

Dear Church family

'When saint Columba sent his monks out from Iona to convert the peoples of northern Europe, his instructions to them were very simple: Go and settle in a community and let them see the way that you live, No door to door evangelism, no preaching on street corners; Columba felt that their lifestyle would speak for itself. And it did.'

Eggs and Ashes Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhill

This paragraph I have just read got me thinking. This took place at a time which was very different from ours, but the mission field was hard, as is ours today.

I wonder If we were sent out like Columba's brothers to a new community how long would it take our neighbours to recognise us as God's pilgrims? If we didn't tell them of course, and would that be hard for us? We live in a world full of words, in person or electronically there are so many voices out there. Voices not only vying for our attention but trying to convince us of the truth of their conversation.

Is our vision of faith clear and shining or has it become clouded by the mists of circumstances? I can't believe life was easy for those brothers either. But in obedience they took on the challenge to reflect the Gospel in their lives and they succeeded.

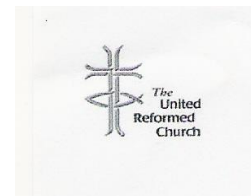
Columba's recruits were not asked to do anything other than live Christ like lives, no door knocking, no preaching, just settle in a community and show them how your faith leads you to live.

As we walk the Lenten road let us look to what burdens us and stops us from walking Christ's way. Let Christ take them from us. Then we can walk his way of peace, shine our faith in the community that we call ours, and reflect the gospel too.

Blessings,

Lynne

The Church in Hope Street LEP



CHURCH NOTICES

MARCH 2022



At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Mark 1:12-14

Mission Statement

Our mission is to help all people understand and respond to the depth of God's love for them

Morning Service 10:30am **Sunday 6th March**
 Traditional Stephen Morgan

Morning Service 10:30am **Sunday 13th March**
Communion Service Lynne Le Masonry

Morning Service 10:30am **Sunday 20th March**
 Visitor Derek Gallagher

Morning Service 10:30am **Sunday 27th March**
Mothering Sunday Lynne Le Masonry

MESSAGES

"**Sheila** would like to thank those who sent cards
 and/or telephoned on her 'special' Birthday"

CHRISTMAS CARD DONATIONS

Thank you for your contributions amounting to £138.02
 It was decided to share the money equally between
 Curley's Farm and Sheerness RNLI

BIRTHDAYS

27th February – Kathy, 16th March – Gladys, 25th March - Sharon

EASTER COFFEE MORNING

Friday 8th April 9:30am – 11:00am

In the Coffee Shop

Refreshments – Cakes – RAFFLE – Bric-a-brac

ALL WELCOME

Extra seating in the Church

Notices for April should be available from Sunday 27th March
 Please let me know if you would like something included. Heather

Dates for your Diary

Taketime is a series of relaxing guided meditations
 based on the stories of Jesus and the tradition of St Ignatius

Taketime Together *taketime* is now meeting on Fridays, 11:15pm in Church

Living with Dementia

Meetings are on 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

Also, the group will now meet on any 5th Thursdays in the month.

Please contact Janet for more information.

Sewcially Crafternoon Tea

Sewcially Crafternoon Tea is having a short break.

Meetings will resume on Friday 8th April at 1:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you then.

CHURCH MEETING

Please make a note of the next meeting:

MONDAY 25th APRIL 2022 AT 2:00pm IN THE CHURCH

Contributions welcome for FOOD BANK & COMMUNITY BUS

Thank you for donating food items - packets, tins etc. and toiletries
 for the food bank and the Community Bus.

LENT COURSES

There is some information about Lent Courses from the
 Methodist Circuit. Please see posters at the front of the
 Church.