

Christ Church United Reformed Church
NEWSLETTER



February 2021

Getting in contact

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Secretary

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Treasurer & Property Committee

David Fisher treasurer@ccurc.org.uk 020 8482 4610

Bookings Secretary

Pamela Mansley bookings@ccurc.org.uk 07936 798 722

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Serving Elders

Pamela Fisher 07775 505 999

Rosemary Milns 020 8363 6571

Philip Taylor 07714 325 902

Youth organisations

Boys' Brigade - Anchors

Sue Bullock info@3rdenfieldbb.co.uk 07961 504 123

Boys' Brigade - Juniors, Company Section & Seniors

Tom Boorman info@3rdenfieldbb.co.uk 07903 605 545

Girlguiding - Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers

Vicki Stratton-Stubbs 9thenfield@gmail.com 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

[@ccurc](https://www.facebook.com/ccurc)

Twitter

[@ccurc](https://twitter.com/ccurc)

Pastoral Letter February 2021

Bible Study

Our Bible Study Group that is now meeting on Zoom has just commenced looking at Mark's gospel, which will crop up quite a bit in our services in 2021 because it is the main gospel covered this year in the lectionary.

While looking through the introduction of the book that we are following I was encouraged by the author suggesting that sometimes the stories of Jesus become too familiar to us and encouraging us to, before we start our studies, *"ask God to open your eyes afresh to the wonder of Jesus - all that He taught and did. Ask God also to help you see ways of allowing what you are learning to impact your day-to day life."* (Christine Platt)

I found that very encouraging, especially as I had been thinking earlier in the week before I read those words, whether, in our Bible study we simply increase our knowledge, and maybe our understanding, but wondering whether we are actually doing Bible study that enables us to grow spiritually or not?

I think the thing that I often find encouraging in our small group is the fact that none of us are "experts" and we are all on a journey together. Insights from all those who join with us are valuable and helpful to others in the group. Some of us may have studied a little bit longer, or learnt a little more through the experiences of life we've been through but we all have something to contribute.

The other tip that I found helpful in the introduction to the bible study was that *"However busy Jesus was He knew He needed time out to refocus and recharge His spiritual batteries."*

Although we've had a lot of time not being allowed anywhere

of late, have we made that time to recharge our spiritual batteries, I wonder?

Mark

Zoom Bible Study Group

Our Zoom Bible Study Group will be meeting on Saturdays 13th and 20th February at 10:30am to continue looking at Mark - why not come along and join us?

If you would like to take part then please contact Mark for the Zoom joining instructions - remember you can join the group online (using a laptop, tablet etc.) or by telephone.

Lent Bible Study

During Lent we will be organising a Lent Bible Study for those of you who wish to join in with an option of meeting on a Saturday morning (10:30am) or on a Wednesday evening (7:30pm) during the Lenten period.

Stick the dates in your diary if you wish to join us and please get in contact for joining instructions:

- Saturdays 27th February, 6th March, 13th March and 27th March
- Wednesdays 24th February, 3rd March, 10th March and 24th March

Mark and Melanie

News of the fellowship

We are sorry to learn that Astrid Austin-Smith passed away on 20th December 2020. Astrid had been a member of the Friendship Club for many years and will certainly be missed. She was an active, sociable lady who lived life to the full until becoming increasingly frail in her 90s. She was a member of Trinity Church where she worshipped regularly but also joined in a number of Christ Church activities including Lunchtime @ Christ Church, Holiday Memories Evenings, Holiday at Home, Christmas carol services and lunches and, for a number of years, led carol singing at our church bazaars with members of her singing group. Our thoughts and prayers are with her son, daughter, family and friends at this time.

We are also sorry to learn that Peter Bachelor passed away in December 2020. Peter was a member of Christ Church for many years and served the church in a number of ways, including as an elder, before moving to Jesus Church on Forty Hill. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Chris, his sons Stuart and Neil, and their family and friends at this time.

