

Christ Church United Reformed Church
NEWSLETTER



April 2020

Getting in contact

Minister

Revd Mark Meatcher 020 8374 0509

Secretary

Rosemary Milns 020 8363 6571

Treasurer & Property Committee

David Fisher 020 8482 4610

Bookings Secretary

Pamela Mansley 07936 798 722

Newsletter & website

Tom Boorman 07903 605 545

Serving Elders

Tom Boorman 07903 605 545

Pamela Fisher 07775 505 999

Stephen Gilbert 020 8363 0031

Rosemary Milns 020 8363 6571

Youth organisations

Boys' Brigade - Anchors

Sue Bullock 07961 504 123

Boys' Brigade - Juniors, Company Section & Seniors

Tom Boorman 07903 605 545

Girlguiding - Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers

Vicki Stratton-Stubbs 07968 483 609

Adventurers (Junior Church)

Rosemary Milns 020 8363 6571

Other activities

Friendship Club

Sylvia Coombs 020 8363 3543

Worship Group

Rosemary Milns 020 8363 6571

Website

www.ccurc.org.uk

Email

mail@ccurc.org.uk

Facebook

@ccurcenfield

Twitter

@ccurc

An important update

Parts of this month's newsletter will have a slightly different feel to normal. Everyone will be very well aware of the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, which for us means that **all church services and activities are suspended until further notice.**

However, it is often said that the church is the people and not the building, and that rings especially true at this time. We hope to be able to keep in contact with each other as much as possible throughout this period where we are not able to meet in person, and also hope that this newsletter will provide a bit of positivity and some helpful advice.

If you need any help or support at this time, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mark or one of the elders.

Christ Church Annual General Meeting

Due to the suspension of activities, the AGM will now be rescheduled for later in the year. The various annual reports, which were due to appear in this issue, will now appear in the issue immediately prior to the rescheduled date.

Pastoral Letter April 2020

Easter - life or death?

As we approach the end of Lent, and the celebration of Easter, our thoughts will probably be a little different in 2020 than they have been for many other Easters in our lives to date.

The message of death and resurrection is something that, over the years, many of us have contemplated in different ways but when we are suddenly faced with a pandemic the stark reality of the ending of life is clearly set out before us, perhaps in a way that we never thought about before?

Jesus' words to his disciples shortly before he was betrayed and arrested continue to give us comfort when faced with uncertainty like this:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.. I go and prepare a place for you..." (John 14:1-3)

Fear **should** have no place in our lives - but that is so easy to say, and, in practice, so difficult to deal with. Yet it commonly features throughout the biblical record.

Angels appear to people telling them not to be afraid - it almost seems like it's a standard phrase that angels have to learn because they say those words so often:

"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God." (Luke 1:30)

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'" (Luke 2:10)

So, do we now need to hear those words in a new way as we face Easter 2020? Do we need to revisit the Easter story and discover for ourselves why it is that we need not be afraid?

What do we appreciate most about the Easter story, the Easter experience?

Do we travel with Jesus through that last week observing the crowds, the overturning of the tables, the teaching that goes on, the last supper, the praying in the Garden, the trial, the flogging, the crucifixion?

Are we active participants or merely bystanders, viewers, observers, non-participants?

If we participate in the story how exactly are we involved?

The gospel writers discovered, and worked out, that we are fully involved... and that we identify with what Jesus went through when we are baptised:

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.” (Romans 6:3-5)

The reason that fear should, ideally, play no part in our lives is that if we identify fully with Jesus, if we have come to trust in Christ as our Saviour, then we have been saved.

We have already died with Christ on the cross and therefore death no longer is something for us to fear.

We have also been able to experience the resurrection and have new life in God through being united with Jesus in all that he has gone through.

Having no need to fear the future, having hope of eternal life - that is the gift that God gives us through Christ at Easter.

Have you discovered that gift yet?

Wishing each and every one of you a new experience of Jesus this Easter, one that brings you new life and hope for the future!

