

Churches Together in Harborough (CTH)
Forum Meeting, 27th November 2023,
7.15pm (refreshments) for 7.30pm start
at Market Harborough Methodist Church



CTH is part of *Churches Together in England*, and has the following objectives:

- To be a visible sign of the churches' commitment to one another.
- To facilitate common witness to Christ.
- To respond to the needs of the community in shared service and outreach where this is possible.

Chair's note: CTH is made up of member and associate churches and organisations. Member churches should have nominated representatives, according to our constitution. We also welcome members of all local churches and Christian organisations, whether or not they are reps, so that they can hear and be part of the ecumenical work of Market Harborough.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome
2. Opening Devotions – Rev. Andy Murphy
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Financial update (Jackie)
5. Matters Arising:
 - a. Plans for Good Friday act of witness on the Square (29th Mar 2024)
 - Update from Christopher Brown
 - Quote for Big Screen: £1500
 - Admin and insurance
 - b. Christian Unity Service at Congregational Church, Sunday 21st January 2024, 3.00pm
 - Led by ministers (to be arranged at Ministers' Fellowship)
 - Refreshments to follow, by Congregational Church
 - c. Worship and Prayer nights (Christopher)
 - d. Future of CTH and future chair
6. Evangelism and Outreach
7. Communications
8. Any news from churches or associated organisations?
9. Making sure our list of reps is up to date
10. Future CTH Events:
 - a. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: - see **NOTE A**

- b. Lent 2024 – services and lunches at Methodist Church – see **NOTE B**
 - c. Good Friday on the Square, 29th March 2024
11. Date of next meetings (venues to be confirmed):
- a. Monday 1st February 2024
 - b. Monday 20th May 2024 (AGM)
 - c. Thursday 12th September 2024
 - d. Monday 25th November 2024
12. Any other business
13. Closing prayer

NOTES:

A) Arrangements for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

- a. **Friday 19th January 2024** – prayer meeting at 12.30pm at Baptist Church;
- b. **Sunday 21st Jan – United service at Congregational Church at 3.00pm.**
- c. **Monday 22nd January** – prayer meeting at 7.00pm at Our Lady of Victories;
- d. **Wednesday 24th January** – *Zoom* prayer meeting led by Harborough Anglican Team at 7.00pm.

B) Arrangements for Lent 2024:

30-minute services (12.30pm) followed by **soup-and-cake lunches** (1.00pm) at Methodist Church. Services prepared and led by the following churches:

- a. **23rd February** – Congregational Church;
- b. **1st March** – Harborough Community Church;
- c. **8th March** – Harborough Anglican Team;
- d. **15th March** – Our Lady of Victories;
- e. **22nd March** – Baptist Church.

These are only suggestions at this stage. Please let the Exec know if there are any problems or you would rather not be responsible for a service this year.

Services are typically (but not necessarily) led by lay members of the churches.

The usual format is: *Welcome, hymn, prayer, reading, short reflection, prayer, hymn, blessing*. Or something similar. Please feel free to vary style and structure. We welcome variety and a flavour of each denomination.

The Methodist Church can provide musicians to accompany, or you are welcome to bring your own. Please notify Andy Murphy of music requirements and choice of hymns, one week in advance.

