



The
United
Reformed
Church

EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD

EMURCE No: 276 – 20th SEPTEMBER 2018
EDITED THIS WEEK BY: JANE HENDERSON

This week marks a milestone in our family. Our youngest, Edward, has gone to university, so we had to pack him up and move him to Nottingham (which is not that far away really!) Like many parents across the country we hope that we have given them enough confidence and skills to live independently. But I'm sure I'm not on my own, worrying.

Jesus sent his disciples out when they were not ready, but he sent them anyway.

Edward in his pre-course work had to write about how he became interested in his subject and he wrote that from the age of 9 he sat with me at the sound desk at church.

Our young people often are interested and willing to do things to help in church, to feel part of the church community and we do encourage them in some ways. But do we wait until we think that they are 'ready' or 'old enough' before we trust them to engage in various ways of service and ministry in our churches? Should we, like Jesus did with his disciples, encourage, support and let them do things anyway?

Please pray for all those students, starting or returning to university this week. That their parents can 'let them go well' and that they will enjoy their times at university.

FAIRTRADE AT SYNOD – Saturday 13th October

Please order in advance for Advent Calendars - choice of 3 sorts- or catering packs of tea/coffee. See: traidcraftshop.co.uk for details. Order to ian.sylvia@salmon2.co.uk

PRAYER HANDBOOKS AND DIARIES

Chris will be placing a bulk order of diaries & prayer handbooks ready for the Synod meeting. **She will need to order these 24 September.** We are aware that this doesn't give churches long to get their orders in. If you can give Chris a rough guide on how many is required of each item, we would ask that your firm order is received by 10th October so that they can be prepared for the meeting. Email: admin@urc5.org.uk Tel: 0115 9609241

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

As you are aware, we as a Synod take safeguarding seriously and we have a Synod Safeguarding Officer, Jane Henderson.

Jane is available to help and support churches with policy, advice and in the thankfully rare cases where a safeguarding incident occurs. As a Synod we recommend that all churches offer URC Safeguarding training to all Elders, volunteers and children and youth leaders. URC safeguarding training is delivered by our Synod Safeguarding Officer across the whole Synod and covers both children and adults at risk. It links clearly with URC Good Practice guideline and URC policy.

If you are in a LEP and follow a different denominational policy then their training would be appropriate to enable you to be aware of policy and what procedures to follow if necessary.

As ever if you have any questions please contact Jane Henderson on 07572 291007, cydo@urc5.org.uk.

If you would like training in your church the training team are very happy to travel across the synod to deliver training.

Synod Safeguarding training sessions currently planned are as follows:

October 6th – Newport Pagnell URC, 10am – 1pm

October 10th – The Dales URC, Nottingham, 6pm – 9pm

October 27th – Spalding URC, 1pm – 4pm

To book a space on these sessions please email Hannah Holmes trainingpa@ur5.org.uk

NOTTINGHAM

THE RIDING LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS 'GOSPEL STREET it's GOOD NEWS' – On Saturday 17th November 2018 at 7pm at Bulwell URC, Broomhill Road, Bulwell, Nottingham, NG6 9GJ. Tickets: £5
From: 01904 613000 / 07773 335443 or online: ridinglights.org/gospel

Another generation is looking for answers – a rich young executive, an angry gang leader, religious fanatics streaming live, baristas, professors, YouTubers, activists, a surprising refugee and the pizza delivery bloke who bought some seriously expensive jewellery. People are out on the street. Despite their differences and social divisions, everyone wants to meet one extraordinary person: Jesus has arrived on their street. There's always trouble on the street and he's looking to do something about it...

GOSPELSTREET is a powerful mix of theatre, comedy and spoken word – a breath-taking ride through all the important issues of life, death... and miraculous street food. Good news with wisdom, laughter, energy and insight.

