

EMURCE No: 294 – 13th June 2019

EDITED THIS WEEK BY: Revd Dr. Deborah Baird, TDO

So, shock upon shock, the Labour Party won the Peterborough by-election last week, and pushed the Brexit Party into second place. While I don't think that there was a single reason why the results are as they are, it is the diametrically opposed beliefs and attitudes that currently plague us that interests me. In today's Britain, polarised by politics, brimming with anger and disillusionment, G K Chesterton, famous for his character Father Brown, among other things, can offer a humorous but serious reminder of what, as disciples of Jesus, we can do to survive the unstable place our nation finds itself in. He points out, in his own inimitable style, that "*The whole modern world has divided itself into Conservatives and Progressives. The business of Progressives is to go on making mistakes. The business of the Conservatives is to prevent the mistakes from being corrected.*" Amusing as this might be, it is his life that illustrates to us what to do about it. G K Chesterton converted to Catholicism at the age of 48, but he maintained a personal friendship with George Bernard Shaw, his 'friendly enemy', and a man he disagreed with on just about everything. We can disagree passionately with our friends, neighbours and family, but we should be able to maintain a relationship full of integrity and love despite this. We have a problem with taking things too personally instead of living with grace and love. Although very little is straightforward when it comes to our relationships, we need to learn to help restore our corner of the world, because as Wendell Berry says, "If we don't do the little things, nothing big can happen". The model we have been given, and accepted, is one of death and resurrection, so rather than being fearful and lashing out in paining judgement, we should trust in God, and love our neighbour. In this way we can reflect God to all those whom we meet.

God bless,
Deborah

MODERATORS NEWS

I am writing to share with you my news that I have decided to retire from stipendiary service at the end of this year. I have informed the General Secretary and Synod Clerk and the team at the office. The General Secretary is already starting the process of the search for my successor.

I have taken this decision for the sake of my health and I believe that now is the right time for East Midlands Synod to receive ministry from a new and different Moderator.

Over the last 8 years, I have grown a deep appreciation for the work of the churches in this Synod and will miss my relationship with you very much. Obviously things change when a Moderator announces his or her decision to retire from the role, but I will do what I can to continue to serve you until the end of this year.

With warm good wishes, Peter

Marlpool URC Theatre Company

Proudly present



©© Tribune Media Services Inc.

**WEDNESDAY 23rd to SATURDAY 26th
OCTOBER 2019**

7:15pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:15pm
Tickets £10

Box Office 01332 986082 or online at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/murctc

Rhyme and Reason - Poems to inspire

Thursday 11th July 7pm - Open-air Open-mic at Bulwell Market

This year, during Bulwell Arts Festival I am planning something a little bit different. Supported by The Well church I am putting on a Christian poetry event. This is open to all where ever you are on your faith journey.

Refreshments will be served.

In the event of bad weather (it won't be – it's July) this event will take place at The Well Church, 1 Strelley Street, Bulwell.

It will be an open-mic so you can just turn up, but would appreciate it if you could indicate your interest.

Thanks!

Joy Rice, Elder at Bulwell URC

Central United Reformed Church
Becketwell Lane, Derby DE1 1JW

Tuesday Tots Leader Required for September 2019 (closing date for applications: Friday 26th July 19.)

An active person with some experience of working with pre—school children, to run a weekly tots group

Hours: 9am-12 noon (Tuesdays in Term time plus extra hours as required).

For an application pack Tel: 07986 450580 or email cathy@cathyjim.co.uk
or call into the church when open.

For more information please call: Cathy: 07986 450580 or Vicky: 07952 751635

CLIMATE CHANGE MASS LOBBY - 26th June 2019

As Christians, we seek to put our faith into action by loving and caring for our neighbours and the Earth, our common home. And right now, both are threatened from the impact of climate change.

Urgent action is needed to save God's creation as we know it. Will you join the mass lobby in Westminster, London on 26 June 2019 and tell MPs that it's time to act on climate change?

Climate change is devastating the world's poorest communities right now, as more extreme weather events, from flooding to droughts, drive families from their homes and create food crises.

Whether it's women like Aster in Ethiopia who struggle to feed their children when the rains don't come and crops burn on the stalk; fisherfolk like Lope in the Philippines battling to make a living as climate change brings super typhoons and extreme heat; or pastoralists like Boru whose camels are weak from drought. Climate change is hitting the poorest hardest, right now!

Will you join the mass lobby for climate and environmental action in Westminster on 26 June?

We know what we need to do to reverse the trend of climate change and protect people like Aster, Lope and Boru: we need to cut global greenhouse emissions to net zero. The existing UK Government targets don't go far enough – we need to get to net zero by 2045 to make a difference.

