



## Hertford

Cowbridge SG14 1PG



**Spirit in Motion**

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**We aim to be an active Christian Church open to all, meeting together for worship, teaching and prayer and offering loving care and support to all. We work alongside other Christian Churches reaching out into the Community with love**

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Dear friends,

I pray this letter finds you well.

As we step into a new season together, I am full of anticipation for the journey that lies ahead. Our theme for the coming months is "Harmony," a profound concept that speaks to the very core of our Christian life. Harmony is about more than just getting along; it's about creating a pleasing and consistent whole, living in agreement and unity with one another and with God as the body of Christ.

Romans 12:16 encourages us to "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight." This is a powerful reminder that living in harmony requires humility, a spirit of inclusiveness, and a deep commitment to unity within our community of followers of Jesus.

I believe that as we focus on Harmony, we have an opportunity to bring this concept to life. But to do this, we need your help and ideas. I will be working with the worship team to develop programmes and activities. However we want to hear from you about how we can make Harmony more than just a theme—how we can make it a reality in our day-to-day lives and our shared partnership.

We are already planning some exciting activities and events to explore and celebrate Harmony together. For instance, how about a free, open house coffee morning at Cheshunt? It could be a wonderful opportunity for us to invite our neighbours, share some good conversation, and build bridges of understanding and friendship. Over at Broxbourne, we are considering hosting a special Harmony-based commissioning and membership service. It would be a powerful way to welcome new members into our church family, emphasising the unity and love that binds us together.

In Hertford, how does a Harmony bowls competition sound? It's a lighthearted and fun way to bring us together, enjoying each other's company while fostering the spirit of togetherness. And for those of you who are creatively inclined, what about a church talent exhibition? We could showcase artwork, poetry, needlework, and even have some theological discussions. There's so much talent and wisdom in our community, and it would be a blessing to see and celebrate the gifts God has given each of us.

But these are just starting points. I know that within our churches there are countless ideas waiting to be shared. I encourage each of you to think about how we can bring Harmony to life in our congregations. What activities or events would resonate with you and your families? What can we do together that would draw us closer as a community and reflect the love and peace of Christ?

As we move forward, I invite you to join me in prayer, asking the Lord to guide us as we seek to live in harmony with one another. Let us strive to love without conditions, listen with respect, and nurture peace in every interaction. In moments of disagreement or

conflict, may we remember that our unity is found not in our sameness, but in our shared love for Jesus Christ.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and suggestions with me or with any of our church elders. Together, we can create a season filled with meaningful, joyous, and harmonious experiences that will strengthen our bonds and deepen our faith.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the common unity of the Holy Spirit be with each of us as we journey together in harmony.

In Christ's love,  
Mark

Let us continue to pray:

"Lord, lead us to live in harmony with our neighbours. Teach us to love without conditions, listen with respect, and nurture peace in every interaction. Give us the humility and patience to uphold unity, even when we face disagreements. We ask this in Jesus' name ~ Amen."

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*Shirley recently sent me the following Reflection from Revd Andrew Watson*

"Don't worry, it will be fine" we often tell each other, but not worrying is easier said than done. It is only natural to have concerns, and some things are frankly scary! Some are relatively small irritations, others are bigger issues affecting whole communities.

When we are young, we worry about our exams and whether anyone will like us. When we are older we worry about losing our job or partner and paying bills. We haven't even thought about the news. I know people who refuse to watch the news saying it is too depressing, earthquakes, floods, climate change, wars, refugees, totalitarian regimes in some places, cultural wars in others.

I used to tease my mother who constantly stressed about things that would probably never happen. As I get older I begin to understand. We don't want to worry but sometimes it's hard not to. There is comfort in discovering the most used words in the Bible are "don't be afraid".

Christians are reassured by the belief that there is an all-powerful God in ultimate control of everything and that He cares about the tiniest detail of all that happens. The microscopic and cosmic, the personal and the global – He has got everything covered. Jesus, himself no stranger to challenges, frequently told his disciples, "Don't be afraid." Don't be crippled by anxiety, help is at hand. On one of the first occasions the fishermen met him by Lake of Galilee and sensed something supernatural in the catch of fish. And there it is again – "Don't be afraid, I will make you fishers of men.

