen

March 24th led by Rachel Cobb

March 31st led by Rev Edward with Holy Communion

We meet in the lower schoolroom for prayer, Bible reading and discussion, followed by lunch and a craft session. We invite you to bring your own sandwich, and we will provide soup, a cake and a drink. Everyone is welcome to come along. You are welcome to sit and listen – you don't have to speak, and the craft activity is optional if crafts aren't your thing.

Saturday Coffee Mornings at 10.00am onwards.

March 7th Guides

March 14th Guild. Collection of Mothering Sunday Flowers

March 21st Stewards Church Anniversary see notice

March 28th Free

April 4th Beavers/Cubs

April 11th Free

April 18th Guild

April 25th Free

Contact Margaret Pearce 07733240873 to volunteer for free dates.

Events this month

Tuesday March 10th 2pm Ladies Guild

Wednesday March 11th 7pm Church Council

Saturday March 21st 10.00 am Church Anniversary and Gift Day extended coffee morning with entertainment from the Tin Hat Ukes from 11-11.45. The Mile of Pennies will be operating so we will be pleased to receive any small change you have, as well as any gifts that you may wish to make towards our annual Gift Day.

Thursday April 2nd 7pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service conducted by Rev Edward.

Friday April 3rd 9.30 Reflective Service for Good Friday, followed by Town Walk of Witness at 11.am.

Prayers for Sunday 1st March 2026

(Taken from Methodist Lent Course)

Mon 2nd March – God of the wilderness, as we are on this journey of Lent, help us to travel lightly, strip away what distracts us, and draw us closer to your heart. May we find you not only in comfort, but in quiet and simplicity.

Tues 3rd March – Spirit of life, you move where you will – unseen, unexpected and free. Help us loosen our grip on what is fixed and familiar, and open ourselves to your breath of transformation. May we be light, open and ready to be moved by you.

Wed 4th March – God of overflowing grace. Thank you for the gifts that surround us. Help us to see beyond what we lack and trust in your generous love. May we live with open hands and grateful hearts.

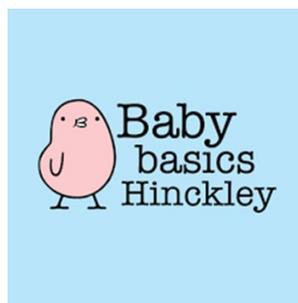
Thurs 5th March – God who sees the heart, teach us to look with compassion, not assumption. Help us to honour the dignity in every person, including ourselves. May we be people of grace, welcome and understanding.

Fri 6th March – God of restoration, breathe life into what feels broken or forgotten. Help us to trust in your power to renew and revive. May hope rise again in us fresh and fierce.

Sat 7th March – Gentle Jesus, teach us to lead with compassion, to speak with kindness and to choose peace even when the world demands power, May our hearts be soft and strong like yours.

Sun 8th March – Lord, may today be a day of worship to you, remembering everything you went through during Lent and Easter time – just because you love us. You alone are holy and worthy of our praise.

Baby Basics



Baby Basics Hinckley has been running for nearly 3 years now and we are very grateful for all the support we get from the church, church community and town. We have a wonderful team of 10 volunteers who meet every Tuesday morning to pack up beautiful bundles of clothing, toiletries and much more for families that are in need in our community. Last year we gave out 63 referrals (which is over 1 a week) to families in need and this year we have already done 12 – with many more to do. In total we have supported 173 families. We are so pleased to be part of Baby Basics UK and last year, the centres all around the UK supported 45,750 children and families. Thank you to all who volunteer, support us and donate to us in so many different ways.

Recently we have been invited to speak at St Catherine's Church, Burbage and the Ladies Fellowship at the Salvation Army about the work we do. We thank both of them for the generous donations to us. We are looking forward to working alongside Morrisons and Asda in the next few months – so please keep a look out. It is a blessing to be able to help the families with these wonderful gifts and we know that they are appreciated.

Any more information – please speak to Rachel Cobb or contact babybasicshinckley@gmail.com

Prayers for Sunday 8th March 2026

Mon 9th March – Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, may we focus today on your world. We thank you for this world you created for us, the beauty and wonder of the earth, seas and skies.