With our blessing,

Mark and Melanie

From the Manse

We are writing this from the Manse in Enfield, rather than rural West Bengal, as had been planned; we had to leave India early due to travel restrictions that were about to be enforced. Leaving India early in these circumstances was challenging, and a story in itself, yet we come home to a life and community radically different to the one we left.

There will be many new challenges, how we keep in contact, how we worship, how we support each other pastorally, how we support each other practically. The last enforced closure of all churches in England is believed to be March 1208 - May 1213, and so we haven't any recent experience to draw upon! Even our faith may be tested as we ask where is God in all this, how can a good God 'allow' this kind of thing to happen?

We are not going to pretend that we can answer these questions; we will have to work them out together as we go along. This is a marathon, not a sprint. We would like especially like to hear of how you think we can best worship together in the next few months - it may be that we post out a written service, record something for Facebook, and possibly record a CD if there is demand, as well as producing a list of recommended resources from other sources. We'd also recommend that you 'virtually' take a tour of other churches of other traditions, there is some very good material being produced already. Please do let us or one of the Elders know your thoughts as to whether you want something in writing, online, or on CD, or have any other suggestions.

In the meantime, please hold tight to these words from Paul's letter to the young church in Rome and a short poem shared by a friend:

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or

distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;

we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39)

When this is over, may we never again take for granted

a handshake with a stranger

full shelves at the store

conversations with neighbours

a crowded theatre

Friday night out

the taste of communion

a routine check-up

the school rush each morning

coffee with a friend

the stadium roaring

each deep breath

a boring Tuesday

life itself.

When this ends, may we find

that we have become

more like the people

we wanted to be

we were called to be

we hoped to be

and may we stay

that way - better

for each other

because of the worst. (anon)

Your ministers,

Melanie and Mark

Using WhatsApp

At a time where face-to-face contact is quite limited, apps like WhatsApp are a great way of keeping in touch with others.

Getting started

WhatsApp, owned by Facebook, allows you to message individuals or groups over mobile data or WiFi.

It can be downloaded for free from the App Store (iPhone, iPad) or the Play Store on Android devices.

Once you have downloaded WhatsApp, open it as you would any other app. It will ask you for permission to access your contacts and send notifications, and to agree to the terms and conditions. It will then send a text message to verify your phone number.

You'll also be asked to add your name and an optional profile photo. There are other profile settings which you can edit at any time.

Sending messages

Because you've given WhatsApp permission to access your contacts, you can message anyone else who also uses WhatsApp by tapping the green icon with the speech bubble in the bottom right corner. You can then select the contact who you want to send the message to.

Once you've done this, it will open up a conversation with that person where you can type a message as you would a normal text message or email, then press the arrow icon to send.

Any replies will appear under the original message. Your messages appear on the right of the screen with a green background, and replies on the left with a white background.

When you go back to the main screen you can see a history of any conversations you have had, and tap on any of them to send a new message to that person or read old messages.

Group conversations

If you want to set up a group conversation where people can chat with each other at the same time, on the main screen tap the three dots (in the top right corner) and tap 'New group'. You will be asked to select participants and a name for the group. Any messages will go to all members of the group.

If you want to message someone within the group individually follow the steps outlined previously.

Making phone or video calls

If you are connected to WiFi, it is free to make phone or video calls on WhatsApp. Simply select the contact that you wish to call and then tap one of the icons in the top right corner of the screen next to their name - the camera icon for a video call, or the phone icon for a standard voice call.

Group calls

You can also make group phone or video calls if you want to speak to up to three other people at the same time. Once you have made the first call (as above), click the icon in the top right corner (a person with a + next to it) to add a participant.

Christ Church WhatsApp group

We have recently set up a WhatsApp group as another way of keeping in touch with each other, which a number of people from our fellowship are a part of.

If you would like to be added to the group please message Mark or one of the elders.

More information

You can find out lots more about WhatsApp and further detail about the various settings at <https://faq.whatsapp.com>

Reflection: Risen from the dead?

A meditation for Easter from the vantage point of Mary Magdalene

'Risen from the dead?
Don't be ridiculous, woman!
That was what the disciples said
when we gave them the wonderful news.