On a later occasion, when Jesus walked across the sea at night in a storm, to join the disciples in their struggle, there it is again – "Don't be afraid".

It is there on the Sermon on the Mount as he teaches his followers to seek as of first importance all that pleases God and serves His kingdom. Our Heavenly Father knows our

need. He will provide our daily bread and everything else too! Perhaps most poignantly, at the Last Supper, Jesus instructs us to be realistic.

Yes, in this present world we must accept some trouble, but if He can overcome this so can we with His gracious help.

No-one relishes thoughts of suffering, but as Catherine, Princess of Wales, reminded us recently, we are not alone, we trust in a merciful God who protects and provides for us.

Scripture promises we will not be tested beyond our capacity to endure and that His grace is sufficient for every trial every day and that includes today.

And so we can profess, "all I have needed thy hand has provided, great is your faithfulness Lord unto me."

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## *PARALYMPICS – 28<sup>th</sup> AUGUST – 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024*

We had the thrills and spills of the Olympics a few weeks ago, and now it is the chance for the less able in our Society to excite us with their prowess. It is so inspiring to see these young, and not so young, people, despite their disabilities, doing their utmost to do the very best that they can. The slogan of the Games is "Spirit in Motion." May God's spirit be on these brave people and may they know His blessings on their fantastic endeavours

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## **BEDS & HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST**

**Sponsored Bike and Hike**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**9.00 am – 5 pm**

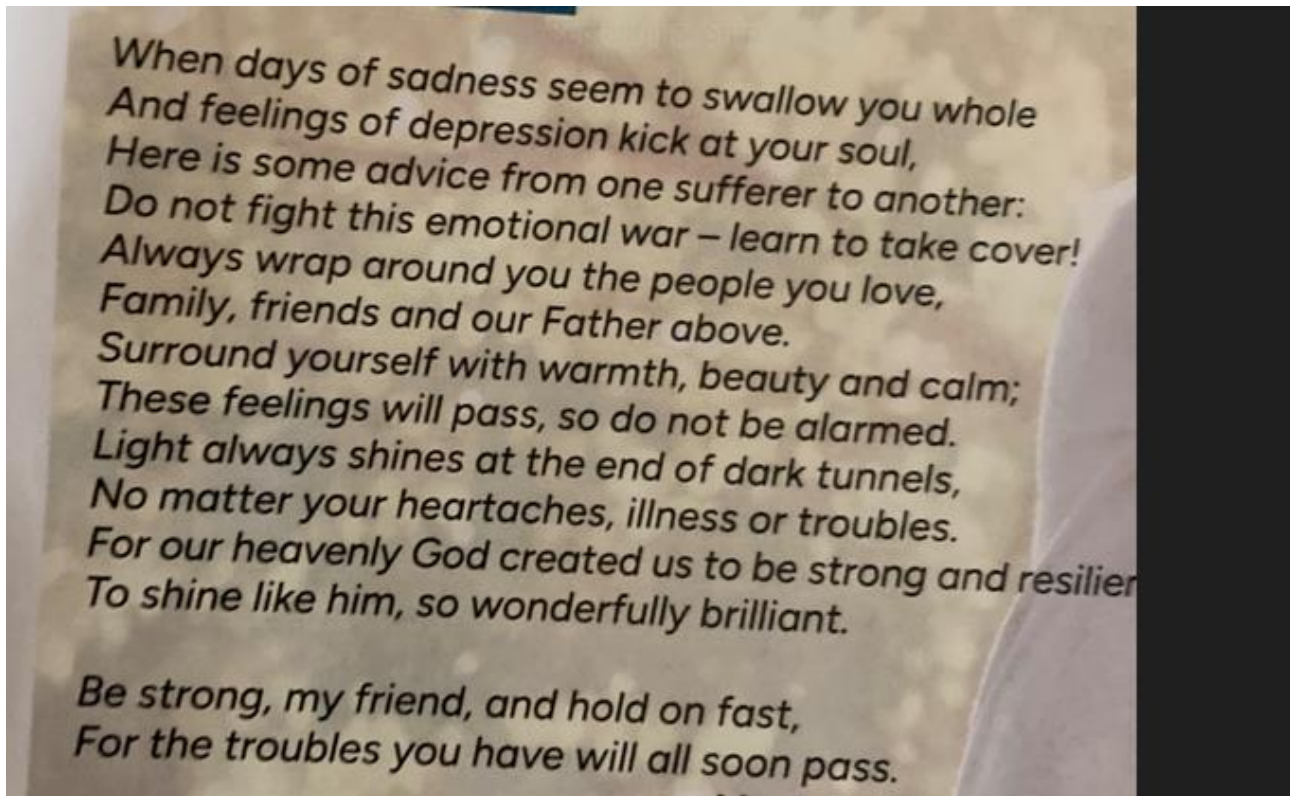
**Our Church will be open to receive cyclists and walkers but, unfortunately, this year we have no-one to sponsor unless anyone wants to volunteer!!! You can cycle or walk around the Hertford Churches (9 of them) and we can then sponsor you.**