Christmas greetings

Christmas messages were received from a number of friends of Christ Church who have moved away from Enfield including Revd David Atkinson, Revd Roy and Joy Martin, Revd Chris and Rob Willis, Betty Andrews and her daughters Rosalind and Debra, John Badger, Evelyn Bailey, Ken and Mary Basham, Trevor and Sandra Blackmore, Norman and Jean Griggs, and Lily Smith and her daughter Rosie.

Stephen Gilbert

Making a Difference

Sometimes we may feel like we cannot exactly do a lot to make a difference in the world. What we often don't realise though is that we do have more power than we think.

We only need to begin noticing the news items that we hear about every day and then praying and thinking about our response to those news items.

Let us give you an example.

Just before the end of last year it was reported that 139 companies had paid staff less than the minimum wage. Those companies were named and shamed by the government.

Did you notice who they were, which companies were included?

What could you do, what might you be able to do about that news story?

Could we suggest that there are at least two things that could be done:

- Write to the Chief Executive and/or Chairman of the companies involved asking them to confirm that they will pay all staff not just the minimum wage but the Real Living Wage in future.
- Avoid spending money with those companies in future until you receive the assurance requested above.

If you require more information either ask us for the details or simply do an internet search on the story "HMRC names and shames companies guilty of paying less than the minimum wage" - separately check out the Living Wage Foundation's website.

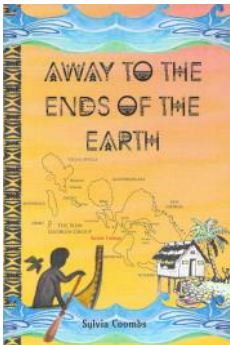
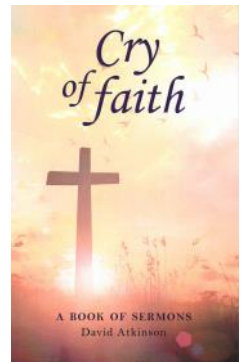
We can make change happen in the world, and help make the world a better place for all of us. We believe it is something that we need to be doing as witnesses to Jesus Christ in the world today.

Your ministers,

Mark and Melanie

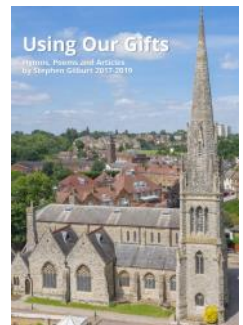
Read all about it!

Revd David Atkinson (Christ Church's minister between 2004 and 2013) has published a book called "Cry of Faith A Book of Sermons", containing 33 sermons covering a wide variety of subjects and biblical passages. The book costs £8 and all proceeds will go to St John's Hospice, Lancaster. Copies can be purchased from David - phone 01524 572702 or email davidatkinson437@gmail.com



Sylvia Coombs has published a book of her memoirs of serving as a CWM missionary abroad called "Away to the Ends of the Earth". The book is available from Sylvia for £10 (plus p&p if required) - please contact her on 020 8363 3543 if you would like to purchase a copy.

Stephen Gilburt has put together a booklet called "Using Our Gifts", containing a collection of his hymns, poems and articles. If you would like a copy please contact Pamela Fisher on pjf_40b@hotmail.com. If you can forward a C5 stamped addressed envelope to her that would be helpful but if not then please simply email a request for a copy to be sent to you.



Community food hubs

On 29th and 30th December 2020, three of the six URCs in Enfield became community food hubs as part of the Council's provision of free school meals.

Working in partnership with Enfield Council and The Felix Project (a charity which redistributes surplus food to charities), Ponders End URC organised and hosted a hub for families to receive food parcels on the Tuesday. This was only able to happen thanks to a wonderful team



of volunteers from Bush Hill Park, Christ Church, Lancaster Road and Winchmore Hill URCs and Gospel Temple Church, an independent congregation which holds services in Ponders End. A large delivery of non-perishable foods had been delivered the week before, which consisted of tins of sausages and beans, corn flakes, soup, meatballs, gift hampers, and, strangely, several large, fresh celeriac. This was supplemented by a cash and carry shop, toiletries from the charity In Kind Direct, a selection of socks/tights/gloves, fresh food and some other basics delivered by The Felix Project on the day of the food hub.