NOTTINGHAM WORLD CHURCH SUNDAY - November 25th, to be held at Bulwell URC at 4pm with "bring & share" tea. Speaker: Pastor Joseph Zulu, on Extending Compassion to the people of Zimbabwe. Note the date - posters available later. For further details contact: ian.sylvia@salmon.2.co.uk

THE DALES - October the 17th, Wed; 7.30pm A Tribute Evening, for the life of Pollyanna Pickering. For many years, Pollyanna & Anna Louise came & gave lovely talks on their adventures for the saving of the Wild Life. Such joyous evenings, sadly not to be had again. The Dales people are so saddened by Pollyanna's death, such a lovely lady, full of wonderful talent, but so humble, always so approachable. The first part of the evening, is to be a short Tribute memorial to Pollyanna, the rest of the evening coffee/ cakes/ cards (made from Pollyanna's create & craft papers). Anna Louise will be attending the event and bringing Calendars & cards along on the evening.

DERBYSHIRE

CHURCHES TOGETHER FOR DERBYSHIRE – presents 'Working Together is worth it' with keynote speaker: Pastor Geoff Pickup on Saturday 6th October 2018 from 10am to 3pm at Matlock Methodist and United Reformed Church (Parking at County Hall nearby, DE4 3AG). Free entry, drinks provided, bring your own lunch. In our time, Christian unity is taking many forms, with new combinations and new partnerships. Pastor Geoff will draw on over 40 years ministry experience to help us to see how traditional denominations and less traditional congregations are collaborating when and how the Spirit leads. Plus an opportunity to connect with other local mission groups. For more details or to book contact Ian Sant: 01332 721927 ian.sant@ntlworld.com or Paul King: 01246 270936 jpking@uwclub.net

WEST DERBYSHIRE URC – Invite you to their 150-year anniversary celebration which will take place on the weekend of October 13th/14th this year. On the Saturday there will be an open day from 10am to 4pm with displays and photographs telling the story of the church over the years. There will be craft activities for young and old and of course, refreshments. On the Sunday at 2.30pm there will be a celebration service for all ages with dramatisations telling the story of church life over the years. The service will be led by our Minister Revd Camilla Veitch and church historian and former Moderator of General Assembly Revd Dr Stephen Orchard. The celebration will conclude with a bring and share tea in the adjoining Glenorchy Centre.

STUDENT ART EXHIBITION AT ST ANDREW'S CHESTERFIELD – From 6th - 7th October 2018, St Andrew's URC, 187 Newbold Road, Chesterfield is once again hosting in partnership with Chesterfield Rotary Club an exhibition of art work produced by students of 7 secondary schools in Chesterfield and North Derbyshire. The exhibition is open from 10.00am - 4.00pm on Saturday 6th and 1.00 - 4.00pm on Sunday 7th October and occupies the whole of the church premises. The opening at 10.00am on Saturday will be attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Chesterfield, Councillor Stuart Brittain and Mrs Anne Brittain, and the local MP Toby Perkins. Certificates will be awarded to 10 students from each school on Saturday and on Sunday a prize will be given for one outstanding piece of work chosen by local artist Lynne Evans. Morning worship at 11.00am on Sunday will be led by Dr Roger Allen, amid art work all around the church. The standard of work presented at previous exhibitions has been outstanding and we expect the same again this year. The skill, imagination and originality on display speaks volumes for the students and their teachers. If you are able to visit Chesterfield, do come along and see what it's all about.

LINCOLNSHIRE

STEPPING OFF THE MAP - Engaging with New Housing Areas. A conference for churches and individuals keen to share Christ's love in Lincolnshire's 100,000 new homes.

SPEAKERS : Rev. Alison Boulton and Rev. Penny Marsh. On Saturday November 24th: 9.30a.m. to 4.30p.m.
Bishop Grosseteste University , Lincoln. Tickets £35. To book—click <http://www.ctal.org.uk/sotm.html>
Or email admin@ctal.org.uk

100 DAYS OF HOPE AND PEACE DAILY PRAYER

On 4 August 1918 King George V called a National Day of Prayer. One hundred days later the war ended. Remembrance 100 launched on 4 August 2018 with 100 Days of Peace and Hope – prayers, Bible readings, reflections and peace-making activities.

