

Christ Church United Reformed Church
NEWSLETTER



The Boys' Brigade

Felden Lodge, BB Headquarters • 21



The Boys' Brigade **3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade
Annual Enrolment Service**
Sunday 13th October at 11:00am



October 2019

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

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Pastoral Letter October 2019

“Do you understand what you are reading?” (Acts 8:30)

How many times have you picked up the Bible this past week and read it?

If you have done so, what did you discover, and did you share your thoughts about what you read with anybody at all?

One of the things that seems to be clear in the UK at present is that biblical literacy and understanding is falling, and falling quite quickly. Children and adults no longer have an understanding of the stories we find in the Bible.

We might feel that there are many reasons for this, ranging from the lack of regular school religious assemblies (although I can't say I particularly enjoyed them when I was at school!) to lack of children attending Sunday school, a change in the attitude and approach of some uniformed organisations perhaps and a whole host of other reasons maybe.

Another reason could be that it is simply because some of us have stopped reading the Bible or have become unsure of how we should approach it.

Dave Tomlinson writes:-

“Over the years I have variously loved the Bible and hated it, listened to it and ignored it, been irritated by it and captivated by it, I have sometimes felt like throwing it away, sometimes found it impossible to put down. It is, for me, both an intimate friend and a total stranger, a source of immense inspiration and the cause of constant annoyance. It is a push-pull relationship; whenever I try to walk away from the Bible, I find myself inescapably drawn back into it. I am repelled by many sentiments expressed in its pages and by some of its portrayals of God, yet it also inspires and

informs my highest and most treasured visions of who God is. And in a curious way it calls me, constantly, to be a better person than I am.” (from “Re-enchanting Christianity by Dave Tomlinson)

Might that be your experience, and might you, as a result of some of the negative encounters you have had with the Bible, have stopped reading it?

Several years ago now I had the privilege to hear a leading theologian speak to many learned scholars (I must have gate-crashed the event somehow!) and he talked about Philip’s encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch where Philip draws near to the Ethiopian’s transport and asks whether the eunuch understands what he is reading. I’d like to ask you the same question... and invite you to discuss your answers with other church members.

We need to have confidence in our faith, confidence in what message the written word of God might have for us, so that we can share the life that Jesus gives us through the Holy Spirit with the world around us.

Why not try it this month?

Explore, encounter and embrace the scriptures and see where they might lead you.

Your ministers,

Mark and Melanie

Joint Elders Meeting

There will be a Joint Elders Meeting for the North Enfield Group of URCs on Tuesday 29th October from 8:00pm at Lancaster Road URC.

India 2020

Mark and Melanie are intending to be back in India again in 2020 - if you're interested in joining them on a trip there next year then please do let them know.

An information evening about the trip will be held at the Manse, 50 Churchbury Lane, Enfield on Friday 18th October at 7:30pm for those who might want to learn more.

Stepwise

Early in 2020 we hope to begin a Stepwise course in Enfield for those who may be interested.

Please do let Mark, Melanie or Laura Marlow know if you think this could be of interest to you.

Christian Resources Exhibition

The Christian Resources Exhibition is on again at Esher from Tuesday 15th to Thursday 17th October.

Mark and Melanie will be attending on the Thursday. If you're interested in going then please let them know as we should be able to get tickets for you (and you don't have to go the same day that they will be there!).



Lunchtime @ Christ Church

**Saturday
19th October
11:00am to 2:00pm**

**Food, drink and a time
fellowship together**

**The church is open to all
to enjoy some lunch or
even just have a look around
- you're invited!**

**Find us at:
Christ Church URC, Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NJ**

**Minister: Revd Mark Meatcher (020 8374 0509)
Website: www.ccurc.org.uk**

Friendship Club 2019 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 October
Zimbabwe - Sylvia Coombs

Monday 18th November
Speaker - Roy Pickering

Monday 16th December
Preparing for Christmas
(A Christmas programme including a bring and share tea)

Further future dates will be publicised in due course.

Everyone is very welcome to these friendly meetings.
For more information please contact
Sylvia Coombs on 020 8363 3543.