Ponders End was one of six initial venues invited to host a food hub yet, before long, the Council realised that further venues would be helpful and other Enfield URCs were able to offer up two venues, with outside charities organising. Christ Church was used as a venue by Edmonton-based charities BASE and TOCs Enfield and Palmers Green by Albanian charity Nene Tereza.

In all eight venues across the Borough operated over a space of four days, families in receipt of free school meals were offered a time and venue so that they could collect their food

parcels, which were made up in accordance with family size and dietary needs. At Ponders End, along with basic packages assembled, including milk, oil, tea, pasta, rice and lentils, families were encouraged to take a selection of extras including Indian snacks, socks, toiletries and fresh fruit and veg - there were more parsnips than anyone had ever seen before, and the small quantity of Brussel sprouts. Although the sprouts were beautiful, they were not people's first choice! Luckily, a good supply of potatoes, onions and tomatoes were well received.

Left over fresh food from Ponders End was taken to Christ Church and Palmers Green the next day to supplement their hubs. From there, surplus fresh veg were given to Enfield Health and Wellbeing Centre and Cooking Champions to support their work. Left over non-perishable foods have been retained by Ponders End and will become part of the Little Free Pantry that will help distribute food in the area. We are also able to use some of this food to supplement a project for helping families with fresh fruit and veg which is being distributed from Lancaster Road on Wednesday mornings and Ponders End on a Tuesday morning. Both these initiatives are in collaboration with Zebras Children and Adults Charity. Palmers Green is opening its kitchen to Cooking Champions who have been working with the Council and other charitable groups to support local families on a regular basis, and also were able to distribute over 250 Christmas food hampers.



Sadly, the need to feed people does not end here, nor does the need for us, like Jesus, to challenge the causes of poverty. As we invite you to pray that these initiatives may make a

difference to those we are able to help, please pray also that we are able to challenge the systems that do not fit with the Kingdom value of fulness of life for all.

Photo 1: Is that a parsnip I see before me? Stocks at Ponders End URC at the start of the day

Photo 2: Nene Tereza volunteers having bags of fun at Palmers Green URC

Photo 3: Working together - Hamida from ECYPS charity brings some supplies to Dionne from SEND at Christ Church URC

Photo 4: Surplus fruit and veg being handed over to Cooking Champions at the end of the day



Pam's Pantry

The last year has brought us challenges and obstacles to overcome but there have also been opportunities to share love the of Christ with our friends and neighbours. At Ponders End URC we have been searching for ways in which we can serve our community despite our limited resources. Our first project was to be a place where a Little Free Pantry could be sited (this is still happening) but events have overtaken this. For one day during the week after Christmas a joint venture with The Felix Project meant that we became a food hub. This encouraged us, with the support of Zebras Charity, to open our doors once a week to people who are struggling to put food on the table. To honour one of our members who died in January this project is now called "Pam's Pantry", however we need your help to maintain this.

You can help us by:

- Praying for the project and its development
- Donating non-perishable food items or money
- Telling others about the project

Thank you for your continued support, and should you wish to volunteer please let Melanie know.

Christine Hall

From Zion Chapel to Christ Church

The following is the second of a series of articles written by Stephen Gilbert entitled "From Zion Chapel to Christ Church - A Story of Congregationalists in Enfield".

Part 2: Zion Chapel and Chase Side Chapel 1791-1830

Chase Side Chapel 1791-1827

In 1791 a proposal to appoint James Chalmers as minister of Zion Chapel caused a split in the congregation as the majority believed that he was a bigamist. The minority supported him and built Chase Side Chapel (which was also known as The Independent Chapel, Chase Side) next to Zion Chapel.

However Mr Chalmers' bigamy was established beyond doubt when his first and legal wife appeared! The first entry in the Chase Side Church Book reads "This society was formed by separation from a Calvinistic Methodist Connexion in the year of Christ 1792. The Rev James Chalmers was chosen Minister, but never separated to the Pastoral charge. His connexion with this Church was of short duration. Having indisputable evidence of the immorality of his character, the Church was under the necessity of expelling him, which it did March 31, 1793".

