



Sinfin Moor Church

We are a Christian Fellowship
committed to serving God
and sharing the good news of Jesus with everyone

September Newsletter

(Published Sunday 6th September 2026)

Editors' Comments

Welcome to the new newsletter, as you will see it is somewhat different (hopefully for the better). Any constructive comments please let me know.

Any articles that you would like to be considered for the October issue please let me have them by **Thursday 1st October**, either to newsletter@sinfinmoorchurch.com, jehughes5@hotmail.com or if you don't have access to send it by email, please hand it to me.

Joy

Paul's Piece – Keeping Jesus central of life together

This month we are using a clearer structure for the newsletter. We want to help everyone see and celebrate the ways God's love is being shared in Sinfin Moor and the surrounding communities. Our stories and updates will now be grouped under five headings: **TELL - TEACH - TEND - TRANSFORM - TREASURE**.

These five words are known as the Five Marks of Mission. They remind us that mission is not only something that happens far away, or something done only by ministers and church workers. Mission is something we all share in, in everyday life — at home, at work, at school, in church and in the wider community. So, what do the five words mean?



Tell - Sharing Good News of Jesus



Teach - Faith That Grows



Tend - Serving with Love



Transform - Justice, Peace and Hope



Treasure - Caring for God's Creation

The Five Marks of Mission have been part of our Local Ecumenical Partnership for nearly thirty years. Now is a good time to use them again in a fresh way. They can help us notice what God is already doing among us — in our homes, streets, schools, workplaces, friendships and local community.

Jesus sent his followers to share the good news and live out his teaching with love, courage and humility. That calling is still ours today. We live it out in conversations, acts of kindness, listening well, and caring for one another.

We are also using this framework in our Church Council meetings. We hope it will help our planning grow from prayer, shared purpose and practical action for the good of all the communities we serve.

Why does this matter? Five words on a page will not change much on their own. But they can help us talk clearer about what we are doing, why we are doing it, and share how we are living out our faith. The Letter of James says:

"What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions?"

Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

The Five Marks of Mission help us think about who we are becoming as God's church in this place. They invite us to ask: What are we doing together? Why are we doing it? Who is being welcomed, supported and encouraged? How are we sharing and following Jesus?



Loving God, help us to see the signs of your love at work in Sinfin Moor and in all the communities around us. Give us courage to tell the good news of Jesus, patience to teach and learn together, compassion to tend to those in need, hope to work for change, and care to treasure your creation. Draw us closer to you and to one another, so that our words and actions may bring your welcome, peace and encouragement to all. Amen.



Tell

When Sinfin Moor Church was first formed, a mission statement was written to describe who we are and what we are here for. We still have it and it gives us a good foundation today. It reminds us that our life as a church begins with God's love, and that this love is something we are called to share generously with others.

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The mission statement is rooted in the two great commandments: to love God, and to love our neighbour. These words from Jesus help us keep our focus simple and clear. They remind us that faith is not only about what we believe, but also about how we live, welcome, serve and care for the people around us.

"You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.

This is the first and greatest commandment."

"A second is equally important: Love your neighbour as yourself."

In simple terms, the mission statement tells us that **we are** invited and called to be a **Christian presence** in this community: **serving God**, sharing **the good news of Jesus**, and offering **welcome, care and hope** to our neighbours.

Gift Day Appeal: Supporting Our Growing Church Community

Our church community is growing, and so is the work needed to support it. Good administration helps communication, rotas, bookings, records and day-to-day organisation run smoothly, freeing volunteers and leaders to focus on ministry and people. This Gift Day, Sunday September 13th, we hope to raise £5,000 towards employing a paid administrator. This role would provide reliable support for our shared life, helping us respond well to new opportunities and care for our community more effectively. Please prayerfully consider making a special gift. Every contribution, large or small, will help strengthen the mission and ministry we share together.



Rev Fiona's September Update

September 1st is the meteorological start of Autumn and it has certainly felt that way over the last week! The Met Office website describes it as a season of transition as we move from summer to winter.

