



Christ Church United Reformed Church
NEWSLETTER

October 2017

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

Miss Sylvia Coombs 020 8363 3543

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

You can also email us at mail@ccurc.org.uk or visit www.ccurc.org.uk

Pastoral Letter October 2017

Hi everyone, it seems as always that the year is rushing past, now that summer holidays are complete its time to start planning for winter and of course Christmas. Whilst I was on my holidays I noticed the peculiar ways in which God reminds us of his presence. We went to eastern France and were climbing “Le Grand Colombier” in the Jura mountain range, as we crested the summit we were greeted by an enormous cross.



This made me think of our three churches in Enfield, we don't have a mountain that's 1520 metres high (just shy of 5000 feet in old money) to build a massive steel cross upon and even if we did have such a mountain I'm not sure our efforts would be best spent putting a cross onto it.

When Jesus was alive he did not spend his time making buildings and structures, instead he spent his time and concerns on people; teaching, healing and helping them.

We might not be physically as big as that steel cross but if our own actions follow the example Jesus set then we can remind others of God's presence just as effectively.

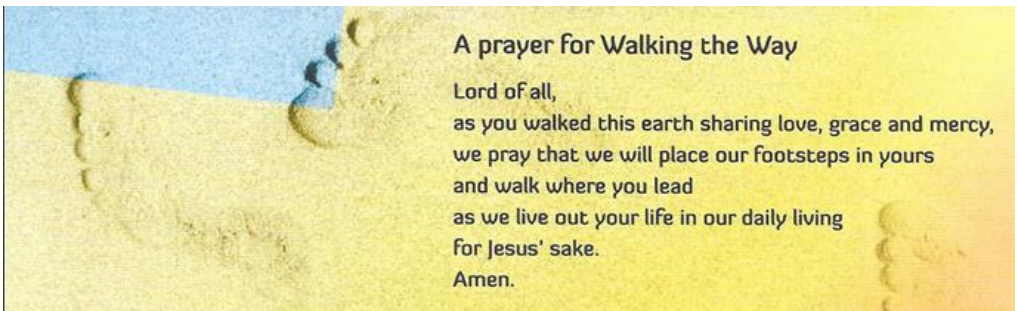
The URC has just launched a new project called “Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today”. Hopefully you will be hearing a lot more about it very soon.



Pastoral Letter **October 2017** continued...

Let's pray that as we walk the way, we can all become living examples of the presence of God in our society.

Robin Ward
Church Secretary, Bush Hill Park URC



News of the **fellowship**

At the time of writing, Sylvia Coombs is preparing to undergo an operation. We hold her in our prayers at this time.

We think of Margaret Hume as she continues her recovery from her recent operation.

Let us remember all our church family in our prayers and caring.

Elders **nominations**

Nominations are invited for church members to serve Christ Church as elders for 2018. Forms may be obtained from the back of the church or from the Church Secretary, Stephen Gilbert, and should be returned signed to him no later than Sunday 22nd October.

The election will take place at the following Church Meeting on Sunday 5th November at 12:30pm.

Friendship Club **Programme 2017**

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!

Forthcoming meetings are as follows:

Monday 16th October
Rev Mandy James

Monday 20th November
In sickness and in health in the Solomon Islands -
Sylvia Coombs

Monday 11th December
Preparing for Christmas
(a Christmas variety programme including a bring and share tea)

Further future dates will be announced in due course.
Everyone is very welcome to these friendly meetings.

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

Harvest Festival

On Sunday 17th September our Harvest Festival took place. It was a Family Parade Service which was led by our friend Laura Marlow from Lancaster Road URC.

Members of the congregation were invited to bring gifts of food which were sent to the North Enfield Foodbank. These gifts will help to provide emergency food for local people in crisis.

The loose offering was for Sightsavers International, a UK-based charity which helps to fight avoidable blindness and promotes equal opportunities for visually impaired people.

The church windows were decorated in a harvest style by members of the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Boys' Brigade. The communion table was decorated by Pamela and David Fisher. Our thanks to everyone for their hard work and lovely decorations!