**If anyone is interested, please contact me for a sponsor form.**

**Cheryl.**

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**Another contribution from Shirley.**



When days of sadness seem to swallow you whole  
And feelings of depression kick at your soul,  
Here is some advice from one sufferer to another:  
Do not fight this emotional war – learn to take cover!  
Always wrap around you the people you love,  
Family, friends and our Father above.  
Surround yourself with warmth, beauty and calm;  
These feelings will pass, so do not be alarmed.  
Light always shines at the end of dark tunnels,  
No matter your heartaches, illness or troubles.  
For our heavenly God created us to be strong and resilient  
To shine like him, so wonderfully brilliant.

Be strong, my friend, and hold on fast,  
For the troubles you have will all soon pass.

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## PRAYERS

**Continue to pray for Bob and Fran and their family**

**Continue to pray for Jan Carter**

**Continue to pray for Pam Hollis in Westgate Nursing Home**

**Pray for people known to you that they may know God's love and strength.**

**Continue to pray for Phoebe and her family.**

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

Sun	1	10.0 am	Morning Worship led by our Minister, Mark Robinson, to include the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
Wed	4	8.00 pm	On-line Prayer meeting with Broxbourne and Cheshunt churches
Thurs	5	10.00 am	Open House Coffee morning & Short-Mat bowling session.
<b>Sun</b>	8	10.30	Morning Worship led by Ian Matthews
Wed	11	8.00 pm	On-line Prayer meeting with Broxbourne and Cheshunt churches
Thurs	12	10.00 am	Open House Coffee morning & Short-Mat bowling session
<b>Sun</b>	15	10.30 am	Morning Worship lead by John Ellis
Wed	18	8.00 pm	On-line Prayer meeting with Broxbourne and Cheshunt churches
Thurs	19	10.00 am	Open House Coffee morning & Short-Mat bowling session – followed by Hot Potato lunch – all welcome.
<b>Sun</b>	22	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Chris Hall
Wed	25	8.00 pm	On-line Prayer meeting with Broxbourne and Cheshunt churches
Thurs	26	10.00 am	Open House Coffee morning & Short-Mat bowling session.
<b>Sun</b>	29	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Janet Bird, All Saints Church Hertford

***Foodbank opens on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 10 – 11 am and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10.30 – 11.30 am at the Priory, Ware.  
Enquiries 07851 708470***

<p><b>MINISTER: REVD. MARK ROBINSON</b>, 6 Tudor Rise, Broxbourne, EN10 7HB 97510782031 revdmarkr@gmail.com Church Administrator: Stepanka Moysey <a href="mailto:urcnlvg@gmail.com">urcnlvg@gmail.com</a> Editor: Fran Spence 01992 586585 <a href="mailto:franjspence@gmail.com">franjspence@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hertford.urb.org.uk">www.hertford.urb.org.uk</a> Coordinator Phil Coleman <a href="mailto:Phil.hertfordurcwebsite@btinternet.com">Phil.hertfordurcwebsite@btinternet.com</a></p>
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