Both churches subsequently expressed the desire to reunite, but could not agree which church to use, so the two congregations remained separate for another 80 years. However the two chapels did share the Protestant Dissenters Burying Ground in front of Zion Chapel, until 1854 when it was closed.

After the departure of Mr Chalmers from Chase Side Chapel, William Thomas was appointed as minister in 1794 when there were 20 full members, 8 men and 12 women. In order to tighten up the rules for membership and belief the following

resolutions were passed in 1794: "that the mode of admission of Members into this Church in future be according to the precise Rule of Order of the Regular Churches of the Independent Denomination, that is to say by the Report of the Officers and the testimony of their Experience."



"That is it highly necessary for our walking in due order that there should be certain Articles of Faith and Practice agreed to by the Church and read to every Candidate for Church Fellowship and that Mr. Thomas be requested to draw up the same."

However when in 1795 the minister "signified his inability through bodily weakness to continue preaching thrice on the Lord's Day" it was agreed to discontinue the afternoon service for three months. Mr Thomas must have recovered because he continued as minister until 1827. The rules of membership were relaxed somewhat in 1809 when it was agreed that "hence forward members be admitted into this Church on the Testimony of the Pastor and some other member deputed to converse with them and not by a written experience". Visitors were only permitted to take Holy Communion if they could produce evidence that they were members of another church or were true believers.

Zion Chapel 1791-1830

Returning to Zion Chapel, in 1793 there was a proposal to settle the Chapel on the Countess of Huntingdon's Connection. This was never finalised although some histories of Enfield refer to it as a Countess of Huntingdon's chapel. (Selina, Countess of Huntingdon 1707-91, was a friend of the Wesleys and George Whitfield. She built chapels around

England and in 1768 opened a training college for chaplains in Wales, which was transferred to Cheshunt in 1792.)

Zion Chapel was instead vested in trustees - Matthias Peter Dupont, Revd Isaac Nicholson and Cheshunt College. Revd Nicholson was the minister of Zion Chapel from 1791 to 1803 and president and tutor at Cheshunt College from 1792 to 1803.

Revd Nicholson had previously been an Anglican clergyman until "Through the efforts of some pious Baptist ladies he was brought to the knowledge of the truth. Though a clergyman he had been up to that time (1783) excessively attached to dancing and card playing, and in breaking off from these he suffered a great conflict. About the year 1788 his mind became uneasy on the subject of his conformity, having scruples of conscience on the discipline and service of the church and more especially on indiscriminate communion and the baptismal and burial services". (H. Storer Toms 1873)

Isaac Nicholson was succeeded by the return of W. Whitefoot. During his second term of ministry between 1805 and 1813 the congregation expanded considerably as it did during the ministry at William MacDonald from 1816 to 1824. He was the first minister to live in the Chapel House, which had been bought by the congregation with part of a gift of £3,000 from Miss Rupertia Hill, an old and wealthy friend of Matthias Dupont. On Revd MacDonald's death funeral sermons were preached at both Zion and Chase Side Chapels. Much of his extensive property was left to the London Missionary Society (which in 1973 became the Council for World Mission). Revd MacDonald was followed from 1825 to 1826 by the imperious and overbearing Thomas Thorn who by his manner drove the congregation away until attendance at Zion Chapel had fallen to three. The others worshipped in a room which they hired in Parsonage Lane. The trustees of Cheshunt College intervened and Thomas Thorn retired to be succeeded in 1826 by John James, principal Classical tutor at Cheshunt College. He

remained as minister until his death in 1830. Both William MacDonald and John James were buried in the Protestant Dissenters Burying Ground. Later their headstones were laid flat and can still be seen.

