



HEREFORDSHIRE NEWS

*Churches Together in Herefordshire is grateful to those who have individually donated and to some of its sponsoring bodies for an increase in their subscriptions (Heart of England Baptist Association; United Reformed Church West Midlands Synod; Roman Catholic Herefordshire Deanery). This has enabled us to balance the books for this coming year – **thank you!***

Deadline for copy for the next newsletter – 25th February.

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Christians Together in Ledbury – Ecumenical Worship

Most Churches in Ledbury closed to join together last month for a well-attended Joint Service to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. However the people of Ledbury are used to worshipping together across denominational boundaries, as they meet together every Monday at Ledbury Baptist Church, at 8pm for Ecumenical Worship. All are welcome to join them.

Churches Together in Kington – Candlemas

The Christians in Kington will be celebrating Candlemas together this year with a service to be held at St Bede's Church, Kington on Saturday 2nd February at 11.30am, followed by a Bring and Share Lunch. All are welcome to join them.

Churches Together in Ewyas Harold – meeting

Churches Together in Ewyas Harold will be holding their next meeting on Tuesday 5th February at 7.30pm in the Baptist Hall in Ewyas Harold. Anyone interested in their plans for the year is welcome to attend.

Churches Together Groups - Plans for Lent

Nearly all the 10 Groups around Herefordshire have plans for Lent – study groups or Lent Lunches. **Churches Together in Weobley** - Lent Bible Studies starting on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Details from any Weobley church.

Christians Together in Bromyard – Lent Lunches (with bible study, prayer and reflection) every

Wednesday at 12.45pm from March 6th at Bromyard Methodist Church. Further venues for subsequent Wednesdays to be announced.

Christians Together in Ledbury – Ecumenical Discussion Groups looking at 'The Final Week', a new resource compiled by John Birch www.faithandworship.com/Amazing_Love.htm held at various times from Monday-Thursday – details from Stephen Chowns Tel 01531 634896 Opening Service at 7.30pm Thursday 28th February at the Parish Room, Holy Trinity Church, Ledbury.

Churches Together in Ewyas Harold - Lent Lunches at which representatives from local Christian charities have been invited to speak including a Food Bank; Borderlines Rural Chaplaincy; Marches Christian Environmental Network; Christian Community Action for Refugees & Asylum Seekers; Vennture. Thursdays, 14th March – 11th April, 12.30pm for soup lunch, 1-2pm for talk and discussion.

Churches Together in Kington – Lent Study Groups to be held on Tuesdays at 7.30pm at 'Peacehaven'; Thursdays at 10.30am at 'Border Bean' and Fridays at 3pm at Kington Baptist

Church all from the week beginning March 11th. The groups will be looking at "Who is the Christ?" by Anne Calver. Details from Kington churches.

Christians Together in Colwall – the Christians in Colwall are organising an event with an invited speaker – see details in churches.

Churches Together in Leominster – opportunities to join Lent groups – details from churches. Lent Lunches: March 15th – St Ethelbert's Parish Room; March 22nd – Green Lane Methodist Church; March 29th Baptist Church Hall; April 5th – Moravian Church Hall; April 12th – Forbury Chapel.

Women's World Day of Prayer



This annual event takes place this year on Friday March 1st with the theme "Come – Everything is ready" and the resources have been prepared by the Christian women of Slovenia. The services locally are usually organised by women working together across church denominations, and sometimes by women in Churches Together Groups. In Herefordshire, the following services have been planned:

11am – Christ Church, Ross-on-Wye – followed by refreshments

11am – St John's Methodist Church, Hereford - refreshments from 10.30am

2pm – St Joseph's Church, Bromyard

2pm – Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Ledbury

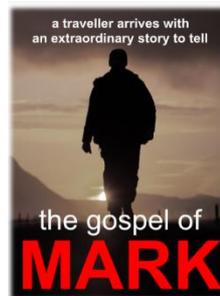
2pm – Kingsland Methodist Church

Rev Frances Biseker – sponsored cycle ride



Frances Biseker is well known to a number of Churches Together Groups in Herefordshire. She has decided to cycle over 1000 miles this year in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. She usually cycles about 20 miles at a time, so if a church would like to do a fundraiser with her pedalling over to join in, she would be very pleased! If you would like to support her efforts, follow this link: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/FrancesBiseker>

The Gospel of Mark – dramatic retelling



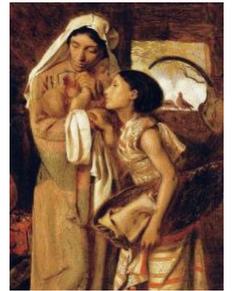
Churches Together in Hereford are supporting the

presentation of a dramatic retelling of the complete Gospel of Mark in Holy Trinity Church, Hereford on Saturday 23rd February at 6.30pm. There is joy and sorrow, comedy and pathos, as Mark's fast-moving narrative brings characters to life. The drama is underscored throughout by live music. The production is devised and performed by Rev Ian Birkinshaw. Admission free – donations welcome.

www.gospelofmarklive.wordpress.com

Midwives of Freedom – The Women of the Exodus

Adele Moss and Jumana Moon are storytellers with a great love of stories drawn from their own



faiths, Judaism and Islam respectively. Embedded in the story of Musa/Moshe and the Exodus is a group of wise, fearless and visionary women. The story telling will be followed by a discussion on the stories and their sources. It takes place on Sunday 10th February at Elmslie House, Malvern WR14 3AG at 3pm. Tickets £10 adults; £5 under 18s from Malvern Tourist Information Centre or brownwolfe2@gmail.com Tel 01684

Student Sunday



The Universal Day of Prayer for Students is one of the oldest ecumenical days of prayer. This year it is on Sunday 17th February and the Student Christian Movement has produced a toolkit that can be used by churches, student groups and individuals. The theme this year is Wondering and Wandering. Resources available from here: <https://www.movement.org.uk/resources/student-sunday>