We tried to explain, to make them see, to persuade them to go
and look for themselves.
And they did in the end, but at first they wouldn't believe, just
as we didn't believe
when we arrived at the tomb
to find the stone rolled away.

We'd gone to the garden very early, as soon as the dawn had
begun to break,
taking the spices and perfumes
we'd carefully prepared before
the Sabbath had begun.

We walked in silence, each of us lost in our own thoughts, still
reeling from Jesus' death.
We were speechless
when we saw the stone moved
and the tomb empty.

Two men were standing there, we were very frightened
and we fell to our knees with fear.
'What had happened?'
'Where was Jesus?'
'Who were these people?'
Questions we would have asked,
had we the courage.

Then the men spoke to us, 'Why are you looking for the Living One in a tomb?
He is not here, he has risen!
And we remembered Jesus' words, words that had faded from our minds
as the events of three days ago took over.
'The Son of Man must be handed over and be crucified, and three days later he will rise to life.'

We all began talking at once,
'Could it be true?'
'Was it possible?'
We hardly dare imagine that it might be.
We hurried back and found the disciples gathered together in the one room, discussing all that had happened, talking about a future without Jesus.

Once they dismissed our news as nonsense, we began to leave, but Peter, who had gone off to look for himself, returned.
'The tomb is empty,' he told the others,
'The linen wrappings are there, but Jesus is gone.
'This can only mean one thing,' he said,
'and I hardly dare say it, Jesus must be alive!

'It's all true, every word he said to us is true!'

Author unknown

Bible word searches

<https://www.christianbiblereference.org/wordsearch.htm>

Check out the above website for a range of large and small Bible word search puzzles that you can print out or complete online.

Exploring Lent and Easter

In conversation with the scriptures: Lent and suffering; Easter and joy

John Parr explores Lent and Easter, in conversation with Anne Stevens.

Introduction

The lectionary combines some expected readings for the beginning and end of Lent with a series of longer passages from John's Gospel. Passages from the Pentateuch and the prophets sit with readings from Paul and Acts to direct us to the central themes of the Gospel readings. Lent Sundays start with temptation stories that explore what it means to be loyal to God. Later on, Palm Sunday's readings consider humble leadership in a world in turmoil, while Easter Day's passages shed light on the joy that overflows from the new world of resurrection.

The intervening four Sundays take us in a different direction. We read stories from John's Gospel, of Jesus' encounters with Nicodemus, a Samaritan woman, a man born blind, and his friends from Bethany: Martha, Mary and Lazarus. First impressions leave us wondering about their seasonal credentials, but further reflection draws their seasonality to the surface. The evangelist's narratives address the concerns of his audience, for whom following Jesus is proving costly. Old and New Testament readings stress the importance of faith taking risks, embracing a bigger world, seeing past outward appearance and living hopefully in the face of different kinds of death – all of which are endorsed by the Johannine Jesus. That makes more than enough for a rich Lent rooted in Scripture's deep soils.

© Copyright 2002-2020, ROOTS for Churches Ltd. All rights reserved.

Q What is the value of Lent in a largely secular society?

John

Easter occupies Lent rather like Christmas colonises Advent. We are awash with the temptations of hot cross buns and ever more extravagant chocolate well before Ash Wednesday. The idea of 'giving up' things for Lent comes more from culture than church. Time was when food stocks in the northern hemisphere would shrink at this time of year, forcing people to adjust their diets downwards. But the Early Church's Lent was a time to prepare for baptism: the whole community in solidarity with candidates, reflecting on what it meant to follow Jesus in a world that often felt like faith's wilderness.

The value of Lent lies in the questions it raises about everyday life. Where do we invest our basic trust? Who or what do we rely on? How do we use the resources available to us, including the earth's bounty? What does it mean to live in a bigger world with fewer certainties? How can we learn to see beyond outward appearances? How does the apparent absence of Jesus become a sacrament of his presence? Lent means more than giving things up. It's a time to welcome the opportunity to explore together what it means to live wisely and well in the way of Christ.