Tues 10th March – Dear Lord, at this time of Lent, may we focus today on the homes that we have. We thank you for the safety of the places we live in, the roof over our heads and all we have. Help us not to always want for more and be content with our lives.

Wed 11th March – Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, may we focus today on Jesus' time in the wilderness. Help us to be still today and spend time reading Matthew 4 v 1-11

Thurs 12th March – Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, help us to reflect on Jesus'; time in the wilderness. Think about the times when we get tempted, pray for God to intercede and turn us back to him and what is right.

Fri 13th March – Dear Lord, in this time of Lent and reflecting on Jesus in the wilderness. Today focus on the word of God. Help us to look to the bible in our everyday lives.

Sat 14th March – Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, help us to always trust in the Lord from the moment we wake up to when we go to sleep. Ask God to guide us each day.

Sun 15th March – Dear Lord, in the Lent time, help us to always focus our worship to God Putting him above all other things in our lives.

Hinckley Community Choir

There have been a number of studies over the years showing the positive effect singing (especially as part of a group) has on mental health and well-being. If anyone is unconvinced, a visit to a Community Choir practice on a Tuesday evening would certainly prove the point! We continue to welcome new members, with regular attendance now over 40 and, in recent weeks, approaching 50.

It is wonderful to hear the sound and amazing harmonies produced by so many people singing together. Equally, it is great to hear the buzz of conversation before and after practices as people catch up with those they know and new friendships are formed. It would be hard to imagine a more committed, supportive and sociable group of people!

Christmas was our busiest, most exciting season so far. Our annual Christmas Carol Evening was once again a great success, with a large audience and £280 raised for LOROS. We had the privilege again of singing at the council's Car Lights Trail, helping to spread some Christmas cheer to many people who really needed it and being thoroughly blessed ourselves in the process. This year, we also had the chance to perform in two wonderful new events for us – the St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival and Magnify at the Leonardo Hotel. Both of these were lovely occasions and the choir's contribution was very well received. We are currently working towards our Summer Concert which, this year, takes place on Tuesday 30 th June, 7pm in the church.

The choir continues to be very grateful to the church for allowing us the use of the room. This means we are able to continue to be a free activity - so truly a "Community" Choir, open to everyone in the Hinckley area. Thank you so much for your on-going support.

Prayers for Sunday 15th March 2026

(Taken from Singing the Faith – Lent and Temptation)

Mon 16th March – When we are tempted to barter our souls, trading the truth for the power to control, teach us to worship and praise only you, seeking your will in the work that you do.

Tues 17th March – So, if Satan pressing hard, soul and body would destroy. Christ who conquered, be our guard, give us to the victors joy.

Wed 18th March – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the worlds tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee. Yet, processing every blessing, if our God our Father be.

Thurs 19th March – When we face temptations power, lonely, struggling, filled with dread. Christ, who knew the tempter's hour come and be our living bread. By your grave protect, preserve us, lest we fall, your trust betray, yours above all other voices, be the word we hear, obey.

Fri 20th March – Christ our redeemer knew temptations hour in desert places, silent and apart, and three times over met the tempter's power with God's word, written in his heart.

Sat 21st March – When we were in the darkest night and wondered if our eyes would ever see the light, you were there Lord. When we were in the stormy gale and wondered if we would ever live in peace again, you were there Lord. You were there in the struggle, you were there in the night, you were there all the time.

Sun 22nd March – We praise you, the God of our yesterdays. We praise you, the God who is here today. We praise you; our God as tomorrow comes. We thank you for grace in our yesterdays. We thank you for peace in our hearts today. We thank you – our joy as tomorrow comes. We will trust you God.

Prayers for Sunday 22nd March 2026

Mon 23rd March – Spend time today writing your testimony. Ask God to help you, to guide you in your writing and ask God to surround you with strength and love.

Tues 24th March – Go for a walk, or as you travel, take time to pray over an area/place that needs to know God, his love and his word. Ask God to help that place.

Wed 25th March – Pray for a situation in the news that needs the truth of God's word. With so much evil happening, pray that God will intervene to change people's hearts.

