

Churches Together in Harborough (CTH)
Forum Meeting, 1st February 2024,
7.15pm (refreshments) for 7.30pm start
at Harborough Community Church, Bath St.



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 – Stephen Jack
3. Minutes of previous meeting (27 Nov 2023)
4. **Financial update** (Jackie)
5. Matters Arising:
 - a. **'Easter Live' Event on the Square** (Good Friday: 29th Mar 2024, starting at 10.30am)
 - Update from Christopher Brown
 - Update from Exec: Admin, risk assessments, insurance
 - Stewarding and other personnel
 - Publicity
 - Costs (to be confirmed):
 1. 'Digivan' (big screen): £1500
 2. Hire of Sound equipment
 3. Insurance – public liability and cancellation insurance
 4. Catering expenses
 - b. **Worship and Prayer nights** - update
 - c. **Lent 2024** – services and lunches at Methodist Church – see **NOTE A**
6. Consultation and discernment on **the future of Future of CTH**
7. **Reflections on recent events:** Peace Vigil and Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
8. **Future CTH Events**
9. **Communications – Easter services?**

10. **Any news from churches or associated organisations?**
11. Making sure our list of reps is up to date
12. World Day of Prayer – Friday 1st March at St. Dionysius' Church, 2.00pm
13. Date of next meetings (venues to be confirmed):
 - a. Monday 20th May 2024 (AGM) – at Our Lady of Victories
 - b. Thursday 12th September 2024 – at the Baptist Church
 - c. Monday 25th November 2024 - at the Anglican Church
 - d. Thursday 6th February 2025. - at the Methodist Church
14. Any other business
15. Closing prayer

NOTES:

A) 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** – led by Congregational Church;
- b. **1st March** – led by Harborough Community Church;
- c. **8th March** – led by Harborough Anglican Team;
- d. **15th March** – led by Our Lady of Victories;
- e. **22nd March** – led by Methodist 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. **This year we would like to suggest a theme of HOPE. Of course, if you would like to reflect on a different theme, or give a personal testimony, that will be fine too. Suggested Bible verses are: Isaiah 40: 28-31, Jeremiah 29:11-13, Romans 5:3-5, Romans 15:13, Ephesians 4:1-6, Matthew 12:15-21, Luke 24:17-24 (or any of your own choice).**

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.