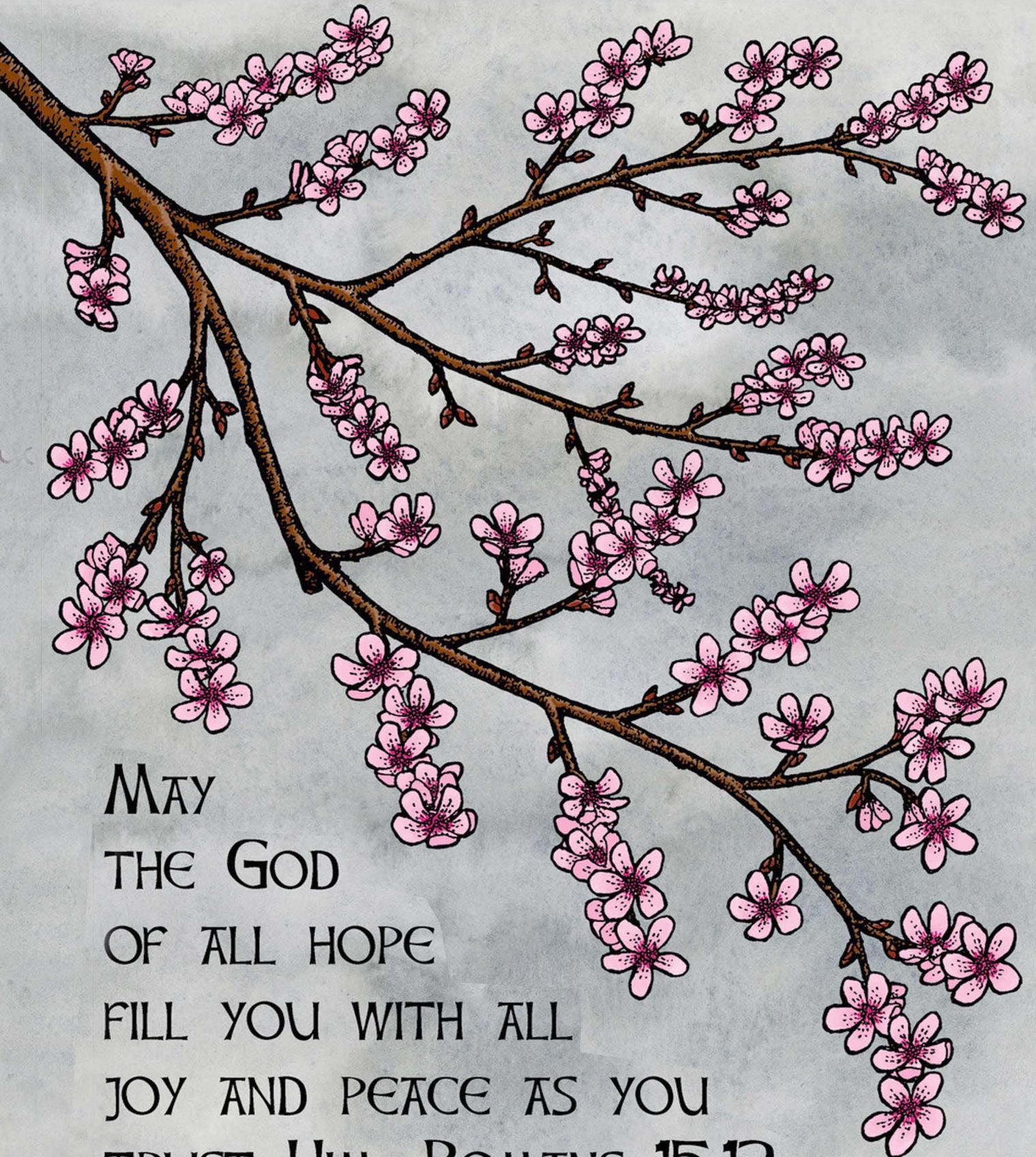




February
2019



MAY
THE GOD
OF ALL HOPE
FILL YOU WITH ALL
JOY AND PEACE AS YOU
TRUST HIM. ROMANS 15:13

Dear Friends,

I don't know how you feel about winter, but I find a real enjoyment in crisp mornings and in snow covered landscapes. As I am writing this, Fiona and I are just back from a week in Austria where we were able to ski and walk in the beautiful surroundings of Seefeld in Tirol. The snow was thick on the ground – carefully groomed on the local ski slopes and lying heavy on the trees of the local forests, through which cleared paths had been made. For us it was a time of relaxation and wonder, a chance to recharge our minds (and bodies) but I was also aware that what was, for us, a place of recreation was a challenge for others. The area had had several feet of snow, but roads and paths were kept open, trails were made and maintained not only for those of us adventurous (stupid) enough to slide down hills with a couple of hi-tech planks on our feet but also for those who wanted to explore further afield with cross-country skis or snowshoes – or just walking boots! The local farms had all had to find winter pasture or shelter for their livestock, deliveries still had to be made and people still had to be cared for in many different ways. It was through the support of a great many people that we were able to enjoy the few days we had in this beautiful part of the world.

As we returned to the UK, I was aware that this time last year we had suffered a great deal of disruption with 'The Beast from the East' and the snow that it brought. Hopefully this year will not be as bad from a weather point of view, but it reminds us that we need to remember to support each other in difficult times. With the news being full of uncertainties, and with so much need around us it is important that we don't forget the importance of part of a wider community. Jesus said that people would know us as his disciples by our love (John 13:35), would those who face the storms recognise us?

A winter prayer (based on Psalm 147:16-18):