Elders nominations

Nominations are invited for church members to serve Christ Church as elders for 2020. Forms may be obtained from the back of the church or from the Church Secretary, Rosemary Milns, and should be returned signed to her no later than Sunday 20th October.

The election will take place at the following Church Meeting on Sunday 3rd November at 12:30pm.

Aspiring to More

A new module for serving lay preachers: Pastoral Worship Leading (A Thames North Learning Programme)

Take your worship-leading skills to new places, learn to prepare services for pastoral and life situations:
Baptisms, Blessings, Marriages, Funerals, Rites of passage

You can sign up for the whole course or simply book to come for whichever of the sessions you want to share. This initial run of the course will be based at High Cross United Reformed Church in Tottenham (N15 4BN), close to Seven Sisters Station on the Victoria Line and Liverpool Street to Enfield Town Overground - and there's parking.

Here's the programme dates (the Wednesday sessions are all 7:00pm to 9:00pm):

Wednesday 20th November: Welcoming into membership and confirmation

Wednesday 4th December: Infant Blessings & Baptisms and Believers' Baptisms

Wednesday 8th January: Marriages and Marriage Blessings

Wednesday 22nd January: Funerals, Burials, Memorials and Nine Nights

Wednesday 5th February: Working with people to devise special services

Saturday 15th February: Study Day (10:00am to 4:00pm)

Thames North Synod takes training and support for lay preachers very seriously. For some years they have been running TLS LITE courses for new and aspiring lay preachers. They have also started a mutual-support Preachers' Circle and now they are introducing a new 'postgraduate' module for existing lay preachers to help them take their gifts and skills to new places to meet new challenges...

Following the TLS LITE format of five evening sessions and a Saturday Study Day, they'll look at preparing for and leading a range of worship events where the whole process is rooted in a pastoral relationship with people and their family and friends.

This is a new course specially devised by a team of Thames North people - Anne Sardeson, Lucy Berry and John Campbell - to help lay preachers develop the skills to work with people in devising and developing appropriate worship for significant events and situations along the road of life.

Book for one or two sessions as you choose or come to the whole course! Interested? Contact Anne Sardeson on 07979 520 308 / training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk or John Campbell on 07429 627 156 / john.campbell@urcthamesnorth.org.uk.

Harvest Festival

On Sunday 15th September our Harvest Festival Family Parade Service took place, led by Mark and looking at the Parable of the Lost Sheep.

As part of the service, gifts of food were given to be donated to the North Enfield Foodbank. The loose offering is being donated to Christian Aid's Harvest Appeal.

Thank you to the Girlguiding groups and the Boys' Brigade who decorated the entrance area and the communion table respectively, adding some more colour to our time of worship!

Photos by Tom Boorman



Boys' Brigade update

As you read this update we are just getting back into the new session, having held our first two Monday meetings. After a selection of games on the first evening, the Anchors then got creative the following week by decorating their own keepsake boxes to take home while the Juniors learnt a bit more about the BB and what it means to be a part of the organisation.

At Company Section & Seniors we are once again being joined by our friends from the 1st Enfield (based at Lancaster Road URC) as they build their numbers back up in that age group. The boys got cooking by making chocolate mug cakes - they measured out and mixed the various ingredients and put them in the microwave for a couple of minutes!

Over the next few weeks we have a variety of outings coming up including a trip to Colchester Zoo for Anchors and Juniors, a Topgolf competition for Juniors, Company Section and Seniors, as well as a Paintball event for Company Section and Seniors.

On Sunday 13th October we are holding our Annual Enrolment Service at 11:00am in the church and we'd love to see you there!

Tom Boorman

Photos by Tom Boorman



Time4Life

INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

A THOUGHT PROVOKING

Quiz Evening

On Saturday 19th October 2019

6:30 for 7:00 start

At

Lancaster Road United Reformed Church Hall

Situated at 9, Armfield Road, Enfield, EN2 0DH

Tables of eight at £12 (Concessions £10) per head to include either FISH AND CHIPS, QUICHE AND CHIPS.