Anne

It seems that we live in a world where everybody wants to be different. The 'have-nots' long for an easier existence, where they won't have to struggle for the basic necessities of life; while the 'haves' spend a fortune on diets and gym membership, self-help books and mindfulness apps. Lent has a lot to say to both groups. It begins where we are, in the dust and ashes of our mortality, and it takes us on from there through the hardships of the way of the cross to the joy of the resurrection. On every stage of that journey it challenges us to strip away the false gods of our selfishness and greed, and search instead for the lasting treasure of knowing God and serving others. Ultimately it offers us the hope that we can and we will be changed, as we receive new life both before and after death.

Q How does Jesus' Passion affect our approach to suffering?

John

The churches I visit on holiday in Europe are often full of images of what it means to be Christian, never more than in their crucifixes. Larger-than-life plaster torsos display the Saviour's pale skin splattered with vibrant bloodstains. At the other extreme lies the smoothly polished wood of a crucifix, its figure's face one of resigned acceptance. So, are we meant to receive suffering submissively, or embrace it hopefully? There is no right answer, of course. In the Gospels, Jesus does both. Sometimes he accepts the prospect of suffering and sometimes he avoids it. He struggles in Gethsemane, yet ends up submitting to his heavenly Father's will. Before the authorities, there is silent resistance. From the cross, he screams out of solidarity with all who suffer unjustly, and entrusts himself calmly to his Father's welcoming hands.

The story of Jesus' suffering invites us to learn how to discern different kinds of suffering in our world, and pray for courage to respond faithfully.

Anne

Jesus' Passion connects powerfully with our own experiences of betrayal and abandonment, of suffering and injustice. As Jesus dies, he suffers with us, as well as for us. 1 Peter 2.23-24 captures what this can mean for us as individuals and in our relationships with others. On a personal level we can find genuine consolation in our pain, for 'by his wounds you have been healed'. On a wider level we are challenged to follow Jesus' example: 'When he was abused he did not return abuse; when he suffered he did not threaten.' On the cross Christ broke through the cycle of violence and retaliation. Peter sees this as the moment where sin was dealt with, once and for all, leaving us free to 'live for righteousness'. The cross offers a new understanding of God's justice, which brings in its wake the call to work tirelessly for peace and reconciliation.

Q How does the joy of the Easter stories differ from happiness?

John

A sure sign that we live in stressful times is the number of newspaper articles I've read recently about happiness. Wise exponents of happiness acknowledge the ephemeral nature of feelings of contentment, and how dependent they are on changing circumstances. So, I am encouraged to become more resilient, to help me flourish when it seems that everything is against me.

Learning how to be content and resilient are vital life skills that inevitably affect my happiness. I'm not sure, though, that this is the path to joy. The Greek word for joy is *chara*, which is related to *charis*, Greek for grace. Here lies the essential difference between joy and happiness. Joy is a gift, something that the Easter stories make clear. It is a share in Jesus' own joy, which comes from knowing his Father's love and doing his Father's will (John 15.11). Yet the gift can be cultivated. It grows as we learn how to focus on all that comes to us as God's blessing.

Easter joy is not a nostalgic return to the past, but a call to embrace whatever today and tomorrow may bring. I already have some of the resources I need for this, but what is deepest and most sustaining comes as sheer gift, like the surprising appearance of the risen Christ in a place associated with death.

Anne

For me the joy of Easter is closely connected to the hope that it offers. If death can be overcome, then that means there is always some kind of light shining in our darkness, some way through the moments of despair and disillusionment that can descend on all of us at times. St Paul's letters are full of this joy, even when he finds himself in the most desperate situations. Rooted in his powerful encounter with the risen Christ on the Damascus road, it gives him the certainty to say that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God (Romans 8.31-39), and this is what enables him to keep going. Unlike happiness, which comes and goes according to our circumstances, this Easter joy is far more active, rekindling in us the confidence to believe that the love and the justice of God will always in the end prevail.

The Revd John Parr is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The Revd Anne Stevens is Vicar of St Pancras Church in London.

God Takes Our Worries

From Eden: "At such an anxious time, children can worry about what is happening in the world. Many parents are looking for some resources to help children and it's so important that our children learn to put their Faith In Jesus and to be reminded that God says to cast our cares on Him, because He cares for us so much!