*May the one who spreads the snow like wool, and scatters the frost like ashes,
Give us grace to withstand the icy blast, and offer shelter from the storms.
May the warmth of His word melt our hearts, and open our hands. Amen.*

God bless,

Allan.

PREACHING PLAN FOR February 2019

3/2/19	Morning Worship	Rev Allan Smith	Brian Cartwright, Judith Wilson, Jean Roper	Judith Wilson	Brian Cartwright	Max Healey
10/2/19	Communion	Eddie Reubens	Mary Howley, Sylvia Griffin, Alan Cook	Cath Taylor	Wendy Cook	Mary Howley
17/2/19	Communion	Brian Cartwright	Eddie & Diane Reubens	Judith Wilson	Judith Wilson	Jean Roper
24/2/19	Morning Worship	Judith Wilson	Max & Mary Healey	Eddie Reubens	Diane Reubens	Eddie Reubens

Future Events:-

Bible Study:

Wednesday 6th February 2019 12-30 pm

Wednesday 20th February 2019 12-30 pm

We will watch Nooma CDs

Bible Study Lent Course 2019

After the success of Les Misérables last year we are again going to look at a recent film 'The Greatest Showman'. The whole film will be shown on Ash Wednesday 6th March after the coffee morning starting around 12-30pm. Even if you don't want to participate in the course everyone is welcome to come and watch the film. Bring your own lunch, popcorn & choc ice.

The study of this film will be on Wednesday 13th, 20th, 27th March and 3rd, 10th, 17th April at 12-30pm.

CHURCH MEETING: The next church meeting will be held after the service on Sunday 24th February 2019.

Minister: Rev Dr Allan Smith 02477 921 338

allan.smith@urcnorthwarwicksire.org.uk

Church website : www.horestongranchurch.co.uk

March newsletter deadline : Mon 25th February

wendycook402@gmail.com

Do you have spare room in your home?

Could you offer temporary shelter to a victim of human trafficking?

Helen and Jared Hodgson have started the only charity in the UK which provides a home to the victims of human trafficking, and they are seeking churchgoers across the UK who will help, by providing temporary accommodation.

So far, the Hodgson's *Hope at Home* charity has about 14 host families, but they estimate that they need 1000 such welcoming, safe homes.

