



## The Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches

# CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

### Information for the churches

**Office Manager**

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**December 2017/ January 2018**

## EFCC MISSION STATEMENT

**TO BE A FELLOWSHIP OF CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES  
EFFECTIVELY WITNESSING TO THE GOSPEL IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

We want to achieve this by promoting:-

- **Gospel Truth** Advancing Evangelical Christianity through Independent Churches.
- **Gospel Fellowship** Promoting fellowship and encouraging prayer, co-operation and mutual support for the churches as they witness to the gospel.
- **Gospel Independence** Bearing witness to the Scriptural principles of the autonomy of the local church and the freedom of believers in Christ.

## **Devotions**

We meet for prayer in the office at 9.30 a.m., please advise us of any prayer matters.

**New Vice-Chairman of The EFCC Committee** – at the last Committee meeting, it was agreed that Rev. Tom Brand (Minister Binfield Heath Congregational Church) becomes Vice-Chairman.

## **Website Login**

We have added a login on the website for church Contact/Secretaries that will give access to documents and enable you to submit church news for inclusion in the next issue of Prayer Concern. All we need is your e-mail address and a password of your choice to set up.

Please contact David Smith with this information by phone or e-mail [efcc1@efcc.karoo.co.uk](mailto:efcc1@efcc.karoo.co.uk)

## **2018 STUDIES CONFERENCE**

**17th March** – Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 1AU Full details with this mailing.

## **EFCC LADIES CONFERENCE**

**14th April 2018 10 am – 3.30 pm**

Speaker: Ruth Eardley

Venue: Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton.

Ladies please book the date in your diary for 2018, details with this posting to Church Contacts. Option of overnight stay on the 13<sup>th</sup> April, the ladies would encourage you to do this.

## **EFCC 2018 AGM 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**Pontefract Congregational Church**

## **FORTHCOMING CHURCH EVENTS**

If you send details to the office we will include them on the EFCC website.

## **For Church Contacts**

**NEW INITIATIVE – churches working together**, in this mailing is a letter to all churches for your prayerful consideration.

**TEAM leaflet** – draw your attention to the enclosed information, again for your prayerful consideration.

## **PENSION SUPPORT**

EFCC Trust Board Pension scheme covers those directly involved in gospel/evangelism ministry who have a formal contract of a minimum 3 years, in full time ministry or pro rata for those who are part time (minimum 16 hours/week). EFCC support is initially £60/month for full time workers, with rising scale for the number of years within EFCC Ministry.

Further details please contact the office

## **Congregational and General – Charitable Trust**

[www.congregationalinsurance.com/charitable\\_trust.php](http://www.congregationalinsurance.com/charitable_trust.php)

The aim of the Congregational & General Charitable Trust is to support churches, in particular those of the United Reformed and Congregational denominations.

### **Trust Objectives**

To make grants for the overall care, upkeep and extension of churches.  
To make grants towards the capital costs of church community projects  
To promote the Christian religion and, in particular, the United Reformed Church, Congregational Denominations and other churches which are of the Protestant tradition.

### **The Lady Hewley Trust.**

Provides financial assistance for Ministers including Ministers of the EFCC Churches.

The trustees meet twice a year in June and November to consider grant applications in instances of need and hardship. Application forms from the EFCC office or contact:

Clerk to the Trustees

Lady Hewley Trust (Charity number 230043)

Military House, 24 Castle Street, Chester, CH1 2DS

Tel:- 01244 400315 Fax:- 01244 400317

Email:- [neil.blake@pursgloveandbrown.co.uk](mailto:neil.blake@pursgloveandbrown.co.uk)

### **The Coward Trust - [www.cowardtrust.org.uk](http://www.cowardtrust.org.uk)**

Please visit the site – grants may be possible for Ministerial and other support.

### **Robinson Trust**

Samuel Robinson's Charities is a link up of 2 separate charities and is 200 years old. It provides grants to ministers (serving and retired) and to widows of ministers in cases of need. Churches qualifying include Baptist, Congregational, Presbyterian and URC.

If anyone needs help they (or someone on their behalf) should contact Elizabeth Lawson – contact details below. A form will be sent that requires details of ministry etc as well as details of the financial circumstances. Although the majority of applications are considered in June, they accept applications at any time of year, as and when the need arises.

Elizabeth Lawson [ealawson@btinternet.com](mailto:ealawson@btinternet.com)

### **APPLICATION FOR GRANTS.**

The EFCC Trust Corporation Ltd is responsible for the oversight of a number of Trust Funds including the National Funds. Affiliated churches are eligible to apply for grants from one or more of the Trust Funds as well as from National Funds. Categories:

Ministerial Training/ Ministerial Support/ Welfare/ Evangelism/ Renovation, Repairs and Maintenance/ General Purpose.

Education Fund - We have limited funds available for small grants, we would welcome applications for their use, the funds are available for children of ministers employed full-time by member churches.

Grants up to a maximum figure of £10000 are considered based on the individual circumstances of the church applying, loans will also be considered on an application by application basis, possibly for larger projects such as church building extensions/renovation/new builds. One of the key areas is Ministerial Training/Support, EFCC would want to offer practical support to churches to enable them to consider calling a Minister. EFCC, through their representatives Mike Plant and Bill Dyer, would work closely with a church as finance is part of a fuller support package.

The Trustees meet three times per year, usually in February, June and September to consider all grant applications. In the case of a particular need it may be possible for an interim decision to be made prior to the next trustee meeting.

Completed application forms need to be returned to the office about 4 weeks prior to a meeting.

Grant application forms are available from Mr A R Harrison, EFCC, P O Box 34, Beverley HU17 0YY or by e-mail – [efcc@efcc.karoo.co.uk](mailto:efcc@efcc.karoo.co.uk)

**PLEASE NOTE THE EFCC OFFICE CLOSSES 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2017  
AND REOPENS 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2018  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



## **Friday 13th – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

Friday Evening – Registration at 4.30pm

Informal Fellowship starting 5pm

Opportunity for Organised Walk, Prayer time

7-00 Meal 8-00 Fellowship and singing

## **Saturday Day Conference**

10.00am – 3.30pm Registration 9.30am

Speaker: Dr Ruth Eardley, GP in Market Harborough

**Topic: What becomes of the broken hearted?**

**(A Christian response to depression and anxiety.)**

**Venue : Kings Park Conference Centre,**

Kings Park Road, Northampton NN3 6LL

Phone number 01604 493111

**Cost :** £80.00 shared room Friday/Saturday

(single room £95.00)

The cost covers all refreshments and meals

£25.00 Saturday conference includes lunch and

refreshments during the day.

**All the above costs are inclusive of a £5 Conference fee**

EFCC Office phone for any queries - 01482 860324

**It would be helpful to have the booking forms  
by the end of Jan 2018**

**Name.....**

**Church.....**

**Address.....**

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**Tel.....Email.....**

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**I would like to book for the EFCC Ladies Conference in 2018.**

(Please tick requirements).

Friday and Saturday shared overnight accommodation **Yes No**

Friday and Saturday with Single accommodation **Yes No**

Saturday only **Yes No**

Dietary requirements / Other requests

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Please send your completed booking form with details of any dietary requirements and a £20 booking fee

**(cheques made payable to EFCC) to ;-**

**Mrs Pam Harrison EFCC Office,**

**PO Box 34, Beverley, HU17 0YY**

**by the end of January 2018 to guarantee a place.**