



The
United
Reformed
Church

EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD

EMURCE No: 290 – 18th April 2019

EDITED THIS WEEK BY: Jane Henderson, CYDO

In our church on Sunday we heard from a 4 year old, who, when asked what happened on Good Friday said 'Jesus died', which he did. But then, he very excitedly interrupted the curate and said with a big beam 'But he rose again 3 days later for us'.

What a wonderful message. This 4 year old was so excited to tell all of us this piece of information he was jumping up and down and couldn't wait for the curate to get to Easter Sunday, he wanted everyone to know, Now!

Jesus said that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. That we must become like children in order to enter it. (Matthew 18:1-5, Mark 10: 13-16, Luke 18:15:1-7) It was so important this that it is recorded in 3 Gospels.

We sometimes become so familiar with the Easter Story that we forget how exciting it is. The 4 year old reminded me that the Easter Message is one to be excited about, so excited it needs to be shared. That Jesus died and rose again for me, for us, for the world. That is something to be excited about.

Children can teach us so much. The curate finished his slot by saying 'I'm preaching on Easter Sunday, perhaps I should ask you to do it instead'. Perhaps he should! Wouldn't it be fantastic to hear the Easter message from a child. Enthusiastically, excitedly and simply.

I wish you all a happy Easter. Jane Henderson, CYDO

CAN YOUR CHURCH HELP?

In discussing church membership, the national church has become aware that there are some people who wish to remain members, but live either too far away from a local church, or through lack of transport or ill health cannot get there for worship or fellowship. Synods have been asked to identify local churches who would be prepared to include such people on their list of members. Ideally we would like to identify 1 or 2 such churches in each Area. These "host churches" might, for example send these "distant" members a copy of their church magazine and make an occasional contact, either by phone or e-mail with them.

If your church would be prepared to help, could you please contact one of your Area Pastoral Consultants.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Following the closure of Clifton URC, we have available free to a good home: 30 Rejoice and Sings in good condition, 6 Revised English Bibles in good condition, two beautiful large oil paintings by Rev'd Trudi Norris depicting the Nativity and the Empty Tomb (they are very large!), a solid wood Communion Table with four upholstered Communion Chairs and a lot of crockery in good condition. All offers gratefully received. Transport would need to be arranged by those making a claim on any of the goods available. All enquiries should be addressed to Rev'd Chris Ford on 0115 937 5086.

REVD STEPHEN ORCHARD TALK

An invitation is given to all to listen to Revd Stephen Orchard give a talk on Arnold Legg, a Derby Congregationalist who became a Bishop (and who was popular in Wirksworth)

The talk will be held in the Glenorchy Centre, Chapel Lane, Wirksworth, DE4 4FB

On **Wednesday 15th May 2019** at 7:30pm

Refreshments will be served and there will be a collection for church funds.

West Lindsey Churches Festival

Gainsborough United Reformed Church will open for the West Lindsey Churches Festival, 10am-4pm on Saturday 11 May and 2-4pm on Sunday 12 May.

The Mayflower Room will be officially opened at 1pm on Saturday. The Mayflower Room contains an all age exhibition telling the story of John Robinson and the Pilgrims, and the history surrounding the building of the church in 1896/97. The exhibition has been designed and installed by Createlnn of Retford and largely funded by a grant from East Midlands Synod Mission Fund, for which the church is very grateful.

There will be two Mayflower themed dance performances by *The Imagination Museum: Mayflower 400* at 11am and 2pm on Saturday followed by workshops suitable for all ages. (For further details, see <https://imaginationmuseum.co.uk>).

Organ music will be played on the two manual Forster and Andrews pipe organ on Sunday afternoon. There will be an art display, a cake sale and light refreshments. For further information of the West Lindsey Churches Festival see www.churchesfestival.info

Safeguarding and DBS Checks

DBS checks. These are carried out on behalf of the URC by Due Diligence Checking Ltd. (DDC). If you are contacted by them please be reassured it is a genuine email not spam. If you have any questions about DBS check you can contact them direct or our Synod Safeguarding Officer, Jane Henderson.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Annual Returns. Less than half of the returns have been sent in. Please could you send these in asap. These are IN ADDITION to the form that was sent out with the church annual returns.

Any questions or queries relating to Safeguarding in general or to the above should be directed to Jane Henderson, Synod Safeguarding Officer, 07572 291007, safeguarding@urc5.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Safeguarding training is for all who work with children and adults at risk, including Elders, Pastoral workers, youth and children's leaders.

The new training will begin to be delivered in September, it covers both children and adults at risk in one session. It is the URC training, which is linked with our policies and procedures. It is important that churches attend URC training.