God Takes Our Worries is a simple way to work through these with your children, leading them gently through the scriptures and into the peace of God even in the midst of turbulent times such as this."

Download at: https://eden.co.uk/downloads/pdfs/God_Takes_Our_Worry_resource.pdf

From the Moderator

Dear friends,

When a situation is beyond our control, we put our trust in God, who has promised through Christ to be always with us. In this time of anxiety, fear and uncertainties when people are isolated and feel lonely, stranded abroad, losing income sources and losing loved ones, we need to focus on prayer even more.

It is suggested that we pray at 19:00 hour every day for a few minutes. We listen and speak with God, giving thanks to God for all those who are working hard to overcome the impact of Covid-19, economic emergency and are supporting the people in dire need. We also pray for peace for us and others.

"I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. Indeed, He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night." (Psalm 121:1)

Andrew Prasad (Moderator, Thames North Synod)

Resources for worship at home

Woking URC will be live streaming their Sunday service at 10:30am: <http://wokingurc.org.uk/worship/sunday/>

And from a contrasting perspective - Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission service is livestreamed on Sunday at 11:00am: <https://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming/>

The URC website has resources for daily devotions and Sunday worship - people can sign up for these at: <https://devotions.urc.org.uk>

Disneyland Paris

During February half term 9th Enfield Guides headed to France for a few days at Disneyland Paris. Read on to find out from some of the girls what they got up to...

I was very excited the night before the trip and was thinking about it all night. The day of the Disneyland trip finally came. I woke up at 4:00am and got ready for the trip. It soon became 6:00am and we were out on a cold, rainy morning with my luggage waiting outside the church. Soon after everyone went inside the church and waited for the coach to arrive. The coach arrived a little bit later than planned.

When the coach arrived we all handed our suitcases to Billy. It was a very energetic atmosphere on the coach as everyone was excited for Disneyland. It was a long journey to the ferry, but we had Disney songs that were played, so we all had a lot of entertainment.

When we arrived at the port our coach boarded the ferry. All of us came off the coach and went into the shopping area of the ferry. The ferry had an arcade and some places to eat with many seating areas. When we came off the ferry we went back on the coach and were on the coach for a few more hours.

The hotel was called the Cheyenne and was Wild West themed. There were three to a room, the rooms were very nice and decorative. We then went to our hotel restaurant for dinner. The food was very nice there.

For the next two days my friends and I had lots of fun in the Disneyland Park. My most favourite rides were Big Thunder Mountain, Space Mountain and Tower of Terror - they were fantastic rides! There were lots of places to eat with delicious food and there were tons of rides too. I also bought some great souvenirs!

We watched the lovely and colourful parades with the Disney characters in them. One of the parades was a Frozen one with Elsa and Anna in it. In the evenings we saw some great fireworks and everyone had lots of fun.



My Disneyland Paris trip was amazing and we all thank the leaders for letting us have such an extraordinary experience!

Imogen

After months of planning and waiting, the day was actually here for us, 9th Enfield Guides to go to Disneyland Paris. Everyone was very excited on the Sunday, being up early, waiting for the coach to arrive, unfortunately it was delayed, so we all said goodbye to our parents. Then we chatted, played games, and then it arrives!

Bill (the driver) was great, we all chatted together about what we would like to do when we are there. Then Kim did a Disney quiz with us and we were split into two teams called: Mickey and Minnie. After that, we all sang songs from Disney films. Vicki also gave us lots of snacks to keep us going. Eventually, we got to Dover for our ferry crossing.

The ferry crossing was bopping up and down constantly. As well as this, we had plenty of food and sweet shops to go into.

Once we arrived in France, our adventure continued. When we arrived at Disneyland Paris, we all got told to take a suitcase to the entrance and then find our own one. After we had been allocated our rooms and room leaders, we all went down to dinner together. At dinner it was like an all you can eat buffet,

where the food was outstanding.