Family Parade Services in **2017 & 2018**

Family Parade Services in the remainder of 2017 and the whole of 2018 will be held on the following dates:

15th October	Boys' Brigade Enrolment
19th November	Church Anniversary
10th December	Christmas Nativity (non-parade)

21st January	Guides Thinking Day
11th February	Mothering Sunday
11th March	Easter Sunday (non-parade)
1st April	Junior Church & Youth Sunday
20th May	Father's Day
17th June	

16th September	Harvest Festival
14th October	Boys' Brigade Enrolment
18th November	Church Anniversary
9th December	Christmas Nativity (non-parade)

Further details about next year's services will be published in due course.

Onward **Christian soldiers?**

In August I spent a week at the annual International Gilbert and Sullivan Festival in Harrogate. In addition to visiting some of the interesting historic towns and country houses in Yorkshire, I was able to see 10 comic operas including HMS Pinafore, The Mikado and The Gondoliers, as well as to attend various other Gilbert and Sullivan related events, which were held each day between 10:30am and midnight.

On the Sunday morning I went to West Park United Reformed Church, for a civic service of Songs of Praise led by the minister, Rev John Campbell. Hymns and anthems by Sir Arthur Sullivan were interspersed with comments on Sullivan's life, family life and political and social reform in Victorian England.

The church was built in 1862 in a gothic style with a 130 foot high spire. On the exterior there are 12 carved stone heads of men who were famous to Victorian nonconformists. They include the 14th century church reformer and Bible translator John Wycliff, Oliver Cromwell, the 17th century poet John Milton, John Bunyan author of The Pilgrim's Progress, King William II whose Toleration Act of 1689 gave nonconformist churches freedom to worship as they pleased, the 18th century hymn writers Isaac Watts and Philip Dodderidge and the prison reformer John Howard.

Today Sir Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900) is best known for the 14 comic Savoy operas he wrote between 1871 and 1896 to words by William Gilbert. However Sullivan wanted to be remembered for his more serious works, including his orchestral pieces, his grand opera "Ivanhoe" and especially his sacred works such as his oratorios "The Prodigal Son" and "The Light of the World". These were very popular with choral societies in Victorian England. He wrote 25 sacred songs, including the most popular of all Victorian sacred ballads "The Lost Chord", which set a poem by Adelaide Proctor and was

Onward **Christian soldiers?** continued...

composed in memory of his brother Frederick. It tells of a troubled organist “weary and ill at ease” whose fingers “wandered idly over the noisy keys”.

I do not know what I was playing,
Or what I was dreaming then;
But I struck one chord of music,
Like the sound of a great Amen.

Sullivan also wrote 25 anthems and liturgical settings. Between 1858 and 1897 he composed 61 original hymn tunes and made 75 arrangements. His tunes include Constance (I’ve found a friend, O such a friend - CP 377), Samuel (Hushed is the evening hymn - RS 526), Noel (It came upon the midnight clear - RS 144) and Golden Sheaves (To Thee O Lord our hearts we raise - CP 649).

Sullivan’s best known hymn tune is St Gertrude (Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war - CP 527). Sabine Baring-Gould’s verses were originally written as a “Hymn for Procession with Cross and Banners” to be sung outdoors by children processing on Whit Monday between two villages in Yorkshire. Some people have found the words too militaristic and various alternative versions have been compiled. One begins “Onward Christian pilgrims, working hard for peace” while another was written for a festival of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement.

A version to promote overseas missionary work begins:

Mission opportunity
Is our song today.
Bring to Christ your chequebook
So you too can pay.
If you cannot go abroad,

Onward **Christian soldiers?** continued...

Send your cash instead.
This through countless ages
Helps to lift the load.

A frustrated church reformer wrote this parody of verse 3:

Like a mighty tortoise,
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers we are treading
Where we've always trod.
We are all divided,
Not one body we,
We are long on doctrine,
Short in charity.

Sullivan's successful formula for writing hymn tunes was explained in verse by Gordon Reynolds thus:

Arthur Seymour Sullivan
Worked out in his head
How to keep us marching
With a steady tread.
Tonic first, then Dominant,
That's the way it's done,
Wrapped up in a chorus
Sung by everyone (two, three, four)
Onward, Christian soldiers!
Hear the organ roar -
Lest the congregation
Reach the end before.

