

**EMURCE No: 302 – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**EDITED THIS WEEK BY: Georgina Henderson-Neale, Synod Youth Representative**

Growing up I have always felt like a novelty within the church, a young person who has always favoured traditional hymns to modern ones. For me my early memories of Church and worship are singing hymns such as *How Great Thou Art* and *Great is Thy Faithfulness* in my local URC. Throughout my childhood I then went onto worship in C of E, Salvation Army and Catholic services, all giving me a different view of worship.

Recently my family and I have started to attend a new church that has a very modern worship style, this was challenging for me as I felt that I could not worship properly. To me, the music did not have the same impact and did not allow me to worship in the way more traditional hymns could. Personally this has highlighted the role that music has played in my faith. Going to a church that isn't as traditional as I'm used to has helped me to explore my relationship with worship further.

At the national youth executive meetings we do a variety of styles of worship (led by Jenny Mills ) which has then broadened my experience of worship- a lot of which I have really enjoyed! Upon reflection and discussion with other young people my age I have discovered that we all worship differently and that for some, like me, music forms a large part of their worship but for others not so much.

Having recently started the 4<sup>th</sup> and final year of my degree I have begun to explore different types of worship, at my university Christian Union and at services at Coventry's famous cathedral. I have come to accept that my style of worship is an ecumenical blend of lots of different styles which has helped me to appreciate the diversity of the Christian faith.

Personally, I have grown in my faith through experiencing new ways of worship and I would encourage you all the explore different ways as well. This could be done through inviting different members (both old and young!) of the congregation to pick the worship music or style for church that Sunday. By doing this you might discover and enjoy new ways of worshipping that you hadn't tried before!

*Georgina*

#### PEOPLE

We regret to inform you of the death of **Revd Norman Compton-Dando**, a retired minister living in Leicestershire.

Norman's ministries were: Presbyterian Church of Wales 1973-77; Wisbech and Whittlesey 1977-82; Earl Shilton and Lutterworth 1982-88. Funeral details to follow.



To sign up for Youth Assembly please follow this link: <https://urc.org.uk/urcya>  
Please also let Jane Henderson know if you are booking: [cydo@urc5.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urc5.org.uk)



**Y Pray?** – 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 at Kings Park Conference Centre,  
Northampton.

An exciting weekend for women who are interested in exploring prayer creatively.

Sponsored by World Day of Prayer - England, Wales & Northern Ireland

Prayer is an integral part of our Christian life, yet we often find prayer difficult. Come and be inspired, explore different ways of praying and discover links with women from around the world. The programme includes worship, bible study and creative prayer, plus more light-hearted activities and an opportunity to discover what WDP is all about.

For further information visit: [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

## GOOD NEWS STORY!

# HOLYHABITS

Missional discipleship as a way of life

BULWELL URC – HOLY HABITS

Bulwell URC started on the Holy Habits journey in September 2018 looking at each habit over a 2 month period to help us grow in discipleship. We paused half-way through to reflect and asked Andrew Roberts the author of Holy Habits to spend a weekend with us in June. One of the outcomes was to acknowledge that using the Habits we can start with what we are doing and then enhance to see some sure but steady growth. This is a very accessible way to grow as disciples and it was felt that our story is worth sharing. Bulwell URC's Holy Habits story is now featured on the Holy Habits website <https://www.holyhabits.org.uk/stories> and a PDF version can be downloaded. We hope that you find it helpful.

## Training and Development Officer East Midlands Synod (Full-time post)

Salary: circa. £35,000 p.a

(lay appointment) or URC Minister's stipend

Are you looking for the chance to play a key role at a time of strategic change in the synod?

The successful candidate will be a key member of the synod team and play a central role in embedding the changes, which are focused on delivering the synod vision of enabling local churches to be fully equipped for mission in their communities.

Success in the role will require a change-orientated, creative, enthusiastic training and development practitioner. They will be able not only to deliver training but to help ministers, local churches and key post holders across the synod determine the training they need and identify the appropriate resources to meet those needs.