Hope at Home began when Helen and Jared went to India and worked with street children. There they met girls who had been trafficked into the sex industry. The horrors they heard about shocked and moved them, so that when they returned home they moved to a bigger house, in order to set up Hope at Home, and have spare rooms to offer.

The need for UK safe homes is huge. At any one time the Global Slavery index estimate that about 136,000 people are being trafficked in the UK alone. People are trapped in the sex industry, domestic servitude, working in nail bars, agriculture and car washes, to name but a few.

Some 5145 victims were rescued in the UK by the police and other agencies last year. But once they have left the temporary safe house that they are initially sent to, many survivors face destitution and are vulnerable to being re-trafficked.

One victim whom the Hodgsons took in, Sarah (not real name) stayed with them for a year. She says: "They made me feel very comfortable. They tell me they love me – I've never heard this before in my whole life. Now I can do things I was scared to do before: I can go out, and I don't lock myself away. I had tried to kill myself before, because I was so lonely.

The charity is looking for host families especially in Sheffield, Bristol, and the **West Midlands**, where it has strong relationships with partner agencies who can support survivors and host families.

Helen Hodgson stresses that it is crucial that the local church supports any host family who takes on the challenge, by both prayer and giving time to befriend the recovering victim, and share with them the love of God.

More details at: <http://www.hopeathome.org.uk/>



Nuneaton Foodbank

c/o 157 Windermere Avenue
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19th January 2019 Update and thanks

Dear Foodbank Supporters and Donors,

We hope that 2019 has started well for you, and thank you very much indeed for your ongoing support during the past year.

Sincere apologies for the delay in producing this latest update - as you will see from the data below it has been an extremely busy time, both at the warehouse and in our centres. We have had to focus on the logistical challenges that this activity has presented in the past few weeks, and trust that you will understand why this delay has happened.

Since the last update on 9th December, we have distributed food to **1062** people, (which has included **504** children).

Included in these figures are the numbers fed through our Christmas Food and Toys project, which we have again run jointly with the Salvation Army. This year we made up Christmas Hampers which were distributed by professionals from Nuneaton and Bedworth Children's Team, from Nuneaton Family Support Workers Team, and Stockingford Early Years Centre.

Most of this data has now been collated, and through this joint work with agencies we fed a total of **504** people, (which included **300** children)

Our volunteers have 'signposted' the adults visiting our four centres to further help and support in order to begin to move them out of the crisis they are in.

LATEST DATA as at 18th January

Number of people fed since last update	Total Numbers fed from 1 st April 2018	Total Numbers fed since launch in 2013	Food donated since last update	Food distributed since last update	Difference in amount collected
1062 which included 504 children	3752 which included 1365 children	23890 which included 8853 children	5161.4kgs (11355.0lbs: 101.38cwt: 5.07 tons)	5181.4kgs 11399.0lbs: 101.78cwt: 5.08 tons)	0.01 of a ton more distributed than donated

As you can see, we have had 5.07 tons of food generously donated over this period, but have distributed 5.08 tons - we have distributed 20kgs more than has been donated over the period. This has meant that an amazing 10 tons of food has been processed by the warehouse team over this period, and we would like to thank all those volunteers involved in collecting, sorting, dating, stacking, and then preparing requisitions to go out from the warehouse. We would especially want to thank Dave Parr, our warehouse manager, for all that he has done to enable this huge operation to feed those in need in the Nuneaton area to take place.

We have been extremely grateful for all the donations we have received over this period, and we have distributed all of this, and 0.01 of a ton more than this. We could not have done this without your help and support = **THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH**





THANK YOU 15TH NUNEATON CUBS

In December members of the 15th Nuneaton Cub Pack held a special collection for the Nuneaton Foodbank. We would like to thank all the members of the Cub Pack, and all their parents and friends who took part in this collection.