As some of you know, I spent the final weekend of August in a field in Kettering with a lot of other people at a Christian festival called Greenbelt. It certainly felt like Summer and Winter all rolled into one! We were putting on suncream and then moments later grabbing waterproofs in torrential rain. I was very glad of my wellie boots in all the mud. The photo is just before Sunday Communion alongside over 15,000 people and thankfully the sun was shining then!

One talk I went to was called "At the Threshold". It was all about the thresholds we have in life - the times of transition, when our lives change for many different reasons. Some of these we celebrate or acknowledge, for example weddings, baptisms, big birthdays, and funerals. But many of the thresholds of life we don't celebrate or acknowledge and maybe we should.



The reason I'm telling you all this is because it struck me that a threshold we rarely acknowledge or celebrate is moving home. We're so busy with all the arrangements and (if you've ever moved) trying to find the everyday essentials that have been packed away! It is for this reason that the community we are encouraging down here on Boundary Moor Gardens - and in the future beyond into Infinity Garden Village - is so significant. Many people have moved here from across the world, leaving family and cultures behind. To hold a space for them to have a sense of belonging really acknowledges the threshold they are crossing from the old familiar things to a new and exciting but uncertain way of life in a new place alongside new people.

As we look to the future and ways we can be alongside people as they move to live here in Sinfin Moor, we pray that as we come alongside people and help to encourage community that we will be able to help them acknowledge and celebrate these key moments in their life and to shine the light of God's hope and love into what can be an overwhelming time.

The talk ended with a blessing that I'd love to share with you for those times when you feel you are crossing a new threshold:

A blessing for the in-between

When you come to the place between.

When you have left what you held most dear.

When you are traveling toward the life you know not.

When you arrive at the hardest ground.

May it become for you a place to rest.

May it become for you a place to dream.

*May the pain that has pressed itself into you
give way to vision, to knowing.*

*May the morning make of it an altar,
a path, a place to begin
again.*

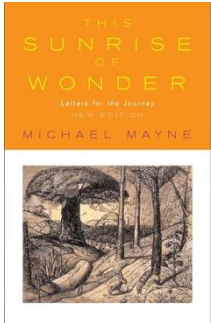
by Jan Richardson

With every blessing,

Fiona



Book Recommendations for the Gladness & Generosity Holy Habit:



A poetic, beautifully written book encouraging readers to find joy in everyday things. Potentially life-changing and perfect for the list-lovers amongst us!

- Do you find it easy to 'find' joy and gladness? Either way, this book might be for you.

Holy Habit Bible Reflections Available!

When we launched in January with our first habit of 'Eating Together', some of you will remember that we had the accompanying Bible Reflections booklets available for purchase. Since then, I (Gael) have repeatedly missed ordering them in time for the next habit. (Apologies!!)

However, I have made sure there are a few available for the next habit, starting on the 13th September. They are available to purchase at £3 each, so please do let me know if you'd like one, as there are only a few copies available. If you are not in a small group, they can be a very helpful resource to help you stay connected during the week, and each day there is a short bible reflection and passage to ponder.

Many thanks,
Gael

Gladness & Generosity: The Elements of Holy Communion



*Jacques Iselin (1933-2003): oil, 1963, 180 x 105 cm.
From the Methodist Modern Art Collection*

This is a large, portrait-style canvas, somewhat reminiscent of a stained-glass window. It portrays the 'elements' of bread and wine, used in the ceremony of Holy Communion, but they are semi-abstract, sometimes suggested, sometimes amplified.

The artist, a Frenchman, was active after World War II in a French association restoring churches in France. In this painting, and the three studies which prefigured it, he uses predominantly tones of red (associated with love and giving) and yellow (often described as the colour of generosity).

Why do you think a fish has been added to the elements? You may find that John 21:1-17 helps aid your understanding.

Holy Habit prayers themed around Gladness & Generosity to inspire and help begin and end your day:

In the morning...

*Joyful God, I thank you
for this morning and for the gift of life in it,
for this moment that you have given me to spend with you,
for the opportunity of this very day to share with you
through the people I meet and the places I shall be...*

*Generous God, I share with you my hopes and concerns
for my friends and family,
for the diversity and business of my church and my community,
for those struggling for a living wage for all,
for our villages, towns, and cities to become places of sanctuary,
for the work of our organisations striving for the good of all...*

*I offer all to you for transformation through your grace and love.
Amen.*

In the evening...

