

The
Shared Church
in Ringstead

36 High Street, Ringstead, NN14 4DA

www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk



March 2026 Magazine

Please send your articles for the April edition to

ringsteadnotices@gmail.com

by 25th March

From our Minister



‘Mission, Ministry & Money’ – this is our current theme of discernment. It is a time to ask the hard questions: what is God calling our church to be, where is my ministry meant to serve, and how can we enable these things financially? These decisions are weighty, and we are called to listen carefully to God’s leading.

We began this journey in our January church meeting with shared thoughts and comments together, then had a special day of prayer on 18th February. Now we invite you to join us on 7th March, together with our regional minister, Nathan. He will guide us in reflection and discussion, helping us listen deeply and prayerfully as we discern the next steps.

None of this is easy for us, and it’s natural to feel uncertain or afraid when faced with important decisions. The Bible reminds us that wise choices come from a balance of faith, reflection, and careful planning. Pause, reflect, and invite God’s guidance. As Proverbs 3:5-6 says: *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”*

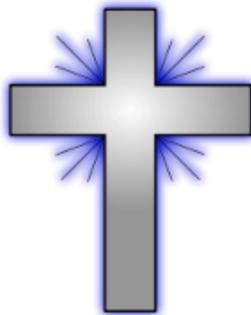
Seek wise counsel from those you trust, and be honest with yourself about your values and priorities. Remember to **count the cost**, as Jesus taught: *“Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?”* (Luke 14:28). Thoughtful preparation is not hesitation - it is wisdom.

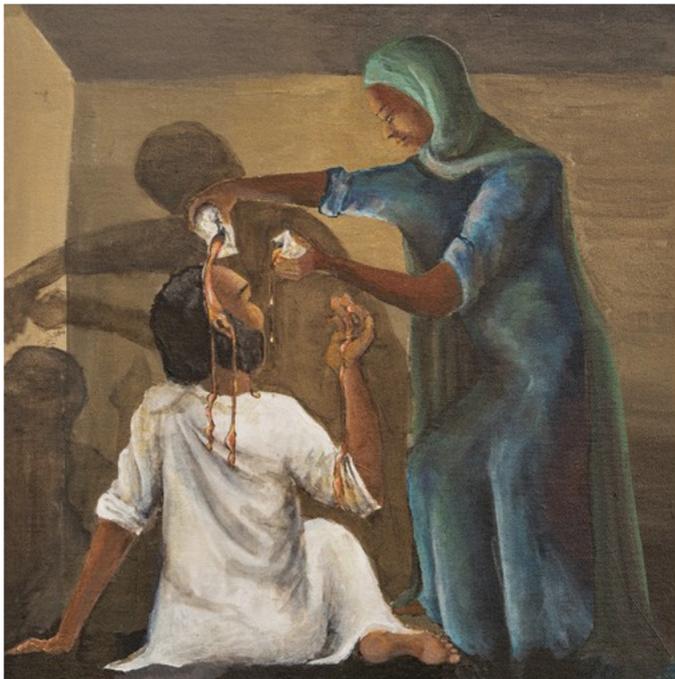
From our Minister - Cont'd

This is the process we are now in, and we pray that God will indeed make His will known to us. Then once we have reflected and planned, we are called to act with courage and faith. Own our decisions, learn from mistakes, and trust God's guidance. Like Abraham stepping into the unknown or Esther risking everything to save her people, careful, faithful choices can lead to meaningful and lasting outcomes.

Psalm 37:5 reminds us: *"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will act."* Planning, prayer, and courage go hand in hand. Step forward with confidence, knowing that God honours thoughtful, faithful hearts and guides us through uncertainty.

Rev Rick





Women of Holy Week - Study Groups

From the same author as our Advent series our Lent study groups are entitled “Women of Holy Week”. Once again, we will look at the familiar stories of Easter told in a different way; from the perspective of the women involved. We will hear from people such as Jesus’ mother Mary, & Mary Magdalen, but also others whom scripture records or we might imagine were there; such as Marriam, an imagined woman who was present when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

The studies will be run on Mondays in person: 2pm in the church school room: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd March
And be repeated online on Thursdays at 7.30pm:
5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March

see www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk for zoom link.

