



URC EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD

E-LETTER NO: 217 - 31ST MARCH 2016

EDITED THIS WEEK BY: IRENE WREN

We have just celebrated Easter; a time of renewal, re-creation, new beginnings and new vision.

Spring, with signs of new growth in gardens, parks hedgerows and fields is all around us. This is the time when we look forward and make plans for summer often after allowing our resolve to slip at the temptation of too much Easter chocolate! Most of all it is the time when we can reawaken our relationship with the living Jesus.

So take the opportunity. Look forward with confidence as we discern what God may have in store for us as individuals, as local congregations, and as the East Midland's Synod of the United Reformed Church. May we be willing to take every step forward in faith following the example of Jesus, our risen Lord.

Irene Wren (Convenor of Search sub group)

PEOPLE

- We regretfully inform you of the death of the **Revd John Cribb**. John was Ordained in Australia in 1955 and his ministry included service in LMS/CWM within United Church of Papua & New Guinea (1955-1968); Christ Church & Upton Chapel, London (1969-74); South London Industrial Mission and St. Matthews, Crossway (1974-82); Brisbane, Queensland (1983-87) and Glebe Centre, Rushall (1988-92). John died at home and was buried in a neighbour's farm today with just family and a few friends present. There will be a thanksgiving service in due course. He is survived by his wife, Hazel.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

THE DALES URC - On April 14th and 16th - The Dales Drama Group is again putting on a Revue to raise money for the "Raise the Roof" campaign. To obtain tickets, please contact Janet Beavis 0115 9117115 or Maureen Beavis - 0115 9114718

ALSO - On Saturday 21st May - The Dales is holding its Spring Fair in the Hall between 2pm and 4pm. Everyone is very welcome to attend!

OTHER

DAVID DOWNING TAKES ON THE LONDON MARATHON!

On 24th April Revd David Downing, Minister of Central URC, Mackworth URC and University Chaplain, Derby, will be running the London Marathon. David is running to raise money for Christian Aid, David explains "Christian Aid's work started because of the need to help refugees in Europe. Since then it has grown to not only be an 'emergency' charity, but one that works with partners in building long term projects and a charity that looks for the root causes of poverty so that there can be a long term change. That's why I'm running for Christian Aid. I have a large sponsorship target (£2,000) but I know that that money will make a difference. It will bring the Kingdom of God a little closerjustice, hope, peace, equality....." If you would like to sponsor David, please contact Christine Fielding: c.fielding@talktalk.net

DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR EASTERTIDE - running until Pentecost

A series of reflections written by writers across the URC will be sent out every day between Easter Sunday and Pentecost. Authors include John Ellis, Susan Durber, John Proctor, Ruth Whitehead, David Grosch-Miller, Francis Brienens, Richard Church, Ann Barton, Kevin Waston, Fleur Houston, Alan Yates and many more.

Many people have commented that the Lenten ones have been a wonderful chance to spend some time each day in thoughtful reflection. We hope that you find these Eastertide ones useful too. You can sign up for them by going to the following link <http://eepurl.com/bPLqev> [1]



STOP

SYNOD DEVELOPMENT ROADSHOWS!

There's a Roadshow happening near you!



LOOK



GO

Are you interested in any of the following?

- Evangelism
- Ministry
- Mission
- Youth and Children's
- Community
- TLS

All Welcome!!!! Come along to find out more at:

- Castle Hill URC - 20th April 2016 - 2pm - 4pm or 7pm - 9pm
- Marlpool URC - 28th April 2016 - 2pm - 4pm or 7pm - 9pm
- Hinckley URC - 5th May 2016 - 2pm- 4pm or 7pm - 9pm
- Riverside Church - 3rd November 2016 - 2pm - 4pm or 7pm - 9pm

If you are planning on coming along please remember to book by contacting Hannah Bones at the Synod Office: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk Tel: 0115 9609241

URC - CRCW SPRING/SUMMER ROAD SHOW!

We are delighted to be able to share with you details of the first CRCW road show for 2016. Our road shows are designed to show the ways in which community initiatives are making an impact among particular congregations and communities. For us, this event is all about good conversation and storytelling.

Please join us at: Bishop Latimer United Church, Beeton Road, Winson Green, Birmingham, B18 4QD on Saturday 4th June, 2016 from 10.30am — 3.30pm.

For more information on the programme or to book your FREE place, please contact CRCW Programme Administrator: Samara Andrews by email or telephone: 020 7916 8653 - See more at: <http://www.urc.org.uk/discipleship/church-related-community-work/crcw-news-and-events.html#sthash.kd7sJpeO.dpuf>

LAY PREACHERS GATHERINGS

This year's Lay Preachers Gatherings are taking the shape of Safer Sacred Space Training! Find out more about - Self Care in Ministry - Boundaries and much more.

