

Hope 08 Hampers of Hope or A Quest to Bless

Why?

To show the love of Jesus for anyone in need and to bless them with His provision. They are not so much to 'advertise' the church but to show the love and mercy of God the Father.

At present, the hampers used are wicker to bring a spirit of excellence to the person on the receiving end rather than just presenting them with a cardboard box. This may have to change should this take off in a bigger way due to the cost. However, plastic boxes would be acceptable provided they are of tasteful quality and colour.

The people responsible for this project stressed that they believe it is important to show the person receiving the hamper that they are important. The hampers should be well thought out, thus carrying a spirit of excellence. Therefore NO value goods from supermarkets please and if possible quality brands of goods that they might not be able to afford themselves.

Making up the hampers

There are different sizes of hampers depending on the size of the family in need.

To contain:

- Any non perishable food
- Toiletries (maybe the odd luxury item)
- Cleaning items
- Animal food
- No alcohol
- No value goods
- No perishables
- Just before delivery, depending on the season, a few perishable goods will be added.

To whom?

Names for those in need to come from C.A.P. and churches. Also the local authority and social care services if this becomes bigger.

How?

Church leaders and 'notices people' to ask the church to remember to pray when they go shopping and ask God to show them what to get. Let shopping become an adventure.

Each church to have a contact who will liaise with Molly Graham as the main 'hamper contact' on 01923 260225. All goods to be delivered to HHCC initially and hampers prayerfully put together and delivered to names also given to Molly or the HHCC office.

Delivery volunteers would be welcome. These can again be given by each church contact.

Guidelines for how to give the hampers will be provided. The volunteers (two together) will be offered suggestions of what to say which will not embarrass or patronise the recipient.

A card is to be left with the hamper saying something like "Please accept this small gift from the churches of Hemel which we hope will bless you as God also blesses us" or something similar..... Suggestions welcome!!!