**The Shared Church,
Ringstead, Quiz Night
Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 19:30 hrs in
the Schoolroom. Temporarily relocated
due to Axe & Compass closure.**



**Would you like to make
up a team with Rick?
Please contact Rick**

Knit & Natter



**Wednesday
March 4
at 2.30pm
at The
Shared Church**

**Come to knit or sew
or just come to natter!**



Church Vision Day and Fellowship Lunch

Saturday 7th March, 10.00am -3.00pm

A day where our regional minister, Nathan Tose-land, will lead us in seeking God's Vision for the future of Ringstead Shared Church and Rick's Ministry here.

When we called Rick as our minister here we did so for 5 years, that five years in almost at an end. We now have to look to the next five years? What will the church need now? Can we still sustain ministry? These are the questions we are asking and praying about. We invite all who feel they are part of the church to come along and join us as we pray together, eat together and seek God's plan for the Church.

Shared News

Janet Chapman

Janet is much missed and was a regular attendee at social events in the Shared Church. She is remembered for being an enthusiastic participant in Jolly Good Company, Lunch Club and Knit and Natter. She was also part of the Thursday Club and regularly provided the refreshments. We also learned at her funeral that she enjoyed making soft toys to give comfort to others. Our prayers are with her family and friends as they remember her life.

Church Vision Day

Saturday 7th March, 10am - 3pm. Our regional minister Nathan Toseland will lead us in a day set aside to Share together and seek God's Vision for the future of Ringstead Shared Church. Come along as we pray together eat together and seek God's plan for the church and Rick's Ministry here.

Axe & Compass Quiz

Due to the Axe & Compass closure the next quiz will be held on March 3rd at 7:30pm in the Shared Church, this is a fun evening and if you are able to come then please let Rick know. The venue of the Quiz in future is undecided but participants are happy with the facilities provided in the School Room.

Study Groups

The 'Women of Holy Week' studies have now started with face to face groups on a Monday in the Shared Church School Room and Zoom sessions on Thursday evenings. Turnout has been good and discussion has been challenging and thought provoking. It will be good to see even more people there on a Monday or if the weather is bad then why not join in on Zoom?

Shared News - Cont'd

Zoom Quiz

A quiz is planned for Friday 27th March via Zoom at 7:30pm. We need volunteers to provide rounds in order for it to take place. If you're able to provide a round then please let Angela know. If there are not enough rounds provided then there will be no quiz, so get your thinking caps on!

Marion Seaman

Family together with friends from several churches gathered to celebrate Marion's life and give her a rousing send off with the hymns Marion had chosen. An order of service is available in the schoolroom for you to see.



On our website, under messages, is the tribute written by her son-in-law to her wonderful long life of service to her Lord.

When she and Brian moved to Ringstead it was like a fresh beginning for co-operation between the two Churches, but also the bringing together of so many drawn into their friendship. Their witness affected so many people.

On the afternoon of Palm Sunday, March 29th, the family will be scattering Marion's ashes here in the village. They want everybody to know this date as there will be some sort of celebration, yet to be decided by the family.

Church AGM

The AGM is being held as part of the morning service on Sunday 15th March. All are welcome!

Shared News - Cont'd

Time Together

This takes place on 18th March at 7:30pm in the School Room, please come along and make your views known.

Our thoughts and prayers of thanks to God

Prayers are needed for Maureen and Vanessa Windust as they suffer with various medical concerns, we ask that God's love and comfort to be with them at this difficult time and also for guidance to be given to the medical teams treating them.

We continue to pray for those suffering from cancer and we particularly think of Phil Stockton, Ian Bell and Chris Kinsey who are known by many people in our community. We ask for God's healing hand to be on them and for them to know the love, comfort and peace that comes from our Father God.

We continue to pray for Nikki and are sad to hear that her latest operation was unsuccessful and she is now awaiting a further operation, we pray for God's guidance for the ENT surgeon assigned to her and for God's healing hand to be on her. We also pray for Carolyn who recently lost her grandson who was very close to her.

Ange's Granddaughter, Sky, continues to suffer with her health and we ask for her to know God's love, comfort and peace.

We continually pray for people known to us in our morning prayer sessions and are pleased that God has chosen to answer our prayers in many ways. If you need prayers for a friend or family member then please let Rick know.



THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Lunch Club

Thursday 12 March at 12.30pm

2-course cooked meal
and coffee/tea

Cost £5.00

**EVERYONE WILL BE
WELCOME**



But, you need to book your place:

Ring 622162 (Val) *or* 07558 538711 (Christine)
or text to 07784 162087 (no voice messages, please)

DO COME!