Applications are invited from lay or ordained candidates who feel that they can meet this challenging brief.

The role is based in Nottingham but regular travel around the synod is an essential requirement.

For further information, including arranging an informal conversation with the Convenor of the East Midlands Synod Training and Development Group, please contact Chris Willis in the synod office on 0115 960 9241.

An application pack can be accessed via the synod website [www.urch5.org.uk](http://www.urch5.org.uk) or by telephoning the Synod Office.

**Closing date for applications: 28th October 2019**

In accordance with the Equalities Act 2010 Part 1; Schedule 9, there is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder be a Christian. The post is also subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Come and listen to stories of people Jenny met on her trip and the effect they have had on her thinking.

# STORIES FROM PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

Hear about the key sites of the Holy Land and what is going on.

TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 7.30PM  
AT NEWPORT PAGNELL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

No charge for the event but donations welcomed for the Olive Tree Project in Palestine



*Save the Date*

## Advance Notice and Save the Date

Moderator's Farewell Service - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 2:30pm

Sherwood United Reformed Church, Edwards Lane, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3AA

All are welcome to celebrate Peter Meek's ministry in the Synod as he prepares to move on to the next exciting journey that God has in store for him.

## OLD TESTAMENT IN A DAY

All Welcome – come along to this Bible Study Day led by Revd Dr. Deborah Baird – READING THE HEBREW BIBLE AS STORY

- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019, 10:00-4:00pm in the Synod Meeting Room

Please Bring your Lunch - Booking is essential - please contact [trainingpa@urc5.org.uk](mailto:trainingpa@urc5.org.uk)

## STEPWISE UPDATE

Take a leap of faith and join us on a new journey! Every Stepwise journey begins with *Faith-filled life: Discovering our place and purpose*. Faith-filled life takes about three months to complete and involves being a member of a local group; following guided material via the Stepwise Hub; and having meetings with a stepwise mentor. Further information can be found at <https://urc.org.uk/how-does-stepwise-work> or on You Tube at <https://youtu.be/glOMyTZxt.Q> Registering is easy via the URC Stepwise page, or contact Revd Samuel Silungwe for further information

## NOTTINGHAM WORLD CHURCH SUNDAY

On November 24<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm at Boulevard URC. A speaker from Open Doors will be talking about persecuted Christians. Further details and posters available soon. Contact [ian.sylvia@salmon2.co.uk](mailto:ian.sylvia@salmon2.co.uk)

## FAMILY WORKER – HINCKLEY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

We are looking to appoint an experienced leader to work at this busy and vibrant church in this town centre position.

The appointed person will give dedicated time and professionalism to:

- a) Develop the range of ministries presently provided by volunteers but also with the vision to reach out to the community.
- b) Nurture existing young Christians with the church in their spiritual walk.
- c) Develop the relationships and work with the many varied organisations that use the premises.
- d) Foster opportunities for children and families in the community to find and grow in faith.

Hours: 37 p/w

Salary: £21,512 to £24,636 depending on experience.

Email: Tony Wallis at [tonygwallis2110@gmail.com](mailto:tonygwallis2110@gmail.com)

For further details please visit

<https://www.hinckleyurc.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HinckleyURCtheBoroughChurch>

## CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY

You are invited to a training day, to learn how you can use Church Action on Poverty's new *Poverty, Faith and Justice workshops* in your church.

**Friday 15 November** from 11am-4pm at Church Action on Poverty, 28 Sandpiper Court, Water's Edge Business Park, Modwen Road, Salford M5 3EZ

*Poverty, Faith and Justice* is a series of five workshops, designed to help people to explore the relationship between their faith and action for justice. The sessions make use of a variety of content including factual information, real experiences, videos, biblical reflection and church teaching from different traditions.

The training day is for people who want to run the workshops for their own church or group. It will equip you with the skills and confidence to deliver the workshops, and answer any questions you may have about what is involved.

The cost of the training day is £20. To book your place visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/poverty-faith-and-justice-training-day-tickets-74417397439>

**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](mailto:trainingpa@urc5.org.uk)

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