



The
United
Reformed
Church

EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD

EMURCE No: 271 – 21st JUNE 2018

EDITED THIS WEEK BY: DAVID GREATOREX

Do you have a 'favourite place' or perhaps a favourite 'type' of place? Do you think about it very often, or not much at all?

Perhaps better than thinking about it, do you get chance to visit that type of place very often, and for what purpose?

I particularly like mountains and the variety that they offer. From gentle green meadows rising to rugged rocky peaks. Some with lots of trees whilst others are peat marsh / bog. Most of the high mountains are covered with snow and ice all year round, even with receding glaciers, and usually very inhospitable.

Mountain references are prominent in The Bible with numerous significant events being recorded on or around them.

So, why am I going on about mountains? They have played a significant part in my life. I first recall the significance of a mountain when, in my early teens, I was visiting Norway with friends in The Boys' Brigade and on our first evening in Bergen we held our devotional time on Mount Fløyen - not quite sure what happened at that time but from then my like of mountains developed. I've recently returned from a super holiday in the Austrian Alps, also greatly loved by my late wife where we spent numerous happy times (in addition to the English Lake District). It is good to be on my own in the mountains - yet I never feel alone.

David J Greatorex

PEOPLE

We are pleased to announce the upcoming Induction in the East Midlands Synod: **Revd Judith Tatton-Schiff** will be inducted to the Derby West Group pastorate - Ashbourne Road LEP, Central URC and Mackworth URC. The service is to be held at Central United Reformed Church, Becketwell Lane, Derby, DE1 1JW on Saturday 8th September 2018 at 3:00pm.

EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD – POINTS OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR EMAIL AND WEBSITE – GDPR

Having learnt from experiences around the Synod, we have these guidelines for local churches regarding the use of email and websites within churches, containing useful tips and advice to ensure that you are GDPR compliant. To view this please visit: <https://www.urch5.org.uk/content/urch-ems-email-and-websites-points-good-practice-and-gdpr>

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

BULWELL ARTS FESTIVAL - runs from 7th-14th July - Bulwell United Reformed Church are pleased to host two events: -

Hothouse Theatre's Nottingham Film Festival – Sunday 8th July, 4.15pm - 9pm

FREE With over 1,000 submissions from around the world, 24 films have been selected to be shown at the 2018 Bulwell Arts Festival. The audience will be able to vote for their favourite films in the 8 categories: Advert or Trailer, Animated Film, Artistic Film, Factual Film, Fictional Film, Foreign Language Film, Music Film and Young Person's film. All films are under 10 minutes in length and will give you the chance to see the very best in short filmmaking.

Days of Judgement Discussion with Gary Davies– Wednesday 11th July, 7.30pm

FREE Join Bulwell artist Gary Davies as he discusses his artistic practises and the technical challenges he faced whilst depicting a personal reinterpretation of a Medieval subject, Days of Judgement. Powerpoint presentation.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

ABINGTON AVENUE URC - SAVE THE DATE - AAURC Outreach Committee is to hold a Learning to Share your Faith training day at Abington Avenue United Reformed Church (in the Upper Hall) on Saturday 29th September 2018 with Revd. Andrew Willett, from Barnet URC (GEAR).

We have yet to finalise all the details, but the timing will be approx. 10.30 am till about 4 pm (please bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided - N.B. car parking limited at the Church so please park either around Abington Park, or in local streets).

The purpose will be how we can put into practise Christ's Great Commission, and learn how to share our faith with others, e.g. family, work colleagues, acquaintances and people we meet in our local community etc.

More details will follow - We really hope that you will not only enjoy taking part, but encourage others to come as well .

WELLINGBOROUGH URC - This will be the first venue for Stuart Townend and Band Courage Tour 2018. Date - Tuesday 18 September 2018 at 7.30pm. Ticket price:£15.00 - available from 18th June as follows :

Website:wellingboroughurc.org.uk Email: wellingboroughurc@hotmail.com Tel :01933 278137

Write: ST Tour, Salem Hall, Salem Lane, Wellingborough NN8 4JT

If anyone would like to pay by BACS, please let us know and details will be sent.