This will take about 4 hours, therefore they will be held on Saturday's with a break for lunch. (Please bring your own lunch).

Please try and attend training local to you, as we do have to deliver it across the Synod.

September (all 10:00am - 3:00pm)

- 14th Spalding - Lincolnshire
- 21st Hinckley - Leicestershire
- 28th Mackworth - Derbyshire.

Please book by emailing trainingpa@urc5.org.uk

SYNOD VOCATION DAY

Saturday 11th May 2019 – 10:00am – 3:00pm at Christ Church URC, Leicester

“Whom Shall I Send?” - This is the day for you if you feel God is calling you to serve in some way but you are not sure what or where or how. Here is an opportunity to come and hear from people engaged in a range of ministries who will share their stories and answer questions you might have.

To book please email: modpa@urc5.org.uk

OLD TESTAMENT IN A DAY

All Welcome – come along to this Bible Study Day on one of the dates below!

Led by Revd Dr. Deborah Baird – READING THE HEBREW BIBLE AS STORY

- Saturday 29th June 2019, 10:00–4:00pm at St. Andrew's URC, Peterborough
- Saturday 2nd November 2019, 10:00–4:00pm in the Synod Meeting Room

Please Bring your Lunch

Booking is essential - please contact trainingpa@urc5.org.uk or telephone Hannah Willey at the Office



Synod Family Days Out



Highlights

- Picnic
- Orienteering
- Games
- Natural History Museum (free entry)
- Play Areas
- Worship

**Wollaton Hall and
Park
Nottingham**

Saturday 20 July

**Stanwick Lakes
Northamptonshire**

Saturday 6 July

Highlights

- Picnic
- Sculpture trail
- Adventure play
- Orienteering
- Games
- Worship
- Much more

Come and join in the fun at one or both events. Bring a picnic. No entrance fees. Car park fees may apply.

We will meet at 10am and then have free time to enjoy the spaces.

Join together for a picnic at 12:30, brief worship and some games.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane Henderson, CYDO. Mob: 07572 291007, cydo@urc5.org.uk

Let us know if you are planning to come, so we can look out for you. Email: cydo@urc5.org.uk

GREENBELT WIT AND WISDOM

23-26 August 2019, Boughton House, Northants, NN14 3AG

Greenbelt takes place over the August Bank Holiday, 23-26 August 2019. The URC is again one of the festival's partners. As part of the URC's theme of 'Walking the Way with Wit and Wisdom,' and in keeping with previous years' fantastic contributions from local URCs, we would like postcard sized items with your favourite quotes, Bible passages and sayings which will be hung around our tent. It's a big tent so we need a lot! Would you be willing to create postcard-sized crafts which containing words you would love to share?

This could be a piece of advice from a grandparent, your favourite quote from Ghandi, or even your favourite joke! They can be embroidered on fabric, cross stitched, knitted, or even handwritten on a postcard from your local town!

All we ask is no plastic and, where able, please use materials you already have. Reuse, recycle and no litter please! Even better if what you make is as weather-durable as possible! If you are able to help, please also send pictures of you or your church group making the decorations to crcw.admin@urc.org.uk (please make sure you have permission to share the photo from everyone in the picture, before sending it).

Please see the e-flyer which explains this year's theme which explains this year's theme: '**Walking the Way with Wit and Wisdom**' and what we would like you to create.

<https://www.urc5.org.uk/Greenbelt2019flyer>

If it's not quite your thing, please feel free to share it with whoever you think would love to be involved and do help spread the word and print posters for communal areas! We have recently included this flyer in a URC church mailing and will continue to send out to Synods and church groups until they're all gone.

For us, it really is the more the merrier so if we are able to get even more people involved this year, it would make us very happy! Please do make sure you send us photos of you making your fabulous creations too (with names and the church(s) involved) and we will share on social media - with your permission. Also, please send your postcard sized item(s) to **Stephanie Twilley** (as per flyer) by the **beginning of August** please.

And finally, please be aware of how much we value your support. Each year, the URC tent just gets better and better and we couldn't make it half as good without your valuable input. Happy crafting!

Future Synod Meeting Dates for your diary:-

- 12th October 2019 - The Crossing, Worksop, Notts
- 21st March 2020 – St. Andrew's with Castle Gate URC, Nottingham
- 10th October 2020 – Newport Pagnell URC, Milton Keynes

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: modpa@urc5.org.uk

Copy Date for Next E-Letter: 29.04.2019

If you would like to stop receiving this E letter at any time please contact the Privacy Officer at the above address or telephone number.

Before sending this E letter on electronically, please ensure that you have the consent of the recipient(s) to do so.