*Joyful God, I thank you
for one wonderful moment today.
I live it again and savour your gift of love to me in it,
for people I care about that I have seen or heard or thought about,
for the challenges that haven't overwhelmed,
and the good news that is gospel for me...*

*Generous God, I share with you more of my hopes and concerns
for my friends and family,
for those who are lonely or scared tonight,
for those who will be awake, at work or caring for loved ones,
for those staying with all who will be born or who will die this night,
for those who find this time of year hard...
I offer all to you for transformation through your grace and love.
Amen.*

Heath Court Services

You are invited to a time of worship at Heath Court at 2.00 pm (note the start time is now 2.00 pm) on the **first Friday** of every month.

You can be certain of a warm welcome, and there are always some lovely refreshments afterwards.



Summer Connect – Kids

Its hard to believe that a whole 6 weeks have passed by since we last wrote.

We have had so much fun throughout the summer giving a safe space for both children and adults to come and have some fun.

Each week was a different theme and some of our favourites were, Craft, Olympics and most definitely, party week (but that may have something to do with the big cake we had to celebrate).

Weve got to know some new families and all through simply having fun and messing around.

Each week we would vary from 15 kids to 29 kids. So a very big variety, but it was wonderful to see some become our regulars throughout.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all our helpers that supported us for a whole 6 weeks! We wouldn't have been able to get through it without you.

Our next Kids Connect is in October half term. Lets see what we get up to then!



Younger Voices

"THE GOSPEL TRUTH"

Hi everyone, so this months Gospel Truth is going to be slightly different. What we have done is ask a group of kids that have attended the Summer Connect some questions about their time with us over the last 6 weeks, lets see what they have to say, and if it's "The Gospel Truth"

Name: Louie

Age: 7

Q. What was your favourite week and why?

A. I absolutely loved Olympic week. Sports day is my ultimate favourite and running around outside doing all the games was so much fun! I loved that you always had things set up ready for us! Thank you!

- the Prayer List in this newsletter - Contact [Glen roeglennard@gmail.com](mailto:Glen.roeglennard@gmail.com) with any requests
- at Heath Court on Thursdays 10:00am in the Quiet Room
- In one of our small groups
- and with the CoDA (School) prayer group - the next meeting is September 7th 2.00pm in the Church Centre Welcome Area. contact Fiona fiona@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk

Monthly Prayer List for September



Father God thank you that whatever situations we are going through, you are always alongside each one of us. Lord as we turn to You help us to release all our struggles and cares knowing You are our strength.

Help us to share our faith with others as an act of worship to You.

Pray for each of our church leaders that God will guide and protect them in all they do. And for their families as they love support and release them to do the work the Lord ordained for them.

Keep praying for each of the Churches within Sinfen, that we can build on relationships, connections and support to enable a deeper unity so providing more help in our local areas.

Pray for all those within our church family that are struggling with ill health, physically and emotionally. Especially those dear friends who are unable to attend due to either being in care homes or because of physical and emotional restrictions.

For all who are struggling financially give them the help they need and the peace to know You are our provider. Thank you, Lord for those we have been able to help, alongside Food4 thought, to provide food parcels.

For all the young people that they will seek you as they struggle with many areas of their life. So many have a lack of self-esteem and self-worth. Those struggling with their sense of identity and those in difficult situations. Pray that God will put the right people around them.

We pray for all the young people as they return to their various schools and colleges. Pray also for all the tutors and all those in a supporting role enable them to have the renewed energy and resources as they start the new school year.

We have received a prayer request from Dom Sant as he has some important meetings coming up;

An organisation called 'Kumul Minerals' to discuss the sponsoring of pilot training.

Also, a meeting with one of their main customers as they have lots of items to discuss that are very important for all concerned. Dom also wants to thank Father God that the children have all settled well in school and family is good.

Can we please continue to hold Paul, Jean and family in our prayers as they go through this difficult time.

Please remember to get in touch for any prayer requests names won't be mentioned but situations will be, give us the privilege of praying for y My contact for any prayer requests is, Glenn Roe Mobile 07949654286 email, roeglennard@gmail.com or wendy.roe1@hotmail.com

SMC Information

Treasurer's Update - September

We have now completed eight out of the twelve months in our financial year, and I am delighted to report that we are, financially, in a much better position this year compared with our situation last year.