Save the date and come hear the composer of "In Christ alone", "Beautiful Saviour", "There is a hope"!

SONGS OF PRAISE ON SUNDAY

Songs of Praise is featuring the Daily Devotions this Sunday. Various football matches are being screened on BBC1 which means the Songs of Praise episode will be shown on BBC2 - times vary but it seems to be starting between 1pm and 2pm - check the schedule for your TV region!

The programme looks at the Power of Prayer and features the Devotions as an example of how technology is helping people develop a discipline of daily prayer. It features the Revd Dr Susan Durber who both uses and writes for the Devotions and Andy Braunston (Coordinator, Daily Devotions from the URC Project).



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE URC - EAST MIDLANDS URC SYNOD CHOIR

Final preparations are being made for the General Assembly act of Worship on Sunday 8th July.

There will be a gathered choir from the East Midlands Synod singing two anthems as part of the service.

We have a number of people from across the Synod coming to join us but we would welcome more.

The anthems will be O Thou the Central Orb by Charles Wood and The Lord is my Shepherd by Howard Goodall.

Rehearsal music is now available and can be sent in the post or by email.

If you have spoken to me but have not had your copies please send a reminder!

I will also send links to midi files which can be opened on smart phones, tablets and computers, to help learning.

Two rehearsals have been organised, Thursday 5th July 7.45pm (optional) Sunday 8th July at 9.30am

(required). Both rehearsals will be in St Andrew's with Castle Gate URC (NG1 5JT).

On the Sunday after the rehearsal we will walk from the Church to the General Assembly venue (10-15 mins) for the service. For those for whom the walk would be difficult door to door transport can easily be arranged but this does need to be planned in advance, so please get in touch.

We are hoping for a good bank of sound and a wonderful choral experience -

Contact stawithcchoir@gmail.com for more information and/or to request music.

Mrs Phil (Pippa) Hodgson, Choir Director

St Andrews with Castle Gate URC Nottingham

SYNOD STUDY DAY - RADICAL LIVING

A study day looking at the rule of St. Benedict. All Welcome! On Saturday 14th July 2018 from 10.30am - 3pm (bring a packed lunch) at the Synod Meeting Room, Nottingham, NG5 3AA. Led by Revd Dr Deborah Baird. Booking is essential, to book contact Hannah Holmes: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk

Tel: 0115 9609241

PLACES OF WORSHIP: SECURITY FUNDING SCHEME

Are you concerned about hate crime happening at your place of worship?

The government may be able to help you. It stands against anyone who spreads hatred. Everyone has a right to religious expression. Money is available for your place of worship if it is vulnerable to hate crime or has been subject to the crime within the past two years.

About the scheme

The scheme is one of the main commitments contained within the [Government Hate Crime Action Plan](#). It will provide funding for protective security measures to places of worship that are vulnerable to hate crime. You can submit bids for funding from 8 June until 23:59 on 10 August 2018. Places of worship can submit bids for projects costing up to £70,000 for protective security measures and will be required to contribute at least 20 percent of the total cost of the project. The Home Office will award funding on a discretionary basis up to a maximum of £56,000 per place of worship.

Funding will not be available for improvements, lead theft, security upgrades or measures to tackle anti-social behaviour or other criminality unconnected with hate crime.

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/places-of-worship-security-funding-scheme>

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL LECTURE AND ANNUAL MEETING 2018

On Saturday 8 September at The Church at Carrs Lane, Birmingham B4 7SX, from 11.30-16.00

The bicentenary of the London Missionary Society's mission to Madagascar.

An opportunity to reflect on the writing of 'mission' history to be given by Dr Rachel Rakotonirina.

Head of Religious Studies and Critical Thinking at King's High School, Warwick.

The Revd Elaine Colechin, a doctoral student and in ministry in West Suffolk, will also read a paper on Order versus freedom: how a church's practice of worship has developed.



BELONGING ONLINE CONFERENCE

Belonging are holding an online conference, which is being streamed on Thursday 13th September 2018 with the Methodist Church, who are organising the event.