- Saturday 16th April 2016 - 10am - 4pm - Christ Church, Leicester
- Saturday 17th September 2016 - 10am - 4pm - St Andrew's, Peterborough

Please come along to one of the sessions, where lunch is included! Booking is essential, please contact Hannah Bones at the Synod Office to secure your place: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk Tel: 0115 9609241

YOUTH AND CHILDREN



PILOTS DAY OUT!

Come to Belton House for a fun day out with Pilots on Saturday 14th May 2016! Come and play in the adventure playground, ride on the miniature railway, look round the house, play in the park, kite making activity and nature trail! Bring a picnic and join in the fun, in worship, kite flying and games. Costs: National Trust members and under 5's are free. House and Grounds: Adults - £11.70. Children - £7.90, Family (2+2) - £34.60 Grounds only: Adults - £9.70, Children - £6.50, Family (2+2) - £27.50. Arrive at 10am, picnic at 1:30pm. To book contact Hannah Bones for a booking form: trainingpa@urc5.org.uk by 30th April. All who book through Hannah will receive commemorative badge and exclusive competition details!

YORKSHIRE SYNOD - BIG DAY OUT

The Big Day Out for all the family. There's something for everyone! On Saturday 10th September 2016 at Flamingo Land, Tickets £20 - Under 4's free, Gates open at 9.30am, Rides and attractions to enjoy, All-age celebration at 5.15pm for further info contact the synod office or Alan Kendall on alankendall1234@hotmail.com or 01422 611376 or 07712 676406.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Church House, London, Full Time - 35 Hours per week, Permanent Contract, Salary: £35,790

The United Reformed Church is looking for an experienced and creative communications officer with experience of both internal and external communications work.

The successful candidate will be hardworking, with experience of devising and implementing proactive PR campaigns and researching and writing effective news stories, web copy and social media posts. You will have excellent technology and social media skills, be used to working to tight deadlines and have a proven ability to create e-newsletters. The ideal candidate will be familiar with the Dotmailer email marketing platform. As a key part of the denomination's national communications team, you will be required to work on your own initiative as well as with others, have experience of handling sensitive media issues (including being on call out of business hours) and will possess the ability to foster and maintain good relations with a wide range of people.

This post requires an individual who is able to prioritise competing deadlines, plan priorities and work flexibly across internal and external communications.

You will need to have a working knowledge of the contemporary religious and social justice issues that surround modern church life and be committed to promoting the aims of the United Reformed Church.

If you are interested in working for us and can meet all of the above requirements please contact us/see our website for an application form (noting that we do not accept CVs):

Deepti Upadhyaya, HR Administration Assistant, The United Reformed Church, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT T: 0207 691 9871 E: recruitment@urc.org.uk W: www.urc.org.uk/vacancies

Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Wednesday 27 April 2016 Interview date: Thursday 19 May 2016 - See more at: <http://www.urc.org.uk/vacancies/1992-communications-officer.html#sthash.fXEdUGyM.dpuf>

REGIONAL PROPERTY MANAGER (SOUTHERN AREA) RETIRED MINISTERS HOUSING SOCIETY - Permanent Contract, 35 hours per week Salary: £31,203

With nearly 400 residential properties to manage nationwide the United Reformed Church Retired Ministers Housing Society is looking to recruit a Regional Property Manager.

You will have knowledge of building maintenance and repairs with proven experience of problem solving in respect of properties. You will also have knowledge of building regulations and planning application processes. With extensive (within designated area) travel involved, you will be energetic, enthusiastic and self-motivated. You will have sound IT skills and be well organised with proven experience of handling multiple projects within tight budgets. In addition to these attributes you will have a can-do attitude and the ability and willingness to learn.

You will work from home, ideally located in West Sussex, Hampshire or Dorset and within easy reach of the motorway networks. You will be part of a small team and will be required to attend meetings in Central London.

If you are interested in working for us and can meet all of the above requirements please contact us/see our website for an application form (noting that we do not accept CVs): Human Resources Office, the United Reformed Church, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT T: 0207 691 9874 E: recruitment@urc.org.uk W: www.urc.org.uk/vacancies Closing date for applications: 12 noon, Monday 25 April 2016, Interview date: Thursday 19 May 2016

YEAR BOOK CHANGES

- Please note that from 31st March 2016, Brigstock URC, will have a new Treasurer: Mrs Joy Beeby, Old School House, 8 Church Lane, Cranford, Northamptonshire, NN14 4AE Tel: 01536 330787

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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