Pictured here are members of the 15th Nuneaton Cub Pack with Gailyn Groves, one of the Nuneaton Foodbank Management Team, who came out with David Craddick from the Foodbank Management Team, to receive this extremely helpful donation

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES

We all would like to thank everyone who donates to the foodbank - Churches - Schools - local businesses and organisations, and individual donors, who regularly donate food to help those in need locally.

We are always very pleased to receive individual and corporate cash donations, which help us to purchase bread and spread and other items, such as baby milk, nappies etc which we add to food parcels as needed.

SHOPPING LIST OF ITEMS WE NEED URGENTLY

We know that people like to know what we are particularly in need of when they are thinking of donating food, **and at the moment we would be really grateful for:-**

Fruit Juice; Small packs of Instant Mash; Large packs of Instant Mash; Steamed Puddings;

As always, any donations at all are very warmly welcomed, but the above items are particularly needed.

If you are aware of friends or relatives that might wish to support the work of the foodbank in helping families in need in the local Nuneaton community, and who want to know where they can make food donations, the following places kindly have collection points:-

ASDA; SAINSBURYS; ATTLEBOROUGH CO-OP; BULKINGTON CO-OP; YORKSHIRE BANK; NUNEATON TOWN HALL; CAFFE NERO; NUFFIELD HEALTH GYM and many local churches.

WE URGENTLY NEED VOLUNTEERS

In order to continue to provide the support needed at our four centres, which working together give access five days a week to emergency food parcels for those in need, we rely on the help of volunteers. We are always grateful for the help of volunteers, and there are a number of different jobs that need to be done in order to enable the Nuneaton Foodbank to operate efficiently.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP?

If you would like to help us by being a volunteer please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator (nfbvolunteers@gmail.com)

Again many thanks to you all for your ongoing generous support.

Kind regards,
David



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Thank you all so much

23.8kgs

The Nuneaton Foodbank gratefully acknowledges this extremely helpful donation of food from

Horeston Grange Church Centre

Thank you very much indeed for your gifts to support those in need in Nuneaton

10th December 2018 - 19th January 2019

David Stanier

David Stanier

Chair of Nuneaton Foodbank Management Committee

Smile Lines

Sin

A young minister, serving his first church, noticed that one of his flock had been absent from services several Sundays in a row, so he decided to see her and ask the reason. The old woman shook her head and looked at him pityingly. "Son," she said, "you can't help me. You are not old enough to have sinned enough to have repented enough to be able to preach about it."

Student

A college student wrote a letter home, and it said in its entirety: 'Dear Dad and Mum, please write soon, even if it is only a few pounds.'

Manner of speaking

'Are your father and your mother in?' asked the vicar when the small boy opened the door.

'They was in,' said the youngster. 'But they is out.'

'They was in. They is out. Where's your grammar, young man?'

'She's gone upstairs, for a nap.'

Rice

A man who had been dating a girl for a number of years took her out to a Chinese restaurant. As they studied the menu he asked: 'How would you like your rice, fried or boiled?'

She looked at him sadly. 'Thrown.'

Be my Valentine

Young man: Do you love me?

Young lady: Yes.

Young man: But can you live on my income?

Young lady: Certainly. Though - what will you live on?

Brilliant

First man: Did anyone in your family ever make a brilliant marriage?

Second man: Only my wife.

Church of England parishes supporting winter shelters

More than 2,300 Church of England congregations are running or supporting night shelters this winter as homelessness projects expand to cope with rising demand. Some of these 'church' night shelters are adding extra beds, and others are opening for longer during the week.

The Rt Rev James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester, and Chair of the Christian housing charity, Housing Justice, said: 'The reasons why people end up on the streets are complex, with many facing mental ill-health, many having been in care as children, and a good number having been released from prison.'

'Behind the distressing rise in numbers, we must remember that behind each statistic is a person, a human being made in God's image and thus worthy of dignity. I give thanks for all those who work tirelessly to serve those who live on our streets or in other unstable settings.'

All the lonely people

Where do they all come from?

All the lonely people

Where do they all belong?

