



URC EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD

E-LETTER NO: 214 - 18th FEBRUARY 2016

EDITED THIS WEEK BY: JANE HENDERSON

It's been a busy start to the year, 9 young people from our Synod went to Youth Assembly in January and from that we are forming a Synod Youth Executive. They have lots of ideas and plans for how the young people of the Synod can meet together for fellowship. I met with a group of young people this week and we began with a short reflection based on Jeremiah 17.8:

'They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes ; it's leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year full of drought and never fails to bear fruit.'

This year the theme for Children's and Youth Work nationally is 'Roots and Foundations'. We reflected that if we plant our roots next to the stream- in our personal relationship with God - then we will be able to weather the droughts and will bear fruit.

It is great to work with children and young people, they often bring different insights and challenges and churches in this Synod are doing great work. We have different opportunities to celebrate during this year, the first is our Synod Pilots Day out at Belton House on 14th May. More information will be available soon, but **save the date!!**

Young people aged 18-25 have an opportunity to go to Detroit on a Mission Trip this summer for 10 days. Please encourage them to consider whether this opportunity is something they would be interested in and get in touch with Hannah B at the Synod office.

As always, I'm happy to come and visit and talk about Children's and Youth Work in your churches, please get in touch.

Jane

PEOPLE

- We regretfully inform you of the sad news of the death the **Revd Professor Alan Sell**, he died peacefully on the evening of Sunday February 7th in Willen Hospice in Milton Keynes. Alan had some very impressive qualifications: BA; BD; MA; DD; DLitt; PhD; HonDD; Hon DTh; FSA FRHistS; He was ordained in 1959 and had a very fruitful ministry:- 1959-1964: Sedbergh & Dent, 1964-1968: Hallow Worcester & Ombersley, 1968-1983: Theological Lecturer & Professor in UK, 1983-1987: Theological Secretary WARC, 1988-1992: Theological Lecturer & Professor in Canada, 1992-2001: United Theological College Abertystwyth. The Thanksgiving Service for Alan will take place on Thursday 3rd March, 2:15pm at Christ the Cornerstone Church, 300 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alan's wife, Karen and their family.
- It is with great sadness that we must advise you that **Revd Derek Fitch** a retired minister in Northamptonshire died on 15th February. Derek had a long service in ministry serving: Swanland 1958 - 61; East Boldon 1961 - 68; East Boldon and Roker 1968 - 69; Desborough 1969 - 79; Wolverton 1979 - 84; St Luke's Bedford 1984 - 95. We thank Derek for his long service and ask that the Lord show his love and compassion on his wife Kathleen, his daughter Jean and all those close to Derek at this time.
- It is with deep great regret that we have to pass on the news that the **Revd Stephen Brown**, died on 9th February, following a heart attack and brain embolism. Our prayers go to Jan, Cameron and Sheena and to Stephen's sister. Please remember the family in your prayers as well as our Helensburgh and Fraserburgh congregations and all who have received so richly from his life, from his love of music and from his faith. He will also be remembered for his musical contributions at Synod and General Assembly. A service to celebrate and give thanks

for Stephen's life will be held on Saturday 27th February at 2.00pm to be held in Helensburgh United Reformed Church, 35 West Princes Street, Helensburgh, G84 8TF

FAIRTRADE AT SYNOD

Advance orders can be taken for The Real Easter Egg (3 varieties - I can supply in singles) or for catering packs of tea, coffee & sugar sticks. Details can be found on the Traidcraft website: traidcraftshop.co.uk Contact Sylvia Salmon on 0115 9275208 or ian.sylvia@salmon2.co.uk by Monday March 7th. As well as the usual selection of goods there will be a few Palestinian Clerical Stoles available.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

THE DALES URC - are holding a coffee morning, in aid of the Admiral Nurses. Admiral nurses support patients & carers in their own homes, they deal with DEMENTIA. This terrible illness effects so many people, very often the ones who have lived an active life in their Church or neighbourhood, clever people, stripped of their active mind, not able to perform normal duties, often not recognising their family or friends. In the Nottingham area, we do not have the services of these wonderful nurses. And, because like a lot of people, one family at the Dales has been affected by this we are holding this coffee morning to raise awareness & funds for such a worthwhile cause on Saturday 5th March from 10-30am -12 noon. Coffee / Cakes/ Cards/ Gift stall/ Raffle. All proceeds go to the admiral nurses appeal.