On 26 June, we'll come together in London to celebrate our faith in action, lobby our political representatives, pray together and energise one another for the challenges to come.

Will you be there?

For more info please email campaigns@christian-aid.org or go to caid.org.uk/timeisnow



Eng and Wales charity no. 1105851 Scot charity no. SC039150 Company no. 5171525 Christian Aid
Ireland: NI charity no. NIC101631 Company no. NI059154 and ROI charity no. 20014162 Company
no. 426928. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. Christian Aid is a key
member of ACT Alliance. Printed exclusively on material sourced from responsibly managed forests
© Christian Aid February 2019. J109164

ACAT: "Being a Treasurer: The Basics"

Jurys Inn Nottingham, Station Street, NOTTINGHAM NG2 3BJ on Saturday 6 July 2019

This course looks set to continue being extremely popular with new and experienced treasurers alike. With a very practical approach, "The Basics" will equip today's treasurer with the knowledge needed to carry out their multi-faceted role.

Whether you are new to the role or have been in post for many years, you will find something in the course to benefit you. The cost is £50 and includes all course material, refreshments and a buffet lunch. Registration will be from 9.30 am onwards for a prompt start at 10.00 am and the course will finish by 4.00 pm. **Please book early to secure your place if you wish to attend.** We will be delighted to welcome both members and non-members of ACAT at this event, so please feel free to mention it to your fellow treasurers in other churches..

To book a place in **NOTTINGHAM** visit our <https://www.acat.uk.com/courses/course1.html>

ACAT: Generating Income and Grant Applications

Diocese of Lincoln, Edward King House, Minster Yard, LINCOLN LN2 1PU on Sat 22nd June, 10am-4pm

The cost of this training day is £50 and includes all course material, refreshments and a buffet lunch. Registration will be from 9.30am ready for a 10am start; the course will finish by 4pm. **Please book soon to secure your place if you wish to attend.** Both members and non-members of ACAT are very welcome at this event.

Please visit <https://www.acat.uk.com/courses/course3.html>

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE EVENTS: 2019

- **Supporting Elders 2019** - Friday 5th—Sunday 7th July
- **Lens, Pen and Paintbrush** - Saturday 17th—Sunday 18th August
- **Supporting Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders**—Sing a New Song—The use of Scripture in Worship - Monday 12th – Wednesday 14th August; Friday 13th – Sunday 15th September
- **Blue Planet – Blue God** (with The Faraday Institute & Wesley House) - Wednesday 11th – Friday 13th September [Booking now](#)
- **What is it to be Human?** (with The Faraday Institute) - Saturday 2nd November –Understanding Dementia and Dementia friendly worship

You can come along and stay even if you aren't taking part in a course. We have a number of different accommodation options and room types. URC members are welcome to join us at any time throughout the year, call us on 01223 330630 (please tell us you are part of the URC). We now offer an early bird discount on our URC events. Contact us for details: www.westminster.cam.ac.uk



RETREAT DAY – SATURDAY 17th AUGUST! St John's Church, Coventry Road, Hinckley. We are holding an intergenerational retreat day, a day where people of all ages, whether they have brought children or not can gather, learn from each other and explore some Psalms together. It is not purely a children's event.

All children and young people who attend must come with an adult who will be responsible for them.

Please encourage your churches to consider attending; it is a new approach that we are trying. Please let Jane know if you are attending on cydo@urc5.org.uk

COME TO EXPLORE SOME PSALMS, ALONGSIDE OTHER GENERATIONS. WITH CRAFT, QUIET, SINGING, WALKING, PRAYER. 17th AUGUST, 10AM-3PM. Bring your own lunch.

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.

- Saturday 14th September: Spalding URC, Lincolnshire (1:00pm – 4:30pm)
- Saturday 21st September: Hinckley URC, Leicestershire (10:00am - 3:00pm)
- Saturday 28th September: Mackworth URC, Derbyshire (10:00am – 3:00pm)

Please book by emailing trainingpa@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



PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE NOTTINGHAM FAMILY DAY OUT

SYNOD FAMILY DAYS OUT

	Highlights		Highlights
WOLLATON HALL AND PARK, NOTTINGHAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Picnic• Orienteering• Games• Natural History Museum (free entry)• Play Areas• Worship	STANWICK LAKES Northamptonshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Picnic• Sculpture Trail• Adventure Play• Orienteering• Games• Worship• Much more
Saturday 27 th July		Saturday 6 th July	

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

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: 24.06.2019

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.