

In Touch



Words of encouragement at the start of a New Year:

"Forget about what's happened;
don't keep going over old history.
Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new.
It's bursting out! Don't you see it?
There it is! I'm making a road through the desert,
rivers in the badlands. Isaiah 43:18.19 msg



Dates For Your Diary

January

17-18th Council, Nottingham

18-25th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
ctbi.org.uk/resources-for-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2020/

February

24th - 8th March Fairtrade Fortnight
www.fairtrade.org.uk

March

4th-5th Christian resources Exhibition, Stoneleigh Park, near Coventry
creonline.co.uk/cre-midlands-2020-welcome/
21st Church Support Committee Nottingham

May

8-10th Annual Assembly, including Children and Youth Assembly, Solihull, West Midlands

Breathing Space

If your church would like a Breathing Space event in 2020 please let us know. Bookings can be taken for January or February, and we are putting together a list of interested churches for dates after that. Contact us on support@congregational.org.uk

Course Prospectus

New year, new challenge?
If you're looking to deepen your faith, learn more, meet new people why not have a look at our new prospectus for courses started in September 2020
<https://www.congregational.org.uk/prospectus-and-application-forms>

Christian resources exhibition 2020

The event will be staged at the National Agricultural and Exhibition Centre (NAEC) in Stoneleigh, close to the major cities of Birmingham and Coventry and within easy reach of several other population centres such as Worcester, Leicester, Oxford, Nottingham, Milton Keynes and Northampton.
NAEC Hall 2 is a purpose-built venue, set in the beautiful Warwickshire countryside, but just minutes from the M6, M40, A45 and A46. Parking is free.
Opening Times
Wednesday 4 March 2020 – 10am-5pm
Thursday 5 March 2020 – 10am-4.30pm

Safeguarding

The Congregational Federation encourages all their churches to have a Safeguarding Policy. Those Churches that have a policy and are committed to safe practice are issued with a Safeguarding Certificate to be displayed in their Church. This is also acknowledged on the Website and in the Year Book.

What is a 'Safe Church'?

- The Church has been visited by a Federation Safeguarding Checker
- The Checker has looked at the building and is satisfied with fire procedure, electrical testing etc.
- All group activities are properly supervised, and leaders have been safely recruited.
- The Church has carried out appropriate checks on its leadership by taking up references, holding interviews and Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS in England and Wales) or The Protecting Vulnerable Groups membership scheme (PVG in Scotland) carried out where required.
- The Church has a Safeguarding Policy which is regularly updated.

For more information go to <https://www.congregational.org.uk/safeguarding/safeguarding>

For a safeguarding visit to your church, or to talk about an issue in your church. Contact our safeguarding officer Lisa.vickers@congregational.org.uk

Fair Trade Fortnight

24th February – 8th March. From the Fairtrade website:
"Fairtrade Fortnight will be back Monday 24 February - Sunday 8 March 2020. Join us in our annual moment when we bring the fight for change to the masses. We'll be continuing to focus on cocoa, the special role women farmers play in the journey to living incomes, and sharing new stories and tools to."
The Fair Trade website has a wide range of material available to help your church with a special event during Fair Trade Week, including an action guide, events pack, posters, an online shop for further resources, and digital campaign resources.
<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk>

