

Christ Church United Reformed Church
NEWSLETTER



May 2018

Getting in contact

Enfield and East Herts Local Area Group Convenor

Rev David Bradburn

01992 443 218

Secretary

Mr Stephen Gilbert

020 8363 0031

Treasurer

Mr David Fisher

020 8482 4610

Bookings Secretary

Mrs Pamela Mansley

07936 798 722

Property Committee

Mr Philip Taylor

07714 325 902

Newsletter & website

Mr Tom Boorman

07903 605 545

Serving Elders

Mr Tom Boorman

07903 605 545

Miss Sylvia Coombs

020 8363 3543

Mrs Pamela Fisher

07775 505 999

Mr Stephen Gilbert

020 8363 0031

Miss Rosemary Milns

020 8363 6571

Mr Philip Taylor

07714 325 902

Youth organisations

Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys

Miss Sue Bullock

07961 504 123

Boys' Brigade - Junior Section, Company Section & Seniors

Mr Tom Boorman

07903 605 545

Girlguiding - Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers

Mrs Vicki Stratton-Stubbs

07968 483 609

Adventurers (Junior Church)

Miss Rosemary Milns

020 8363 6571

Other activities

Friendship Club

Miss Sylvia Coombs

020 8363 3543

Worship Group

Miss Rosemary Milns

020 8363 6571

Website

www.ccurc.org.uk

Email

mail@ccurc.org.uk

Facebook

@ccurcfield

Twitter

@ccurc

Pastoral Letter **May 2018**

The month of May this year has another important (could be said to be the most important) holiday (holy day) in the Christian year.

Whitsun, the birth of the Christian church.

Whitsun (also Whitsunday, Whit Sunday or Whit) is the name used in Britain and Ireland, and among Anglicans and Methodists throughout the world, for the Christian festival of Pentecost, the eighth Sunday after Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples (Acts chapter 2).

As our state becomes more and more secular, the significance of Whitsun has become lost. It is a flexible date, like Easter, but does not suffer from the commercialism that Easter does - hence it is lost to the general population.

For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church's birthday.

Researching for this article I came across a blog which I am going to quote here which tells it better than I can:-

"The English word "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word pentekostos, which means "fifty." It comes from the ancient Christian expression pentekoste hemera, which means "fiftieth day."

But Christians did not invent the phrase “fiftieth day.” Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (Shavuot in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or “fifty days” from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday (pentekonta hemeras in the ancient Greek translation of the Hebrew Scripture).



Shavuot was the second great feast in Israel's yearly cycle of holy days. It was originally a harvest festival (Exodus 23:16), but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. This day became especially significant for Christians because, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, during the Jewish celebration of Shavuot/Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon his first followers, thus empowering them for their mission and gathering them together as a church.

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on individual followers of Jesus as they were gathered together in Jerusalem. This gathering became the first Christian church. New believers in Jesus were baptised as they joined this church. They, along with the first followers of Jesus, shared life together, focusing on teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. They shared their belongings so that no one was hungry or needy. As these first Christians lived out their new faith together, “the Lord added to their number those who

were being saved" (Acts 2:47). Thus we speak of Pentecost as the birthday of the church."

Whitsun is in June next year!

Lynda Cook
Bush Hill Park URC

Quote from:- <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/markdroberts/series/what-is-pentecost-why-does-it-matter/#HE3c6KUYI8SEzufy.99>
Copyright © 2011 by Mark D. Roberts and Patheos.com

image: <http://wp.patheos.com/blogs/markdroberts/files/2011/06/restout-pentecost-7.jpg>
Pentecost" by Jean Restout II, 1732. Public domain.

Rev Mark Meatcher

We are excited to announce that Rev Mark Meatcher will become the minister of Christ Church URC in the summer.

Mark will also become the minister of Bush Hill Park and Lancaster Road URCs. He currently serves as Interim Moderator to a group of URCs in the Chelmsford area.

Rev Melanie Smith (Mark's wife) will become the minister of Palmers Green, Ponders End and Winchmore Hill URCs at the same time. Melanie is currently the minister of Kings Road URC in Westcliff-on-Sea.

Arrangements are currently being made for their induction service and details will be shared in due course. Please continue to pray for both Mark and Melanie as they prepare to move, and for all those in the six churches who are planning for their arrival. We thank God for guiding and continuing to guide us through this process and we're looking forward to welcoming Mark and Melanie to Enfield!

Friendship Club **2018 programme**

The Friendship Club meets in the Christ Church Hall usually on the third Monday of each month at 2:15pm for friendship, fellowship and cups of tea!

The next meetings are as follows:

Monday 21st May
The Antarctic - Anne Fereday

Monday 18th June
Olympic Games makers - Carole and Derek Lindfield

Monday 16th July
The Last Night of the Proms - Ann Luciani

Monday 20th August
Summer tea - Pamela Fisher

Monday 17th September
Speaker - Rev Mandy James

Everyone is very welcome to these friendly meetings.

For more information please contact
Sylvia Coombs on 020 8363 3543.