'Belonging' supports churches to have a welcoming and accessible ministry with children and young people who have additional needs. This day event is happening in partnership with The Additional Needs Alliance, Pete and Christine Winmill from Count Everyone In and Mark Arnold, Director of Additional Needs with Urban Saints. It promises to be an engaging and informative day with lots of opportunities to discuss and reflect on the key issues.

You can join in from anywhere there's an internet connection and we're keen to encourage lots of local events that make it accessible for as many folk as possible to get together. Do take a look at the website for details of how to register these and be kept updated on future developments with the programme and speakers:

www.methodist.org.uk/belongingconference

We are happy to announce that East Midlands Synod will be streaming the conference from the Synod Meeting Room. To join us on Thursday 13th September 2018 from 9.30am – 2.30pm, please contact Hannah Holmes at the Synod Office to book your place. Bring a packed lunch. Email: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk Tel: 0115 9609241

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH WORKER AT WELL STREET UNITED CHURCH

Part time – 20 hours, Well Street United Church, Buckingham, MK18 1ET. Salary £10 per hour (depending on qualifications)

We are an ecumenical partnership (Methodist, Baptist, and United Reformed) and are seeking an enthusiastic Christian youth worker for our group between 11-18 years.

The role is to ensure that the young people have the opportunity to grow in the Christian faith and enjoy and enhance their experience of our Christian community. For more details see our website: www.wellstreetchurch.org.uk

Telephone: 01280 817560 Email: wellstreetoffice@gmail.com

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND BENEFICE OF WOODBOROUGH, OXTON, EPPERSTONE AND GONALSTON

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWELL AND NOTTINGHAM

PART-TIME CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER

Responsible to: Revd Anthony Giles, Vicar, and the PCC of St Swithun's Woodborough.

Basic terms: 20 hours a week spread across the period Wednesday through to Sunday and always by clear negotiation against the Children and Families strategies agreed.

Starting salary of £14,000 inclusive of pension per year, annually reviewed and to include a 3 month initial probation period. 18 days holiday (excluding bank holidays). Expenses paid in full

Initial three year contract.

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

The post is subject to an Enhanced DBS disclosure.

For more information please contact: Revd Anthony Giles, Email: giles.ant@btinternet.com Telephone: 07766 525620

VACANCIES AT CHURCH HOUSE

Head of Communications

London, Full time, Salary: £52,002

Are you an experienced communicator ready for the challenge of managing a busy, multi-disciplined team and delivering an excellent communication service for and about the United Reformed Church (URC)? Can you make the Church's voice heard within and beyond the walls of the denomination? Can you demonstrate the ability to determine priorities consistently within available resources? If so, you could be the dynamic person we're looking for to lead the communications work of the Church.

You'll have responsibility for internal and external communications, a proven track record in developing and delivering strategic communications and be highly organised with good financial and people management skills.

To succeed in this role you'll thrive under pressure and need to operate at pace and deliver through others.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Monday 16 July 2018

Programme Officer - Global Justice and Partnerships

London, 35 hours per week, Salary: £38,180

Do you care about justice in God's world? Could you help people in our Church to work for justice and build strong partnerships with Christians in other countries? 'Commitment for Life' and 'Global Partnerships' are two programmes that give expression to the United Reformed Church's mission and faith. This role will maintain and develop these programmes by motivating and resourcing local churches and networks to build global partnerships, encouraging campaigning for justice and personal giving for global development. You will have demonstrable capacity for intercultural and ecumenical working and campaigning, be an excellent communicator and project manager, with good administrative and organisational skills.

Closing date: 12 noon, Monday 20 August 2018

Programme Support Officer - Church and Society

London, 31.5 hours per week, Salary: £31,102

Are you passionate about social justice, the environment, peace making and politics? Could you help churches engage meaningfully with these issues? The Church and Society programme helps the United

Reformed Church to speak and act prophetically on key issues facing society and resources local churches to respond. In this role you will play an instrumental part in supporting the delivery of this programme, working as part of the Joint Public Issues Team. You will have experience of working in communications or on campaigns and of supporting a team.

You will be an excellent communicator with good administrative and organisational skills.

Closing date: 12 noon, Monday 2 July 2018

For more information on any of these roles, including information on the application process, please visit:

<https://www.urch.org.uk/about-us/vacancies>

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@urch5.org.uk

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