

In Touch



Lent

I hope that through this season of Lent you have been able to open your heart to the grace of God's love. As we all prepare for Easter let us pray that our celebrations of Jesus broken on the cross for our sins and his triumphant resurrection from the tomb will stir in each of us a fresh enthusiasm, as we do our part in sharing the good news and growing disciples across the UK.



Dates For Your Diary

6th April	CTBI Standing Together Rally against violent crime 2.00pm–4.00pm Trafalgar Square More info www.ascension.org.uk
9th - 12th April	CWM European Member Mission Forum, Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden
13th April	Finance Committee, Nottingham
14th April	Palm Sunday
18th April	Good Friday
21st April	Easter Sunday
26th–27th April	Council, Nottingham
10th-12th May 12th-18th May	Annual Assembly, Dundee, Scotland Christian Aid Week

www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week

Easter Eggs

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story book in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and supports charitable projects. To find out more go to <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/collections/real-easter-egg>

We have been given some eggs to give away, so if you would like one, send us an Easter poem by 12th April. We will choose the winners to receive eggs and include their poems in next month's InTouch.

Foundation Degree

A gentle reminder that the closing date for applications for the Foundation Degree is 31st May 2019. All details can be found on the website, <https://www.congregational.org.uk/prospectus-and-application-forms/prospectus-and-application-forms> or anyone who wants more information can contact us directly at training@congregational.org.uk.

Resources

At the Congregational Federation we recognise the importance of resources that can support churches in their ministry and mission. There are times when we all need to be pointed in the right direction for something to bring a moment of clarity to our church services, projects, outreach and discipleship.

With our new website - **The Resource Hub** - <https://www.theresourcehub.co.uk/>

we hope to bring together a rich diversity of resources to equip your faith journey. Some resources written by ourselves, and others found on a multitude of other sites. Some will be specifically Congregational, but most are gathered from the wider Christian community.

There will be resources for every month of the year, encompassing all the major festivals. There is a section to help us be the church, including thinking about what makes us unique as Congregationalists. We will also look to provide ways to help your church reach out into your local - and the global - community. We seek to provide quality resources that will enhance and enrich your church life.

<https://goodnewscoloringbook.org/>
A free, downloadable Bible colouring book in 110 languages. This is well worth a look.

<https://www.lifewords.global/shop/>
The Bible's life words transform lives. Lives of street children in India. Lives of East African teenagers. Lives of people in rural Indonesia. Lives of Instagrammers in the UK. We're dedicated to helping people discover good news that changes the world. Cost shouldn't be a barrier to people finding a way in to the Bible. All the resources and programmes are available free of charge, wherever you are in the world, thanks to the generosity of individuals, churches, and Trusts.

Christian Aid Appeal

<https://www.congregational.org.uk/global-mission/christian-aid-syria>
Since our appeal launched in December churches have raised a magnificent £1736 - which the EU will match with 9x that value! A new fact sheet has been produced. Why not download and share it with your church?

Assembly-Saturday 11th May 2019

West Park Conference Centre
319 Perth Road,
Dundee
Scotland
Yvonne Campbell General Secretary
Congregational Federation - 'I would like to invite you to this year's May Assembly, being held in West Park Conference Centre, Dundee which is a few minutes from the city centre.

It will be a time of worship and discussion, presentations and a time of fellowship with each other. I hope you might be able to spend more time in Scotland and maybe able to enjoy a little mini break. Our weekend starts with an event for Ministers and leaders on Friday afternoon and finishes with worship together on the Sunday morning at Gilfillan Congregational Church, Whitehall Crescent, DD1 4AY.'

Andrew Roberts, who wrote Holy Habits, will lead the Friday afternoon for Ministers and leaders - 1pm - 4pm

For more information about Assembly, go to <https://www.congregational.org.uk/>