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Book Club

Last month's book 'The Four Winds' by Kristin Hannah .

A powerful book set in the USA during the 1930's, it tells of a young woman and her family's fight for survival during the great dust storms of the time. The story shows how brave and resilient people can be in times of crisis.

Our next meeting

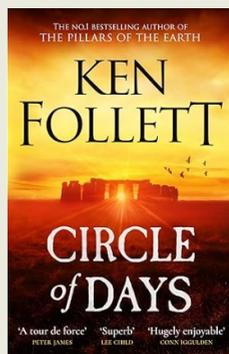
Venue: 11 Carlow Road

Date: Tuesday 17th March

Time: 2:30pm

Book: 'Circle of Days' by Ken Follett

June.



Church Annual Meeting

Will be part of the morning service on Sunday 15 March

Everyone is welcome to attend ... and find out more about how a Baptist Church is organised!

Time Together

Wednesday 18 March at 7.30pm

Your opportunity to voice your thoughts and opinions

Did you know ?

The Cold War Bunker



The Cold War started in 1947 and lasted until 1991, with notable tensions throughout the 1960s. Ringstead played a part in this era with a secret bunker situated between Ringstead and Raunds, the bunker was located 15 feet below ground at the top of Raunds Hill, overshadowed by a large hay barn that no longer exists. Just a 5

-minute walk from the New Inn, this underground nuclear attack monitoring post was constructed in 1959.

Typically manned by three or more observers, the bunker was used to monitor fallout. In the event of a nuclear bomb detonation, these posts would detect the pressure wave and pinpoint the exact location of the

impact within a 25-mile radius. There were hundreds of such bunkers across the UK, usually spaced 15-20 miles apart. A probe outside the bunker measured radioactive fallout, and communication with headquarters was maintained via telephone or a coded device similar to Morse code. It seems that no-one

had foreseen the potential effect of a nuclear blast on the wooden posts that carried the telephone cables!

Just 3 miles away, in 1952, RAF Chelveston was assigned to the United States Air Force. The USAF planned to use Chelveston as an advanced "Reflex" base for the forward deployment of the new Boeing B-47 Stratojet medium-range nuclear bomber.

All that remains of the Royal Observer Corps bunker are a few concrete posts and some metal objects of no use whatsoever. Once the Cold War ended, these bunkers were deserted, and completely abandoned in 1991. Some were preserved for heritage reasons, including one site near Kettering that remains as it was in the late 1950s.

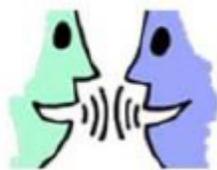
The demise of the Ringstead bunker occurred when it was flooded due to land drainage issues, resulting in the team moving to the Kettering base. Eventually it was filled in.



THE SHARED CHURCH IN RINGSTEAD

Our regular 3rd Saturday

Coffee, cake and chat



Saturday 21 March
10.00 – 11.30

Time to relax and chat with friends

Do drop in Everyone is welcome

No charge but any donations will be gratefully accepted

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk



Shared Church Zoom Quiz Night

Friday 27 March @ 7.30pm

A fun evening for all the family

Will you offer a round of questions?

email Angela at treasurer@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

To zoom in click the link on the home page of the website:

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Start your day with prayer



Each weekday morning at 9am we share together in
Online Morning Prayer.

This is a simple 20min or so prayer using the Daily office from the Northumbria
community (www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/morning-prayer/)

All who wish to join can do on the
Shared Church Zoom link:

Clickable zoom link via church website:
www.ringsteadsharedchurch.org.uk

Shared Church Zoom:



Meeting ID: 846 0729 3457
Passcode: 143365

Easter Services

Easter 2026

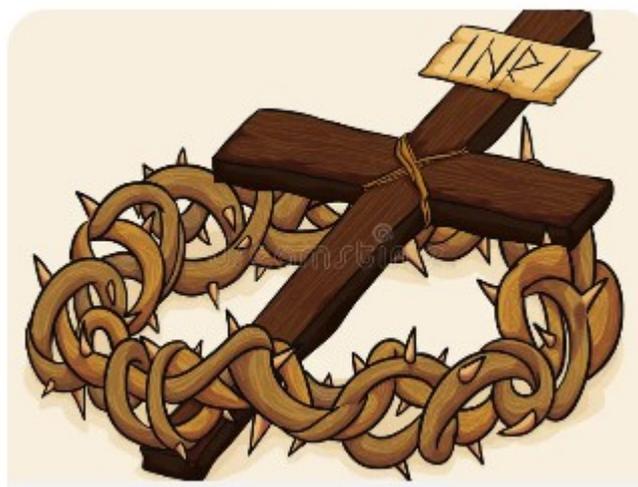
Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Communion Service