Stephen Gilbert

Holiday Memories Evening

**Saturday 14th October 2017
From 5:30pm in the Christ Church Hall**

Come along and hear about some of the wonderful holidays that our Church members have been on. The evening will feature 10 minute talks, some including photos or videos shown on a projector.

Supper will be included. If you would like to come along, please let Pamela Fisher know on 020 8482 4610 (leave a message if no answer) so we have a rough idea of numbers for catering.

Prayer diary **October 2017**

- 1st** - Pray for God's presence at our Communion Service this morning.
- 2nd** - Pray for the Anchor Boys as they meet in the hall this evening.
- 3rd** - Pray for all those affected by the hurricanes in and around the Caribbean.
- 4th** - Pray for the work of Goldie College in the Solomon Islands.
- 5th** - Pray for our church and its place in the local community.
- 6th** - Pray for the Rainbows as they meet this evening.
- 7th** - Pray for this morning's Breakfast Club meeting.
- 8th** - Pray for the members of The Worship Group as they lead our service this morning.
- 9th** - Pray for the Junior Section as they meet this evening.
- 10th** - Pray for anyone you know who is unwell at present.
- 11th** - Pray for the homeless and that they will be provided with the help and support they need.
- 12th** - Pray for the important work done by our elders.
- 13th** - Pray for the Brownies as they meet in the hall this evening.
- 14th** - Pray for this evening's Holiday Memories Evening in the hall.
- 15th** - Pray for the Boys' Brigade members as the BB Enrolment Service takes place this morning.
- 16th** - Pray for the Friendship Club and for Rev Mandy James, who is speaking to the group this afternoon.
- 17th** - Pray for the residents of Gentleman's Row.
- 18th** - Pray for missionaries who work to spread God's word around the world.
- 19th** - Pray for lasting peace in areas of the world where there is conflict.
- 20th** - Pray for the Guides as they meet in the hall this evening.
- 21st** - Pray for the Breakfast Club meeting this morning.
- 22nd** - Pray for the Adventurers and that more children may be encouraged to join the group.

Prayer diary **October 2017** continued...

23rd - Pray for young people who are beginning half term.

24th - Pray for God's guidance in your life.

25th - Pray for the work of our government.

26th - Pray for those who work to maintain our beautiful church buildings.

27th - Pray for businesses in the local area.

28th - Pray for those who face uncertainties in their faith.

29th - Pray for our friends from across the pastorate as we come together in worship at Bush Hill Park URC today.

30th - Pray for the Company Section and Seniors as they meet in the hall this evening.

31st - Pray for the staff of Chase Farm Hospital.

November 2017 **newsletter**

The **November 2017** newsletter will be published on **Sunday 22nd October** (a week earlier than usual due to there being no service at Christ Church on Sunday 29th October). Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor, Tom Boorman, by **Sunday 8th October**. 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 **October 2017**

Sunday 1st October 11:00am
Mr John Stynes
Holy Communion (offering for Goldie College)
Duty Elder - Rosemary Milns

Saturday 7th October 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 8th October 11:00am
The Worship Group
Duty Elder - Worship Group members

Sunday 14th October 5:30pm
Holiday Memories Evening

Sunday 15th October 11:00am
3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade
Family Parade Service (Boys' Brigade Enrolment)
Duty Elder - Philip Taylor

Monday 16th October 2:15pm
Friendship Club
Rev Mandy James

Saturday 21st October 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 22nd October 11:00am
Rev Martin Legg
Duty Elder - Sylvia Coombs

Sunday 29th October 10:30am
United Service for the North Enfield Group of URCs at Bush Hill Park URC (no service at Christ Church)

Church diary **November 2017**

Saturday 4th November 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Club (Bible study and prayer group)

Sunday 5th November 11:00am
Mrs Michaela Lawrence
Holy Communion (offering for Mission Aviation Fellowship)
Duty Elder - Philip Taylor

Sunday 5th November 12:30pm
Church Meeting

Sunday 12th November 10:45am
Mrs Jill Nugent
Remembrance Sunday
Duty Elder - Stephen Gilbert

Key future dates

Church Meeting
Sunday 5th November (12:30pm)

Holiday Memories Evening
Saturday 14th October (5:30pm)

Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 25th November (11:00am to 2:00pm)

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