The free downloads of 100 Days of Peace and Hope include the '6 Rs of Reconciliation' written by the Archbishop of Canterbury who says in his foreword: 'From 4 August let us mark 100 days with prayers for peace, hope and reconciliation.' [Click here](#) to read the Archbishop's foreword in full. Contributors to the 100 Days of Peace and Hope include members and staff from the Church of England, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, the Armed Forces Christian Union, Bible Society, the Evangelical Alliance, the HOPE leadership team, Sports Chaplaincy UK, Christian Vision for Men, the World Prayer Centre, the Anglican Communion Office, the Peace Alliance and other chaplaincies and Christian ministries. There's still time to sign up, visit: <https://www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/>

FOUNDATION TRAINING COURSE FOR CHURCH TREASURERS

This course is primarily for Treasurers of churches whose annual income is under £250,000. Both members and non-members of ACAT are invited to enrol for the course to be held at: The Well, Retford Baptist Church and Community Centre, Hospital Road, RETFORD, DN22 7BD www.thewellrbc.org On Saturday 3rd November 2018 from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. Cost including buffet lunch is £45. The Foundation Training Course gives a good overview of all the issues a Treasurer might meet. Whether you are new to the role or have been in post for many years, you will find much in the course to benefit you. Book online at: <https://www.acat.uk.com/courses.html>

WALKING THE WAY

The Walking the Way Venn map is now live and can be visited here: <https://urc.org.uk/venn-resource-map>
Please encourage people in your networks to use the Venn and let us know how they get on. If people have suggestions for inclusion in the Venn, please ask them to make sure that suggestions relate directly to supporting people in 'living the life of Jesus today' as well as being accessible and useful to a wide diverse, intergenerational audience before sending them to wtw@urc.org.uk for further consideration.

IT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION CHURCH

A long-term member of St Andrew's URC in Peterborough has recently launched a new IT Solutions business which specialises in IT for the church. His new company is called "Integrity Team" and is one of a small handful of technology organisations operating within the region with a specific Christian identity and ethos. The aim of the organisation is to help churches across the Eastern and Central region become more relevant to their communities through the use of IT – such as providing Internet and wifi services, providing access to shared document portals for Alpha courses and Home Groups, modernising websites and even developing promotional videos. Other services include assistance with GDPR and Cyber Security, plus validating the suitability of existing PA systems and audio/video services. For example, did you know many modern PA systems can be operated via an iPad, enabling the operator to sit within the congregation rather than at a traditional mixing desk? For more details please contact Adam at Integrity Team on 01733 515260 or at info@integrityteam.co.uk.

TO THOSE WHO SENT KNITTED FLOWERS FOR THE URC TAKE AWAY TENT AT GREENBELT

Thank you for contributing to the magnificent display of flowers for the URC tent at Greenbelt 2018! From Linda Mead, on behalf of the Greenbelt Planning Team.



YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S EVENT AT OCTOBER SYNOD

Come along and discover more about **THE FEAST OF THE TABERNACLE!**

For Children and Young People aged 5yrs-25yrs on Saturday 13th October 2018 from 10.30am – 4pm at Marlpool United Reformed Church.

Join in with others from across the Synod to discover more about this Pilgrimage Festival.

- Games
- Craft/Fun
- Build a Tabernacle

Booking is essential, to book please email Hannah Holmes at the Synod Office for a booking form: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk or Telephone: 0115 9609241

AND FINALLY: - This E letter is sent on behalf of The URC East Midlands Synod, 1 Edwards Lane, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3AA. Telephone: 0115 9609241
Email address for E-Letter Editor: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk
Copy Date for Next E-Letter: 01.10.2018
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