Boys' Brigade **Annual Awards Evening**

The 3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade's Annual Awards Evening will take place on Monday 21st May 2018 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

All are welcome to come along to an evening of presentations of awards, badges and trophies to the boys in recognition of their achievements during this session.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club, our Bible study and prayer group, continues to meet twice monthly on Saturday mornings from 9:00am to 10:30am in the Elders Vestry.

Forthcoming meetings will be held on 5th and 19th May. Our time together consists of a time looking at and discussing a part of the Bible, a time of prayer, followed by breakfast and a chance to have a chat! Everyone is very welcome.

Holiday at Home

This year's Holiday at Home will take place on Friday 11th and Saturday 12th May from 10:30am to 4:00pm each day in the Church Hall. Come to both days or just one.

Activities to include:

- A variety of craft and other activities for all abilities - learn some new skills.
- Keep fit for the mature person.
- Cooked lunch on Friday and Saturday.
- Mid morning and afternoon refreshments.

Cost:

- Donation towards cost at your discretion.
- Suggested amount - £6 per activity day.

Places must be booked beforehand. Please contact one of the following:

Rosemary Milns on 020 8363 6571 or 07751 560 686

Sylvia Coombs on 020 8363 3543

Pamela Fisher on 07775 505 999

These numbers may be on an answer phone, but if you leave your name and telephone number, we will ring you back. We hope you can join us for a time of fun and fellowship.

Easter at Christ Church

A number of events took place during Holy Week and at Easter to remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Our morning worship service on Palm Sunday was led by our Church Secretary, Stephen Gilbert, on the theme "One of the crowd".

On Good Friday, people from a number of churches around Enfield came together in worship in Enfield Town. An open air act of worship was held by the Town Fountain, followed by a walk of witness over to St Andrew's Church (behind the Market Place) behind the three crosses.

A United Good Friday Service was then held at St Andrew's Church, with members of various churches playing a part in the ecumenical service.

Two days later, we celebrated the resurrection, new beginnings and life at Christ Church with an all age Easter Sunday service which was led by The Worship Group. The service included Holy Communion and Easter eggs for everyone!

Recordings from these and other services at Christ Church can be heard on our website at www.ccurc.org.uk/listen



Boys' Brigade Weekend Away

From Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th March Boys' Brigade members from across North London travelled to Felden Lodge (BB Headquarters) for a Weekend Away.

The group of around 25 boys stayed in the Thurso Centre, a self-catered accommodation block at Felden Lodge, and included members of the 3rd Enfield, 10th Enfield, 1st Edmonton and 4th Barnet Companies, along with leaders from each.



The weekend began on the Friday evening with some football and hockey in the sports hall, as well as some icebreaker games to give everyone the chance to get to know each other.

On Saturday there was a busy day of activities which included a trip to Phasels Wood Activity Centre to do crate stacking, rifle shooting and a low ropes course, and on site activities including archery, a quiz, devotions, a bonfire as well as some free time. Sunday saw the boys go to Coral Reef Waterworld, a water park in Bracknell with lots of rides and flumes to go on.

A great weekend was had by all and we thank all those who were involved in organising and running it!

Tom Boorman



Prayers for **Albania**

Through the charity World Vision the Adventurers sponsors Elsa, who lives in Shkodra in Albania. We continue to pray for Elsa and others who World Vision has asked for prayers for:

Please pray for Kristjan, who is 18 years old. He lives with his parents and three little sisters. They live in a small, one-room house, which doesn't have a door. Recently, his 14-year-old brother Valentino went missing. After three days, he was found drowned in a canal close to their house. Kristjan was so devastated by the news, he tried to take his own life.

Kristjan was born and grew up as a refugee in Greece. But because his parents were unemployed and had no income, they decided to return to Albania two years ago. It was very difficult for the children to integrate in their village. They barely knew the Albanian language and didn't have friends in the area.

Kristjan's parents are unemployed and it has been a difficult time financially. His father, Leke, is an alcoholic and his mother disappears from time to time from the house. This has also caused problems in the family. Kristjan's life is very difficult and he feels like giving up. He feels very alone.

Please pray for Kristjan's physical and mental health in this difficult time. Pray that God will give him peace, comfort him and give him strength to continue. Pray also for peace and prosperity for the family, that they will have a safe, warm home where all 4 children can thrive, have enough to eat and live in comfort.

Nearly three months ago, 13 year old Mikeljan experienced bleeding from his nose and severe headaches. Doctors in Albania diagnosed him with brain cancer and said there wasn't much they could do for him. His distraught parents quickly borrowed money from their relatives and sent him to Italy for

Prayers for **Albania** continued...

treatment. Mikeljan had surgery in Italy and after a month of continuous medical treatment he came back to Albania. He still feels ill and is experiencing headaches and a lack of appetite.

Mikeljan lives with his parents, two brothers and two sisters. His parents are unemployed and have no income to support their family besides the potatoes, tomatoes and onions that they plant on their land close to the house. This is all that provides them with their meals.

