



The Edgehill Churches

Parish Link

*Loving
God,
Serving
People,
Growing
Community*

The Habit of Helping

October 2026

As I was preparing for our Charity Harvest Barn Dance, I discovered that the tablecloths and bunting I thought I had ordered were still sitting patiently in my online shopping basket.

With little time left, I sent out an appeal asking if anyone had decorations we could borrow. Almost immediately, offers of decorations and practical help came flooding in. By the time the doors opened, the hall looked wonderful.

More than 90 people came along, a great deal of fun was had, and we raised over £200 for the Farming Community Network. It was so successful that we are already talking about doing it again next year.

No one person rescued the event. Some lent decorations and tablecloths, others made centrepieces, and several helped get everything ready. None of these contributions was dramatic, but together they made an enormous difference.

The American children's television presenter Fred Rogers once shared, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"

The news gives us plenty to fear: wars, political tensions, injustice, natural disasters and the devastating floods in Nepal. It is easy to feel overwhelmed and conclude that the world is becoming a darker and more dangerous place.

But if we look carefully, we will also see the helpers: rescuers searching for survivors, people bringing food and medical assistance, peacemakers calming tensions, and ordinary people speaking against injustice or supporting strangers.

The helpers do not make the tragedy less real, but they remind us that tragedy is never the whole story. Alongside everything that destroys life, people are working to protect, restore and rebuild it.

Fred Rogers's mother was showing a frightened child where to find reassurance. As adults, perhaps we are called to take another step. We can look for the helpers, but also ask how we might become one of them.

Most of us will never lead an international peace negotiation or take part in a mountain rescue. But we will all encounter someone who needs a lift, a telephone call, support or a listening ear. These acts are part of what makes a community strong.

Autumn has a sense of fresh beginnings as schools, activi-

ties and routines restart. It is not only a season for harvesting, but one for planting – preparing the ground for growth that may not become visible until much later.

Lasting change often begins with something small: a simple action that gradually becomes a habit. A good question for us this autumn might be, "What small habit of helping could I plant?"

We can begin by noticing the needs around us. We can

respond by doing one thing within our power and repeat it, allowing occasional kindness to become part of the way we live.

St Paul wrote: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21)

Doing good does not mean pretending that suffering and injustice do not exist. It means refusing to allow them to determine the people we become. God is continually at work bringing healing, reconciliation and hope, and every act of compassion allows us to become part of that work.

A tablecloth or length of bunting cannot change the world. But offered at the right moment, it can help turn an anxious muddle into an evening of laughter, friendship and generosity.

This autumn, may we look for the helpers, give thanks for them, and plant one small habit that helps us become helpers too.

Rev Barry Jackson



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OCTOBER SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL PARISHES

	Kinton	Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
4th	10.00am Simply Celebrate		8.30am Communion	6.30am Harvest		8.30am BCP Comm
11th	10.30am Communion	9.00am Communion			10.30am Communion	
18th	10.30am Morning Worship		10.30am Communion	6.30pm Evensong		8.30am Communion
25th					10.30am Benefice Comm	

SIMPLY CELEBRATE

Sunday 4th Oct
10am St Peter's Kinton



Come for **breakfast** to begin the service. A time with God for everyone. Our young people help lead the service.



Breathing Space

Sunday 4th Oct, 4 - 5pm at
Kinton church

A time of mindful, meditative
prayer to help release tensions and find some peace.

BREATHING
SPACE

Letting go of our daily stresses



CONNECT

A life group for 13-18 year olds
Films, video clips, pizza, chill & chat about
God, life, the universe and everything.

Next Meeting: Sunday 4th Oct 6 to 7:30pm



10:10

YOUTH GROUP FOR 9-12 YEAR OLDS

Sun 11th Oct, 5.30-7.00pm

10:10 is a monthly youth group for years 5-7.

We meet at the church in Kinton for food, games and chat about God, life, the universe and everything.

Register with Liz at SPKfamilies@gmail.com

Charity Pop-Up Board Games Café

Friday 23rd October at 7.00pm at
The Sports and Social club, Kinton



If you love board games, then come and join us for a charity board game evening.

Come with a group of friends, or come along to meet some new ones

Adults and ages 14+ only
(under 18's must be accompanied by an adult)

We'll plan to eat at 7 and start playing at 7.30. more info on the QR code or from Charlotte at charlotte_helene93@hotmail.com



RADWAY'S TEA, CHAT & PLAY

Every Wednesday 3pm - 5pm in the Village Hall

All ages are welcome from babies to grandpas!



FAREWELL SERVICE FOR ALISON ABBOTT

25th October at 10.30am
St Michael's Warmington

After 4 years Rev Alison Abbott will be leaving us to go and work as a prison chaplain. We will be celebrating and giving thanks for her time with us and afterwards enjoying some drinks and nibbles together.

We hope you can join us



Build imagination with Lego!



Sat 17th October from 10:00am
in Warmington Village Hall

Children must bring an adult (BUT adults don't need to be accompanied by a child!) for more details contact: Rev.AlisonAbbott@gmail.com or phone 07923 442970



SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH LEGO CHURCH

at Kinton Primary School

on SUNDAY OCT 18th from 10:15-11:30

For children and adults of any age

(Children coming without an adult need to be registered beforehand)

Details from Liz at spkfamilies@gmail.com



THE BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

A weekly drop-in group

Mondays 2:30-3.30pm

at the Scout Hut, Kinton
from 8th September

Grief and loss of any type is painful and isolating. It can be very hard to deal with alone or with family who are also grieving. Come and join us in a safe, gentle environment for tea/coffee and a chat. All welcome!

For more information contact Rev Matthew Arnold on mtr.arnold@googlemail.com

TEA & CHAT

Friday 30th Oct 3pm-4.30pm
in Ratley Village Hall

Come and meet up with neighbours and friends for a chat and catch up. Cost £1.00