Then we had a busy next two days, doing things such as: meeting new characters, going on scary rides, eating a tasty lunch, shopping, watching the fireworks and enjoying the company of our friends. In the late afternoon, we watched a parade with all the characters doing a dance or other acts. This for me, was the most enjoyable bit. At breakfast and dinner we all ate together, and had a fun time discussing what we will do and what we have done.



On Wednesday morning, it was time to go. The day before that, we had packed and were ready to roll. In the process, a few of us struggled to pack by ourselves. On Wednesday afternoon we had arrived home. On the journey, we did a lot of fun things but I don't know a lot about them as I was asleep for most of the journey.

I would like to write on behalf of the 9th Enfield Paris trip, to say a massive thank you to all of the leaders. I cannot forget Charlie and Beatrice too! We had great fun and made lots of memories, the kind that will be treasured by all.

Savannah

My trip to Disneyland was the best, I went on rides such as Carousel, Phantom Manor, It's a Small World, Hyperspace Mountain, Big Thunder Mountain and Orbitron. All the rides were so fun, although it took us a long time to wait for Big Thunder Mountain because it was so, so busy even with the fast passes. My favourite ride was Hyperspace Mountain.

As well as rides, I did shopping, there was a lot of things to choose from and I did not know what to buy, but somehow I managed to buy something which I could remember Disneyland by. I also watched the parade with my friends as well as the whole Girlguiding group; we all saw all the different Disney characters such as Mickey Mouse, Pluto, Elsa and most of the Disney characters, but of course not all of them.

My favourite times at Disney were watching the fireworks, going on rides, spending time with my friends and of course being able to go on this most amazing trip. My experience at Disney was so fun and I did not want this to end, but sadly it had to and I hope that we do this again someday.

Claire

We went to Disneyland! We went on a coach and a ferry. Luckily, the leaders knew how to make it interesting! So they played a bunch of Disney songs which entertained the whole coach for basically the whole coach ride, we also watched movies. We watched Toy Story, Little Mermaid and others. We also did a fun Disney quiz on the way back. The ferry was far from boring, because it had an arcade AND a shop!

We stayed in Hotel Cheyenne. The beds were comfy, the room was clean and the leaders put us in rooms with our friends! We had 2 WHOLE DAYS in Disney. There were a lot of rides, but I was just really happy that we went on Hyperspace Mountain and the Hollywood Hotel Tower of Terror, but we did go on other rides! We got food passes for lunch that gave us a full meal at the Disney restaurants, then for dinner we went to this place where there were different drinks you could choose from and an all you can eat buffet. Overall the trip was fantastic thanks to our awesome leaders!

Laura

Photos by Vicki Stratton-Stubbs

Boys' Brigade update

On Saturday 29th February some of our Anchors and Juniors joined with around 100 others from across Enfield Battalion for a Circus Skills Activity Afternoon at 4th Barnet HQ.

The young people had a great time, with the opportunity to try out a selection of circus activities including juggling, mini bikes, unicycles, diablos and plate spinning.



There were also various games including soft archery, table football, bowling, tin can alley, Nerf shooting, hoopla and more, as well as a selection of craft activities including making their own juggling balls!

On Saturday 7th March around 100 young people from across London District took part in the Band & Drill competitions at 14th West Kent HQ in Bexleyheath. The event takes place annually and features a range of competitions for drill squads, colour parties, marching bands, teams and individual musicians who are members of BB and GB in the London District area.

The 3rd Enfield had a single representative in the Individual Bugle competition, with Josef performing very well in a close field of buglers to come seventh overall.

From Friday 13th to Sunday 15th March members of Company Section and Seniors from across North London travelled to Lambourne End Outdoor Centre, near Chigwell in Essex for a

Weekend Away. The group stayed in one of the accommodation blocks at Lambourne End and included members of 3rd Enfield, 10th Enfield, 1st Edmonton and 4th Barnet.



The weekend began on the Friday evening with some time to settle in, dinner as well as a bonfire and some marshmallow toasting.



On Saturday morning the group went to nearby Topgolf Chigwell for some fun competition on the driving range. The afternoon saw the group have a go at archery and an assault course over water on site at Lambourne End, followed by a quiz and some free time in the evening.