DERBYSHIRE

CENTRAL URC - **Thursday 3rd March** - there is to be a Food Hygiene Course running. The course is organised and certified by Derby College and will run from 10am to 2pm. It will be useful as a refresher for those who have done Food Hygiene before but also of interest and use to those working in a food environment. Please contact the church office on 01332 346627 if interested.

Friday 1st April - the BBC Radio 4 "Any Questions" Programme will be broadcast live from Central URC, Derby. Admission is by ticket only. Tickets are free, but limited. The audience will be invited to submit questions to the panel, which is chaired by Jonathan Dimpleby. To obtain a ticket or for more information contact bbcaq@centralurcderby.org.uk.

Saturday 10th September - Central URC, Derby, will be hosting ACAT. They are running a Foundation Training Course for Church Treasurers aimed at churches with an income below £250,000. The courses are very interesting and it is a good opportunity to network and ask questions about any accounting issues. Booking for this course can be online on the ACAT website www.acat@.uk.com.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

DUSTON URC - Annual Church Anniversary and Flower Festival Weekend - POETRY AND VERSE IN FLOWERS - On Saturday 5th March from 10am to 4.30pm, Stalls and Refreshments available all day! On Sunday 6th March - Parade Service at 10.30am- Flowers, Stalls and Refreshments from 2pm to 4.30pm. Please come and join us, you will be made very welcome! Further information from Wendy on 01604 59207

OTHER

PULPIT SUPPLY COSTS

There is some confusion about when a local church may reclaim pulpit supply costs in the absence of the minister. The regulations are set out in the Plan for Partnership at 6.1.5:

When the MoM Office has been advised that a minister remunerated under the Plan is unable to work due to ill-health or is on parental leave or is on Jury Service or is absent on a sabbatical term which lasts for a period of more than four weeks or is suspended under the Section O Process or is the Moderator of the General Assembly, the actual pulpit supply costs incurred by the church arising because of the absence will be reimbursed to the limit shown in Appendix A. In group pastorates and part-time pastorates, reimbursement will only be in respect of services which would have been conducted by the absent minister. Claim forms for the reimbursement of pulpit supply costs can be

obtained from the MoM Office.

The current rate is a maximum of £30 plus appropriate travelling expenses. See http://www.unc.org.uk/images/Finance/PlanRev2015_January_2015.pdf

Please note that pulpit supply costs cannot be reclaimed during a vacancy.

David Greator, Synod Treasurer

Helen Lidgett, Synod Clerk

A GUIDE TO COPYRIGHT FROM THE URC

The URC has produced a booklet entitled 'Getting to Grips with Copyright - A Short Guide for United Reformed Churches' to help navigate your way through the potential minefield of copyright law and how it affects churches. Please click the link below to download a copy:

http://unc.org.uk/images/Communications/copyright_booklet_web.pdf?dm_i=2JB1,MGGI,2VWOS7,1GB8S,1 They are also available on the online store for 50p/75p.

ROADSHOWS

EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD - Invite you to join us at one of our Road shows during 2016.

Come along to share ideas and find out all about Mission, Training, TLS, Training for Ministry, Community work, Evangelism, Children's and Youth Work and so much more!!!!

