



## HEREFORDSHIRE NEWS

*Churches may still be shut (at time of writing), but with a plethora of online resources, we are currently able to visit more denominations and churches than ever, for different flavours of worship.*

*God's people have been busy in Herefordshire - working together to support their communities in many different ways. Let me know of churches and Christians working together near you.*

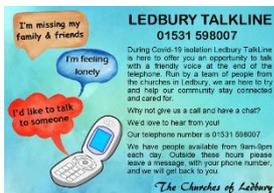
*Deadline for copy for the next newsletter – 25<sup>th</sup> June.*

**Anna Nugent**

County Ecumenical Officer

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## Churches in Ledbury - Talkline



Churches in Ledbury are used to working closely together and quickly responded to the current COVID-19 crisis by setting up a Talkline, offering the opportunity for anyone feeling isolated to talk with a friendly voice at the end of the phone. Run by a team of people from the churches in Ledbury, the phonenumber is

available from 9am-9pm each day. Outside these hours, you are able to leave a message, with your phone number and your call will be returned. The Ledbury Talkline number is 01531 598007

## Christians Together in Colwall – Colwall Coronavirus Care

The community of Colwall are coming together – St James Colwall, Colwall Community Church as well as the Parish Council, the WI and the Surgery – to provide a team of over 70 volunteers to help local people with prescription collection, food shopping, telephone calls etc.

They can be contacted at [colwallcoronaviruscare@gmail.com](mailto:colwallcoronaviruscare@gmail.com)

## Vennture – COVID-19 Emergency Response



Vennture, the Herefordshire ecumenical support organisation that 'Gives meaning to the power of Jesus' Love', has successfully

set up projects specifically to address the needs of vulnerable people during the Coronavirus pandemic:

**1. Daytime Street Pastors** - at the request of the police, the volunteer Street Pastors team walk Hereford city centre, providing a reassuring street presence to anxious individuals needing support in town. This project has been successfully received, with teams walking the city daily. They would appreciate your prayers, as they build relationships and help people they meet.

**2. 'Safe and Well Phone Buddies'** – this project was set up to reassure people with vulnerabilities (newly housed homeless) with volunteers, purely on the phone, giving them a call 2 times a day, daily. The project is going well, with the potential to help this group restart their lives. They would appreciate your prayers, that the Phone Buddies make contact and build relationships with the individuals that need help.

Volunteers for both projects would be welcomed, with training (including safeguarding) for both these groups provided.

If you would like to know more, or offer some of your time to these projects, please fill in a contact form online <http://www.vennture.org.uk/contact/> or email [enquiries@vennture.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vennture.org.uk)

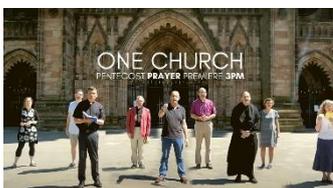
## Hereford Churches – Zoom Prayer meetings; 24/7 prayer; Pentecost video



Christians from all over Herefordshire have been joining together to pray for an hour every Monday evening, at 7.30pm. You can join them by clicking the **Zoom** link on the Herefordshire Houses of Prayer Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/herfordprayer/>

In addition to the regular **Monday night Prayer Gathering**, Christians of many different churches and denominations filled every slot of hourly prayer from home, **24/7** throughout the 10 days of **Thy Kingdom Come**. It is so heartening to see Christians from the non-denominational churches, Baptists, Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Methodists all listed side by side on the rota (including the Abbot of Belmont Abbey and the Bishop of Hereford) – their prayers uniting in these most difficult of times.

These prayers culminated in the release of a **video of Pentecost worship** from church leaders on Pentecost afternoon. The video can be seen [here](#):



## Hereford churches - South Wye Community Money Advice Centre



The church leaders of Putson Baptist Church and Challenge Community Church in Hereford are working together with the national charity Community Money Advice to put together a project to support debt relief in Hereford, showing the love of Christ and restore wholeness into individuals' and families' lives.

At this stage, they are asking for prayer, volunteers and for funds to launch the project, which will be needed more than ever, post COVID-19. To find out more or offer help, contact Andy Goode [andybgoode49@gmail.com](mailto:andybgoode49@gmail.com)

## Food Banks – growing need

Food banks across Herefordshire are run by Christians and Churches working together – and they need your help, as they are busier than ever during this coronavirus crisis.



**Hereford Foodbank** welcomes all gifts of food or donations of money. They accept donations at the Kindle Centre (by Asda) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 1pm. There are also donation points at supermarkets in Hereford. <https://herefordfoodbank.co.uk/make-a-donation>

**Bromyard Helping Hands Foodbank** needs fresh fruit/veg, Longlife milk, washing powder etc. Donate money here:

<https://www.bromyardspeedfestival.co.uk/> or ring Allyson on 07860 140962

**Ross Community Larder** prefer non-perishable goods, brought to St Mary's Church or the Council Offices. Donations to the church Office. Ring 07748 319940 <https://rawchurch.org.uk/the-community-larder/>

**Ledbury Foodbank** has signs in Tesco and the Co-op with current needs. Ring 07581 283092 <http://www.ledburyfoodbank.org/>

**Leominster Food Bank** has collection points at Morrisons, Co-op, Spar and TM Factors. 07715 410575 and <https://www.facebook.com/leominsterfoodbank/>

**Kington Food Bank** can be contacted through any of the churches in Kington.

## United Reformed Church - discussion document



Ready for the new "normal"  
A discussion paper for a pandemic recovery and resumption plan

The URC has put together an excellent discussion paper giving guidance to churches making plans for after the lockdown – applicable to many church contexts. It can be found here: <https://urc.org.uk/new-normal.html>

## Church of England - Housing the homeless



The Anglican 'Call to Alms' is asking church members and ministers to join one of their zoominars on 3rd June to discuss how churches can play an active role in meeting the growing need for supported housing. To register click [here](#). To find out more click [here](#).