On Sunday we went swimming at Leyton Leisure Centre, then headed back to Lambourne End for some lunch and a devotional time before heading home.



Due to current events all face-to-face BB activities nationwide are currently suspended. However, the Brigade has launched a new #BBatHOME programme, a weekly set of activities that children and young people - both BB and non-BB - can try at home. Find out more at <http://www.3rdenfieldbb.co.uk/news?id=369>

Tom Boorman

Photos by Tom Boorman

Prayer diary April 2020

1st - Pray for an end to the Coronavirus pandemic.

2nd - Pray for the homeless.

3rd - Pray for our church organisations as they are unable to meet at the current time.

4th - Pray for those who are isolated at the moment because of the current situation.

5th - Palm Sunday: Reflect on Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

6th - Pray for, and give thanks for all those who work for the NHS.

7th - Pray for the residents of Hedge Hill.

8th - Pray for local businesses in our area as many of them face a very uncertain time.

9th - Maundy Thursday: Reflect on the events around the Last Supper.

10th - Good Friday: Reflect on Jesus' suffering and death on the cross.

11th - Spend some time in quiet prayer for anything that is on your heart and mind.

12th - Easter Sunday: Celebrate the risen King!

13th - Pray for our church fellowship.

14th - Pray for those who are new to the Christian faith.

15th - Pray for our friends from other churches in Enfield.

16th - Pray that God will help us to share our faith with others around us.

17th - Pray for all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

18th - Pray for our elders.

19th - Spend time in worship at home today.

20th - Pray for those who suffer persecution for their Christian faith.

21st - Pray for all those who work so hard for our emergency services.

22nd - Give thanks to God for his word to us through the Bible.

23rd - St George's Day: Pray for England.

24th - Pray for our country's politicians.

25th - Pray for the local community around Christ Church.

26th - Pray for lasting peace in areas of the world where there is conflict.

27th - Pray for your own personal faith.

28th - Pray for Mark and Melanie.

29th - Pray for the work of Christian charities around the world.

30th - Pray for God's guidance in your life.

May 2020 newsletter

The **May 2020** newsletter will be published on **Sunday 26th April**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor, Tom Boorman, by Sunday 19th April. Any late submissions may be held over to the following issue.

Please contact Tom with any items to be included in future issues. Items can be received either in paper form at Sunday worship, by email to **mail@ccurc.org.uk** or by phone on **07903 605 545**.

The newsletter is published monthly (except for combined issues in July & August and December & January). Back issues dating back to 2007 can be found on our website. Please note that views expressed are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship, nor are they representative of church policy.

Regular activities at Christ Church

SUNDAY

11:15am

Morning worship
(Holy Communion - first Sunday)
(Family Parade Service - third Sunday)
(regular service - other Sundays)

11:15am

Adventurers (children aged 3 upwards)

MONDAY

2:15pm

Friendship Club (once monthly - see diary)

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Boys' Brigade Anchors (boys aged 5 to 8)

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Boys' Brigade Juniors (boys aged 8 to 11)

7:30pm to 9:15pm

Boys' Brigade Company Section (boys aged 11 to 15)

7:30pm to 9:15pm

Boys' Brigade Seniors (boys aged 15 to 18)

FRIDAY

5:00pm to 6:15pm

Rainbows (girls aged 5 to 7)

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Brownies (girls aged 7 to 10)

7:30pm to 9:00pm

Guides (girls aged 10 to 14)

7:30pm to 9:00pm

Rangers (girls aged 14 to 20)

SATURDAY

9:00am to 10:30am

Breakfast Bible Study Group
(twice monthly - see diary)

**Please be aware
that all church
services and
activities are
currently
suspended until
further notice.**

For details of other special events and activities please see the diary.



Christ Church
United Reformed Church



Christ Church URC is a part of the **North Enfield Group of URCs**
and the **North West Enfield Group of Churches.**

Motto: "Enter to worship, depart to serve."

Mission statement: Christ Church URC aims to provide through its worship, work, witness and mission an effective contribution to the spiritual and social welfare of the Church family and the wider community.

Address: Christ Church URC, Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NJ

Cover image by Aaron Burden on Unsplash