Wednesday 20th April 2016 - Castle Hill URC, Northants, 2pm- 4pm or 7pm-9pm

Thursday 28th April 2016 - Marlpool URC, Derbyshire, 2pm- 4pm or 7pm-9pm

Thursday 5th May 2016 - Hinckley URC, Leicestershire, 2pm- 4pm or 7pm-9pm

Thursday 3rd November 2016 - Riverside Church, Sleaford, 2pm- 4pm or 7pm-9pm

Booking is essential; please Contact Hannah B to confirm your place: trainingpa@unc5.org.uk



YOUTH AND CHILDREN

SAFEGUARDING

The section of *Good Practice 4 Adults at Risk* is now available. It is available to download from the main URC website <http://www.unc.org.uk/good-practice-policy-and-procedures.html> Hard copies will be posted out over the next couple of weeks to churches. If anyone would like more information please get in touch with Jane Henderson.

Also Safeguarding Annual Returns have been sent out to churches, please fill in and return to Hannah B at Synod office. We do use this information and it is helpful in planning training.



DETROIT TRIP - 12th - 21st July 2016 - **Don't miss your chance to register!**

During 2016 will you be 18 - 25 years old? Would you like to visit Detroit? Would you like to go on an amazing mission trip?

Synod hopes to take a group to Detroit for a 10 day trip in July. This will involve sharing in mission with a church in Detroit and working in their community!

If you would like to register your interest please email your name, date of birth and contact details to Hannah Bones: trainingpa@unc5.org.uk by 25th Feb 2016.

YEAR BOOK CHANGES

- Please note that Ilkeston URC have a new Treasurer: Mr J Sampson, 43 Albert Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 5GS Tel: 07815 068386 Email: Sampson_jw@yahoo.co.uk
- Please note that from 1st April 2016, Loughborough URC will have a new Secretary: Daphne Beale, 1 Burfield Avenue, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3AZ Tel: 01509 261688 Email: dbeale06@aol.com
- Please note that the South Leicestershire Group, have a new Secretary: Mrs Diane Statham, 22 Woodford Close, Wigston, LE18 2RS Tel: 0116 2810053
- Please note the new contact details for Mr David Tompsett, Treasurer at Newport Pagnell URC: 42 Mill Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 8ER Tel: 01908 617798 Email: dtompsett50@gmail.com
- Please note that Fountain Square have a new Secretary: Mr Ben Twelves, Holly House, Parke road, Tideswell, SK17 8NS Tel: 01298 871161 Email: ben12s@hotmail.co.uk
- Please note that the new Temporary Secretary and Treasurer at Wycliffe URC is: Revd David Morris, 119 Margaret Road, Leicester, LE5 5FW Tel: 07790 896249 Email: david@communityofgrace.co.uk
- Please note that The Church on Oakwood have a new Treasurer: Mr Peter Briggs, 18 Appledore Drive, Oakwood, Derby, DE21 2LN Tel: 01332 820235
- Please note that Revd P Lidgett, Treasurer at St Andrew's, Chesterfield, has a new email address: pslidgett@icloud.com
- Please note that Mr A Lowe, Secretary at Alvaston URC, has a new email address: andrew74lowe@gmail.com
- Please note that Mrs M Hanger, Secretary at Anstey URC, has a new address: 3 Marys Court, Church Lane, Anstey, LE7 7GZ
- Please note that Abbots Road URC have a new Treasurer: Mr John Allison, 77 Colchester Road, Leicester, LE5 2DJ Tel: 0116 2417582 Email: john.77@virgin.net
- Please note that the correct email address for Mr J Green, Secretary at Riverside Church, Sleaford is: jeremygreen@carres.uk
- Please note that Mrs L Merriman, Treasurer at Stamford URC, has a new email address: lm.urc@btinternet.com
- Please note that Mrs B Morgan, Secretary at Crick URC, has a new email address: Brenda.morgan2011@btinternet.com
- Please note that St Mary's, Woughton On The Green, have a new Secretary: Mrs D Miller, 15 The Green, Woughton On The Green, Milton Keynes, MK6 3BE Tel: 01908 667901 Email: Di@goffy.com
- Please note that Mr P Swannell, Treasurer at West End URC, has a new address: 10 Southern Way, Wolverton, Milton Keynes, MK12 5ED

AND FINALLY: - Please send any comments or feedback on this e-letter to: admin@urc5.org.uk
The URC East Midlands Synod, 1 Edwards Lane, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3AA.
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