

Mission for the month - Open Hands

The Open Hands Trust was established in 2006 by Trinity Life church with a heart to help those most vulnerable and disadvantaged in society, welcoming any in need through the doors of our Compassion Centre and inspiring hope for the future. Since that time, Open Hands has partnered with other churches across the city who share our vision. Open Hands Trust exists to make a powerful and lasting difference in the lives of those it serves, where every life is valued and compassion is given to and through people.

Our strap line '**Compassion in Action**' expresses our belief in being active at all times with compassion, offering hope in every situation through providing food, clothing, furniture, skills training, mentoring, advice and a listening ear. The charity runs the majority of its services out of its Compassion Centre in Highfields (Leicester), which receives over 200 visits each week, but also runs an OFSTED approved preschool in two areas of the city and a thriving and profitable subsidiary company, '6 Degrees Coffee House', in order to support the charity's good work.

Please Note This is the first time **Open Hands** has been our **Mission of the month**. Please support it either in the Pringles pot or the food bin.

Vicar's Comment

The beginning of June is when most of the **Thy Kingdom Come** prayer initiative falls this year. As Christians we all know prayer is a good thing, we all know it's something we should be doing, and yet I think there's something mysterious about it which perhaps we don't often think about. You see if God is an all-powerful God, as we believe, then why does He want us to ask Him to accomplish things, why doesn't He just accomplish them anyhow?? After all, Jesus tells his disciples in Matthew 6:8 that 'your Father knows what you need before you ask Him' (NIV).

At one level, the answer is simply that God has asked us to pray for things and therefore that's why we do it....we do it in obedience to Him even if we don't fully understand. But more than that, surely it is to increase our dependence upon Him, to acknowledge before Him that on our own we can do literally *nothing* for Christ's Kingdom....and of course to deepen our relationship with Him. For Christians do not pray to a God who is distant or disinterested, but One whose children address Him as '**Abba, Father,**' (as we see in our Memory verse this month. Galatians 4:6 NIV.)

St Christopher's Church

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Memory verse

'God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Galatians 4:6 (NIV)

June 2019