The Beatles saw loneliness all around them back in the 60s, when they wrote the lyrics to *Eleanor Rigby*. And loneliness is growing: the number of lonely over-50s will hit two million within seven years, according to recent data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing.

The study points out that older people often live alone, lack someone to confide in, or are widowed, or are in poor health, or are unable to do the things they want, or feel that they do not belong in their neighbourhood

Caroline Adams, Age UK's charity director warns that such loneliness will bring 'serious consequences for their physical and mental health, and therefore for the NHS, unless we take action now.' But action will be a challenge, for the adult social care sector is badly over-stretched, with up to 110,000 jobs vacant across the country.

Quotes of the month

With Valentine's Day and Love in mind:

It is astonishing how little one feels poverty when he loves. – *Bulwer*

Men should keep their eyes wide open before marriage, and half shut afterward.
- *Madame Scuderi*

Two souls with but a single thought, two hearts that beat as one. – *E F J von Munch-Bellinghausen*

The Christian is supposed to love his neighbour, and since his wife is his nearest neighbour, she should be his deepest love. – *Martin Luther*

One of the best legacies a father can leave his children is to love their mother. - *C Neil Strait*

**

With Lent coming, we consider prayer...

Kneel before you leap. – *George Allen*

Anything is a blessing which makes us pray. - *C H Spurgeon*

Satan is far more anxious to keep us off our knees than he is to keep us off our feet! – *Ivor Powell*

Too many people pray like little boys who knock at doors, then run away. - *Anon*

Tears are often the telescope by which men see far into heaven. – *H W Beecher*
A prayer in its simplest definition is merely a wish turned God-ward. *Phillips Brooks*

Her eyes are homes of silent prayer. – *Tennyson*

The Lord's Prayer is not, as some fancy, the easiest, the most natural of all devout utterances. It may be committed to memory quickly, but it is slowly learned by heart. - *Anon*

A clenched fist produces anger; an open hand produces harmony. - *Anon*

A mother can touch a whole generation just by loving her own child well. - *Anon*

RADIO PLAY

‘Once Upon a Rhyme’ Panto style

SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 6.30PM

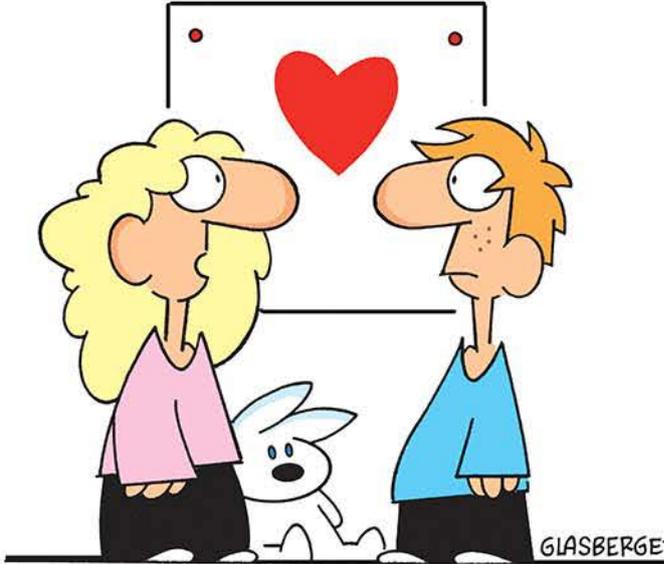
**TICKETS £6 includes a ploughmans
supper (bring own drinks)**

**Tickets available from Wendy & Alan
Cook**

***Performed by Horeston Grange
Church players***



"YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT WHEN I GOT YOU FLOWERS FROM THE PETROL STATION, SO THIS YEAR I'VE BOUGHT YOU A LITRE OF ENGINE OIL."



"Valentine's Day is the holiday where men give presents to the woman they love to make up for the way they screwed up at Christmas."

Church Mice



You can't just give a girl a card anymore on Valentines day....you've got to tweet, post and share your feelings to the whole world!