Thurs 26th March – Pray for our church buildings. Ask God to help us use these buildings for his glory and not our own. Pray for all the activities to shine the light of Jesus, to help all find hope in the Lord.

Fri 27th March – Spend time today praying for confidence in our faith. Help us to speak God's love in our conversations with others and to share our faith story to help others find Jesus.

Sat 28th March – Pray today for God to take away all fear and anxiety when we face challenges in our daily lives. Help us to trust in God and not in our own understanding.

Sun 29th March – Challenge yourself today to speak to someone in church or in your day and share what God has done for you this week. Ask God to help you speak and share with love and joy. Today we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem and how everyone praised the son of God.



TIN HAT UKES to play at church anniversary coffee morning Saturday 21st March. Who are they?

Formed during the Covid pandemic six years ago by their group leader Martyn Fisher, the Tin Hat Ukes initially connected on Zoom, but as restrictions eased, they transitioned to meeting in parks and open spaces. They now meet every Wednesday 1.30 - 3.15 pm at the St Francis Centre, located on Tudor Road, Hinckley. The group actively participates in community outreach by performing at local WI Groups, Residential Homes and Churches to raise funds for Charity.

They warmly welcome new players and singers to join us in making music and sharing joy with our community. At the Anniversary Coffee Morning please join in with the songs and become part of the musical journey!

Prayers for Sunday 29th March 2026

Mon 30th March – Remembering Jesus in the temple – read Matthew 21 v12-17. Pray for churches and homes to always give glory to God.

Tues 31st March – Remembering the parable of the wedding banquet – read Matthew 22 v1-14. Help us to always put God first in our lives and to not busy ourselves with distractions that take up apart from God.

Wed 1st April – Remembering what Jesus said about the day and the hour unknown – read Matthew 24 v36-51. Help us to always be prepared for the coming of Jesus – ready and open to do God's work and submitting ourselves to making disciples to enable then to know the promise of heaven.

Thurs 2nd April – Remembering the Last Supper – read Matthew 26 v 17-30. Help us Lord to always speak Jesus and never betray his name. Thank you, God, that we can share communion to remember all that Jesus did went through – the pain in his body and the blood he shed.

Fri 3rd April – Remembering the crucifixion – read Matthew 27 v 32-56. Lord Jesus, we thank you for all that you did because you love us. We take time to reflect on this.

Sat 4th April – Think today about what thoughts were going through the minds of all those that were there after Jesus had died – the disbelief, the unbelief, the doubt, the anger, the hope, the sadness. Pray for those who have doubts today – help them to believe.

Sun 5th April – Remembering the resurrection – read Matthew 28 v 1-10. We thank you God, for the miracle of the resurrection. Alleluia – Jesus is alive!! We thank you for miracles that happen now. We worship with joy, hope and excitement for more miracles.

News From The Vine Bookshop

It is hard to think of in this chilly weather, but thoughts are already turning toward Easter and we are pleased to have a wide selection of Christian Easter cards now in stock. Packs of small cards and individual cards with bible verses are available - we have Mothering Sunday cards in stock also. We have a lovely new range of adult and children's books from our supplier - do pop in for a leaflet of the new titles or come and browse the shelves for these special offers. We are always happy to take orders over the phone or via email to 01455 612345 and thevinehinckley@hotmail.co.uk - we also regularly update our Facebook and Instagram pages. For Lent only we have a special offer of all herbal teas only £2 per pot of tea - that includes green tea, peppermint, chamomile and red berries - all are Fairtrade. Simply mention the 'Lenten Tea' offer at the till; we look forward to seeing you.

Kind regards, Grace, The Vine Bookshop Hinckley

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; for without me you can do nothing. John 15:5

You can support The Vine when purchasing any books via our bookshop.org page

Registered Charity Number 1182179

Hinckley Methodist Church Anniversary
and Gift Weekend



Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd March

Saturday Extended Coffee Morning 10.00am
onwards with Musical entertainment by the Tin Hat
Ukes at about 11.00am.

Also, we will be creating a 'mile of pennies' – an
opportunity to donate those unwanted coppers.

Sunday Anniversary Worship at 10.30am led by
Rev'd Steve Hoggar.