As I said in my report for August, we are now in a quiet time, many of the groups that use our building do not meet in the latter part of July or August, and so our income is down September as they pay in arrears.

I will take this opportunity to thank the members of the Church Council for their diligence in counting the Sunday offering. This is done on a rotational basis and two count the money every Sunday.

Ian Sant

To: All members and adherents of United Reformed Churches and our Local Ecumenical Partnerships

Dear Friends, This letter is designed to give you an indication of the denomination's central finances but is necessarily a brief over-view. Your church (or group) treasurer has a letter giving more detail which we are sure they will be delighted to share with you if you ask..

In recent years, on the Ministry and Mission (M&M) Fund, we have seen a gradual decline in church contributions and the shortfall on synod's pledges have been made up by the synods themselves.

We are hugely grateful to the synods for their generosity but recognise this is not sustainable over the long term. It is also of concern that the weakness of church contributions weakens the covenant that binds us together as a denomination, namely that those with resources contribute to supporting those who have less.

The central URC budget for expenditure (for 2026) includes a number of areas of expected costs reduction, significantly in staffing. Some very hard choices have been made and implemented. On the other hand, the URC needs to buy in expertise that we need for our world of increasing regulation and oversight, in view of the scarce resources available from volunteers. We hope that at local church level you will take a moment to reflect on the expertise (paid and unpaid) that steers the URC through all we have to do to be compliant with complex regulation. (Please pray for us!).

We know you have some of these challenges at local level too. We hope that one of the outcomes of the Church Life Review and Church Life Fund going forward will be the availability of URC resources and advice that can be accessed by local congregations. Ask your Church Secretary about these and look at this year's General Assembly decisions.

The annual audited accounts of the URC (for the year ended 31 December 2025) are now finalised and were published just before General Assembly. You can find a copy at <https://urc.org.uk/trustees-report-and-financial-statements/>

The accounts of the M&M Fund (the greater, but not only part of the URC Trust finances) show our total income £670,000 ahead of budget, but our costs were around £610,000 higher than expected. The deficit for the year on the M&M fund was around £650,000. We had hoped for much better.

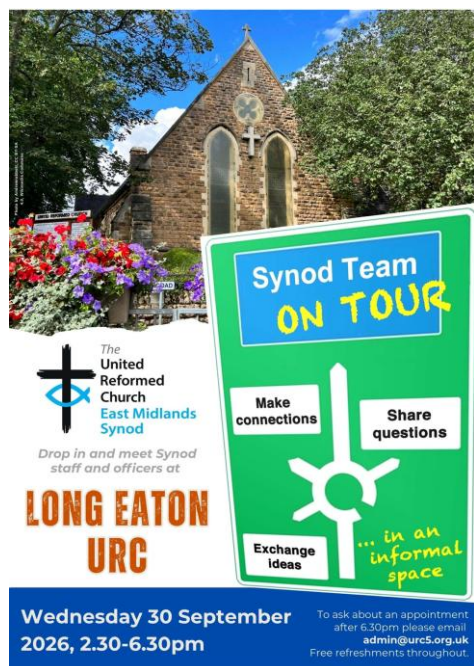
So, thank you to all who continued to contribute to your local church, thank you to all those churches who met their commitment for 2025 in full, and thank you to all those who, in adversity, continued to treat the M&M Fund as the first priority and paid what they could.

If you have any questions or comments arising from this letter, please speak to your church treasurer who has been provided with more detailed information. If they are not able to help directly then they can get in touch with the finance team at Church House.

Yours in Christ,

Alan Yates (Treasurer)

Partner Church – URC Roadshow



An opportunity to engage with one of our Ecumenical Partners and learn more about who they are and the resources being offered.