Book with Maureen or Jim at Lancaster Road URC or on-Line at:

quiz@time4life.org.uk



Prayer diary October 2019

- 1st** - Give thanks to God at the start of a new month.
- 2nd** - Pray for the group, including those from our own church, that is visiting India for the next couple of weeks.
- 3rd** - Pray for those who are unemployed at the current time.
- 4th** - Pray for the Rainbows as they meet this evening.
- 5th** - Pray for the Breakfast Bible Study Group, meeting in the church this morning.
- 6th** - Pray for Adrian West as he leads our worship this morning.
- 7th** - Pray for the Anchors as they meet this evening.
- 8th** - Pray for the residents of Bycullah Road.
- 9th** - Pray for the homeless.
- 10th** - Pray for God's guidance in your life.
- 11th** - Pray for the Brownies as they meet this evening.
- 12th** - Pray for those who are experiencing mental health difficulties.
- 13th** - Pray for the Boys' Brigade as they hold their Enrolment Service this morning.
- 14th** - Pray for the Juniors as they meet in the hall this evening.
- 15th** - Pray for the Christian Resources Exhibition which is taking place this week.
- 16th** - Pray for Christ Church and its place in our community.
- 17th** - Pray for the work of Christian charities around the world.
- 18th** - Pray for the Guides and Rangers as they meet in the hall this evening.
- 19th** - Pray for today's Breakfast Bible Study Group meeting and Lunchtime @ Christ Church.
- 20th** - Pray for Revd Dan Haylett, minister of Trinity Church, as he comes to lead us in worship this morning.
- 21st** - Pray for the Friendship Club as they meet this afternoon.
- 22nd** - Pray for the Property Committee and the important work they do in maintaining our buildings.

23rd - Pray for all those who work at Bay Tree House.

24th - Pray for the external groups that use our church premises.

25th - Pray for Mark and Melanie.

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

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

28th - Pray for the Company Section and Seniors as they meet this evening.

29th - Pray for this evening's Joint Elders Meeting.

30th - Pray for the leaders of our church organisations.

31st - Pray for our country and its future as we reach the (at the time of writing) Brexit date.

November 2019 newsletter

The **November 2019** newsletter will be published on **Sunday 27th October**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor, Tom Boorman, by Sunday 20th 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 2019

Saturday 5th October 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Bible Study Group

Sunday 6th October 11:00am
Adrian West
Holy Communion (offering for Goldie College)
Duty Elder - Tom Boorman

Sunday 13th October 11:00am
3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade
Family Parade Service (Boys' Brigade Enrolment)
Duty Elder - Philip Taylor

Saturday 19th October 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Bible Study Group

Saturday 19th October 11:00am to 2:00pm
Lunchtime @ Christ Church (*see page 6*)

Sunday 20th October 11:00am
Revd Dan Haylett
Duty Elder - Stephen Gilbert

Sunday 20th October 12:30pm
Elders Meeting

Monday 21st October 2019 2:15pm
Friendship Club
Zimbabwe - Sylvia Coombs

Sunday 27th October 11:00am
Laura Marlow
Duty Elder - Rosemary Milns

Church diary November 2019

Saturday 2nd November 9:00am to 10:30am
Breakfast Bible Study Group

Sunday 3rd November 11:00am
Revd Mark Meatcher
Holy Communion (offering for Mission Aviation Fellowship)
Duty Elder - Pamela Fisher

Sunday 3rd November 12:30pm
Church Meeting

Sunday 10th November 10:45am
The Worship Group
Remembrance Sunday
Duty Elder - Stephen Gilbert

Please note the earlier start time for this service to allow a two minute silence to be observed at 11:00am.

Further future dates

Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 30th November (11:00am to 2:00pm)

By the time you read this a discussion will have taken place at our September Church Meeting about a proposed change to the start time of services to 11:15am. Should the change have been agreed, details of when the change will take effect from and updates to publicity will follow in due course.

Regular activities at Christ Church

SUNDAY

11:00am

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

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 Tom Boorman