Good Friday 10.30am Short service in church and procession
to the Community Garden for Act of Witness

Easter Day

6.15am Sunrise Service at the Cemetery and breakfast

10.30am Easter Day Communion Service



Programme - March 2026

Services in March (In church and by Zoom)

Services are led by Revd Rick Preston unless otherwise stated:

Sunday 1st March

10:30am Communion Service

Saturday 7th March

10:00 - 15:00 hrs Vision Day

Sunday 8th March

10:30am Morning Service

6:00pm Worship through Zoom

Sunday 15th March

10:30am Morning Service & AGM

Sunday 22nd March

10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 29th March

10:30am Palm Sunday Service

and in April

Thursday 2nd April

7:30pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday 3rd April

10:30am Short Good Friday Service and procession to the Community Garden

Sunday 5th April

6:15am Sunrise Service at the Cemetery

10:30am Easter Day Communion Service



To share in the morning services through Zoom see the website

www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

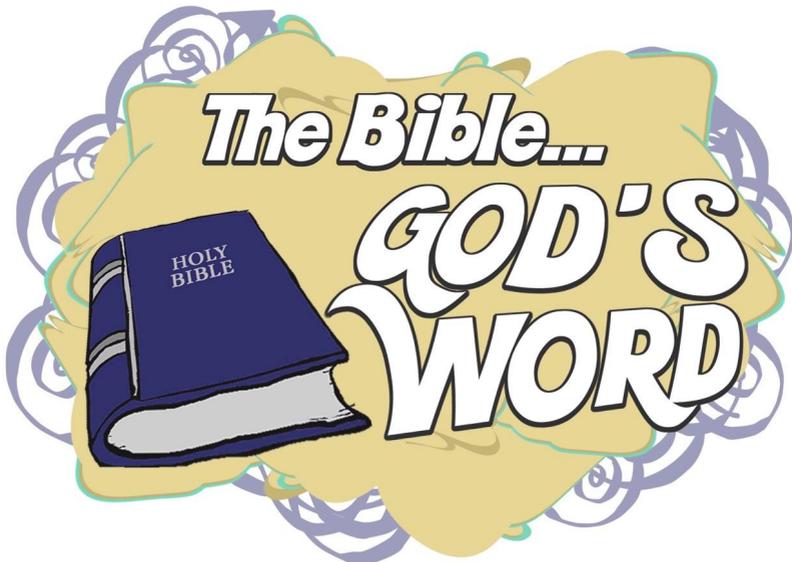
and click on the link on the home page

Readers & Readings

Rota for Scripture readings

1 March 2026	Chris	John 3:1-17
8 March 2026	Carol	John 4:5-42
15 March 2026	Agnes	John 9:1-41
22 March 2026	Mike	John 11:1-45
29 March 2026	Christine	Matthew 21:1-11
5 April 2026	Angela	Matthew 28:1-10
12 April 2026	Alan	John 20:19-31
19 April 2026	Peter	Luke 24:13-35
26 April 2026	Louise	John 10:1-10

We usually read using the NIV version but if you wish to read from another version please let Rick know a couple of days in advance so your reading can be shown on the screen during the service.



Contacts

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Secretary: Mr Patrick Smith

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Phone: 01933 624677 or 07906 021958

Treasurer: Mrs Angela Davis

Email: treasurer@RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

Phone: 01933 622316 or 07746 061084

Deacon & Designated Person for Safeguarding:

Mrs Alexandra Rance

Email: Alexandra_bbcdn@msn.com

Phone: 07808 127676

Church website: www.RingsteadSharedChurch.org.uk

If you or someone you know would benefit from a phone call, please contact our minister Rick or one of the above.

Prayer - We would be pleased to join you in prayer—if you would like us to pray for/with you, please contact any of the above.

Zoom Meeting Connection Information

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84607293457?pwd=L1F0Szd0Z1I2R1RvNVlCc0VsTVVA1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 846 0729 3457

Passcode: 143365

Or Dial from any phone 0203 051 2874 or
0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 or 0203 901
7895 or 0131 460 1196

QR Code