Parking - Maximum of 3 hours - ASDA Superstore, Midland Street, Long Eaton NG10 1NY (3 minute walk from church) or Council car park, Town Hall Lower, Midlands Street NG10 1NY (just across road from church)

SMC Contact Details

Arleston Lane, Sinfin Moor, Derby DE24 3DH

Enabling Minister*	Rev'd Paul Desborough	01332 756336	paul@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
		07958 618507	
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Fiona Barber	07966 520390	fiona@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Assistant Curate*	Rev'd Gael Browne	07405 922557	gael@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Lay Minister*	Jean Desborough	07415 671004	reader-jean@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Secretary*			
Stewards*	Lauren Foster*		
	Joy Hughes*		
	Melanie Sant*		
Church Council	Pam Burrows	Christopher Froggatt	
	Joy Hughes	Glenn Roe	
	Wendy Roe		

**Are also members of the Church Council*

Treasurer	Ian Sant	finance@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Melanie Sant	safeguarding@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Room Bookings	Melanie Sant	01332 721927 bookings@sinfinmoorchurch.org.uk
Webmaster	Rev'd Paul Desborough	
Connect Group	Wendy Roe	01332 762664
	Jean Desborough	01332 756336
Prayer Diary	Glenn Roe	07949 654286 roeglennard@gmail.com
Property Steward		
Newsletter Editor	Joy Hughes	07428 132799 jehughes5@hotmail.com



The Church is fitted with an inductive loop system.

Hearing aid users should switch to the 'T' position (if so fitted) or adjust your hearing aid as required.

Diary Dates – September

Sunday 6 th	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Communion
Monday 7 th	10.00 am	Connect Group
Sunday 13 th	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 14 th	10.00 am	Connect Group
Sunday 20 th	10.00 am	Sunday Morning Communion
Monday 21 st	10.00am	Connect Group
Sunday 27 th	10.00am	Sunday Morning Worship
Monday 28 th	10.00am	Connect Group

Community Information



Brownies
Sinfin
girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Girls have nonstop fun, learning and adventure
for ages 7 to 10

Girlguiding

'I like doing things outside... we get to learn about our environment and how to care for it'
Jessica



Brownies is full of firsts: she might grow her first plant, bake her first cake, put up (and take down) her first tent, light her first fire, go on her first fun-packed weekend away with guiding friends.

There's something for every girl at Brownies, and plenty of moments she'll never forget.

To find out more search Brownies at girlguiding.org.uk

Registered charity number: 504343

Church Centre Groups

Monday	10.00 am - 1.00 pm	Connect Coffee Morning
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
Tuesday	9.15 - 10.00 am	Yoga Group
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	1.30 - 2.30 pm	Seated Exercise Group
	6.30 - 8.00 pm	Cubs (Term time)
	8.15 - 9.15 pm	Footlights Stage School Adult Fun Tap
Wednesday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	2.00 - 4.00 pm	Sinfin Moor Church Friendship Club
	6.30 - 7.00 pm	Brownies (Term Time)
Thursday	8.00 am and 9.30 am	Slimming World
	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	5.30 - 6.30 pm	<u>Squirrels (Term Time) in Middle Bay</u>
	5.30 - 6.45 pm	Beavers (Term time)
	7.00 - 8.30 pm	Scouts (Term time)
Friday	1.00 - 5.00 pm	Asian Men Meeting
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Footlights Stage School - Ballet

Please advise the Editor when there are changes to ANY of the above

Scam emails and texts

Please remember: the church will never ask for money by email or text message. If you receive a message that seems suspicious, please check carefully that it has come from a known and trusted church email address before replying.

The Government gives the following advice about reporting scams and phishing:

Report internet scams and phishing

You can report misleading websites, emails, phone numbers, phone calls or text messages that you think may be suspicious.

Do not give out private information, such as bank details or passwords. Do not reply to suspicious text messages, download attachments, or click links in emails unless you are sure they are genuine.

Emails

Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk

The [National Cyber Security Centre \(NCSC\)](#) will investigate it.

Text messages

Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 - it's free.

This will report the message to your mobile phone provider.

If you are ever unsure about a message claiming to be from the church,

please contact us another way before taking any action.

Smile Time (or grimace)

Theme Songs For Bible Characters

Noah **Raindrops keep falling on my head**

Adam and Eve **Strangers in Paradise**

Moses **The wanderer**

Jezebel **The Lady is a Tramp**

Samson **Hair**

Salome **I could have danced all night**

Daniel **The lion sleeps tonight**

Jonah **Got a whale of a tale**