**The Bourne Warm Bank in Cooperation with Churches Together in Bourne**

Dear Friends of The Churches Together in Bourne,

As you are no doubt aware, The Churches Together in Bourne are working with Bourne Town Council this winter to form a warm space in our town. Our churches will become safe and warm spaces for people who are struggling financially, to heat their homes this winter.

At this time, we are unsure of the demand for this service. Therefore, initially Bourne Salvation Army will be open every Monday and Friday, and Bourne Baptist Church will be open every Tuesday, from the 14th November. We hope to be open from 10 am until 6 pm each day. In order for this initiative to run, we need volunteers be in our churches, for the community, while we are open.

Each day has four sessions, as shown in the table below. Of course, you are welcome and invited to commit to multiple and/or consecutive session if you are able. We would also invite those who work who may wish to volunteer during school holidays etc, to get in touch please, as we may need further cover during these weeks. We require a minimum of three volunteers for each session in order to open.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 10am - 12pm | 12pm - 2pm | 2pm – 4pm | 4pm – 6pm |
| Monday (Bourne Salvation Army) |  |  |  |  |
| Tuesday (Bourne Baptist Church) |  |  |  |  |
| Friday (Bourne Salvation Army) |  |  |  |  |

Volunteering within the warm space, is a commitment for the winter as long as it is used and required by our community, but not beyond March 2023. If you are committing to volunteering in a slot, this will be a weekly commitment until either the winter comes to a close, or the warm bank is no longer required by our community. We will review regularly to assess if the warm bank is required for other days/times, or if it is no longer required. Obviously, if you have holiday booked, or are unwell, other arrangements will be made to cover this.

Being a volunteer at the warm bank will involve: setting up and clearing away; welcoming guests into our churches; ensuring tea and coffee is readily available; chatting to the people who come into the warm bank and ensuring they are comfortable.

If you feel able to commit to volunteering for our warm bank, please contact:

Sarah.ogrady@salvationarmy.org.uk for Mondays & Fridays

Nick@Bournebaptistchurch.org for Tuesdays

In Matthew 25:34-40, we read:

““Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Let us follow Jesus, as we help those in greatest need, and share His love with our community.

With thanks and blessings,

Lt. Sarah O’Grady (Bourne Salvation Army) & Baptist Minister Nick Humphries (Bourne Baptist Church)