Please pray that God will completely heal Mikeljan from cancer and that his family can find ways to provide for his continued medical treatment, pay their debts and have enough to live on.

From www.worldvision.org.uk/get-involved/prayers/albania

Christian Aid **Week**

Christian Aid Week this year will take place from Sunday 13th to Saturday 19th May.

Christ Church supports Christian Aid during Christian Aid Week each year by asking our church family to deliver and collect Christian Aid envelopes in the local area. If you are able to help with our collecting, please speak to Philip Taylor in person or by phone on 07714 325 902.

On Sunday 20th May following the morning service, we will also be holding a fellowship lunch to raise money for Christian Aid Week. If you would like to come to the lunch, please let Pamela Fisher know on 020 8482 4610 (leave a message if no answer) as numbers are required for catering purposes.

Prayer diary **May 2018**

1st - Pray for your own faith.

2nd - Pray for our church and its place in the local community.

3rd - Pray for the local elections that are taking place across much of the country today, including here in Enfield.

4th - Pray for the Rainbows as they meet in the hall today.

5th - Pray for the Breakfast Club as it meets this morning.

6th - Pray for our time of worship this morning and for our friend Terry Silvey, who is leading it.

7th - Pray for all those who are enjoying the bank holiday today.

8th - Pray for friends and families.

9th - Pray for the local businesses on and around Chase Side.

10th - Pray for our Property Committee.

11th - Pray for the Rangers as they meet this evening.

12th - Pray for our Holiday at Home event, which began yesterday and continues today.

13th - Pray for The Worship Group as they lead our service this morning.

14th - Pray for the Boys' Brigade groups as they meet in the hall this evening.

15th - Pray for the BB bugle band, which is meeting to rehearse this evening.

16th - Pray for Rev Mark Meatcher and Rev Melanie Smith as they prepare to come to Enfield as the new ministers for the two groups of URCs in the summer.

17th - Pray for the pupils and staff of Chase Side Primary School.

18th - Pray for the Guides as they meet this evening.

19th - Pray for the Breakfast Club, meeting this morning in the church.

20th - Pray for the young people in our fellowship as we hold our Family Parade Service for Junior Church and Youth Sunday this morning. Give thanks also for the gift of the Holy Spirit as we celebrate Pentecost today.

21st - Pray for this afternoon's Friendship Club meeting and this evening's Boys' Brigade Awards Evening.

22nd - Pray for an end to the current unrest in Syria and other areas of the world where there is conflict.

23rd - Pray for the external groups that use our church premises.

24th - Pray for your own personal faith.

25th - Pray for the Brownies as they meet this evening.

26th - Pray for Boys' Brigade members from across the country who are coming together for their national Unite camp this weekend.

27th - Pray for the Adventurers and that more children may be encouraged to join the group.

28th - Pray for the young people who are beginning half term but also taking exams around this time.

29th - Pray for the work of our emergency services.

30th - Pray for the residents of Kirkland Drive.

31st - Pray for our elders.

June newsletter

The **June 2018** newsletter will be published on **Sunday 27th May**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor, Tom Boorman, by **Sunday 13th May**. 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.

Church diary **May 2018**

Saturday 5th May 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 6th May 11:00am
Terry Silvey
Holy Communion (offering for the Lancaster Road URC
Special Supper Ministry)
Duty Elder - Sylvia Coombs

Sunday 6th May 12:30pm
Elders Meeting

Friday 11th May 10:30am to 4:00pm
Holiday at Home

Saturday 12th May 10:30am to 4:00pm
Holiday at Home

Sunday 13th May 11:00am
The Worship Group
Duty Elder - Tom Boorman

Saturday 19th May 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 20th May 11:00am
Mrs Michaela Lawrence
Pentecost and Family Parade Service
(Junior Church and Youth Sunday)
Duty Elder - Rosemary Milns

Sunday 20th May From 12:00pm
Christian Aid lunch (see page 11)

Church diary **May 2018** continued...

Monday 21st May 2:15pm
Friendship Club
The Antarctic - Anne Fereday

Monday 21st May 6:30pm to 7:30pm
3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade Annual Awards Evening (see page 6)

Sunday 27th May 11:00am
Speaker TBC
Duty Elder - Pamela Fisher

Church diary **June 2018**

Saturday 2nd June 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 3rd June 11:00am
Speaker TBC
Holy Communion (offering for Cheviots Children's Centre)
Duty Elder - TBC

Sunday 3rd June 12:30pm
Church Meeting

Future **meeting dates**

Church Meetings
Sundays 3rd June, 23rd September, 4th November

Elders Meetings
Sundays 6th May, 15th July, 21st October

Regular activities at **Christ Church**

SUNDAY

11:00am

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

11:00am

Adventurers (children aged 3 upwards)

MONDAY

2:15pm

Friendship Club (once monthly - see diary)

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys (boys aged 5 to 8)

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Boys' Brigade Junior Section (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 Club (twice monthly - see diary)

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