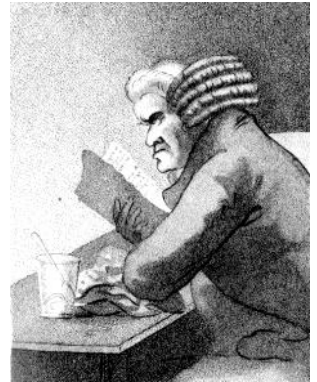


Image 1: Cheshunt College in 1792
Image reproduced with the permission of the Trustees of the Cheshunt Foundation, Westminster College, Cambridge

Image 2: Chase Side Chapel (1791, rebuilt 1830) and Zion Chapel (1780) in the mid-19th century
Image reproduced with the permission of Enfield Local Studies & Archive

Correction

In the previous part of this series (in the January 2021 newsletter) an image of John Stribling was erroneously published instead of one of John Ryland, as was indicated in the footnote. The image of John Ryland can be seen to the right.



This image is reproduced with the permission of Enfield Local Studies & Archive

Boys' Brigade Quiz Night

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in the Zoom Quiz Night in support of 3rd Enfield Boys' Brigade on Saturday 23rd January. It was great to have around 60 people join us and we're delighted to report that a total of £438.55 (including Gift Aid) has been raised at time of writing.

Tom Boorman

Fairtrade Fortnight

22nd February to 7th March 2021
Time to Choose the World You Want

Fairtrade Foundation's CEO Michael Gidney reflects on a tough year and looks forward to a brighter 2021.



"For too long in this society, we have celebrated unrestrained individualism over common community." So said Joe Biden, back in 1987, during his first run for the US Presidency. Thirty years on, his words still ring true. True in the US, where the politics of division that so characterised the last four years have given rise to appalling racial violence. True also across the industrialised world, where 'unrestrained individualism' has brought increasing inequality, and long, opaque supply chains making the planet dirtier and people poorer. Globalisation has undoubtedly been a force for so much good, but it has stored up problems for people and planet that have been ignored for too long. The shock of Covid-19 has shown us, more emphatically than any of us could have imagined, that life cannot carry on like this. This year, globalisation has literally been bad for our health.

And yet, 2020 has also shown us the other side. If there is one good thing to come from this tough, tough year, it's that we've recognised more than ever that we are all in this together. We cannot go it alone. That's why we've clapped for carers; why neighbourhood volunteering schemes have seen such support; why donations to food banks have reached unprecedented levels. It's a response to a crisis imbued with compassion and a determination to act.

Covid-19 has shown us how inter-dependent we are globally.

The economic impact of the virus has been huge. People in developing countries who grow and make products for the UK have been particularly hard hit - reduced orders have meant produce has gone unsold and wages unpaid. Millions of farmers growing coffee, tea, cocoa and bananas for the UK have seen their incomes fall and are struggling to feed their families and send their children to school.

This is where Fairtrade comes into its own. A cornerstone of Fairtrade is the requirement for farmers to be organised at a community level. For many that's been a lifeline - Fairtrade producers have used their premiums to help their communities' pandemic response. Colombian farmers took the fight against Covid-19 to the streets using banana disinfectant, spraying the roads of their local towns. Flower growers in Kenya used Fairtrade-funded sewing machines to sew masks for the local community. Many producer groups organised food distribution for vulnerable people in their communities.

Fairtrade producers have proved to be more resilient, better able to bounce back. Important for the families involved, but also provides us in the UK with the products we buy every day.

As we look forward to a brighter 2021, what kind of world do we want to see? I hope this is the opportunity to reset our economy to Build Back Fairer, and this means two things:

- Remembering how much we depend on producers in low-income countries for the food and products we buy every day. It's scandalous that they should toil in poverty so we can have cheap products. We rely on farmers every day; shouldn't we then treat them as our partners and ensure they are able to earn a living income?
- Committing as consumers to join the dots. If we are worried about the climate crisis, about child labour, about exploitation of women around the world, about racial injustice, we must make the link to what we buy. Poverty

is the missing link in so many corporate 'sustainability' schemes. Fairtrade aims to tackle the cause, where others address the symptoms. We have the power as consumers to bring about amazing change.

There is huge value in working together. Fairtrade producers have shown it this year in how they've supported their communities. We've seen it in the million acts of kindness for others through the pandemic, here and abroad. We can see how we can make trade work for all of us. 2021 is a year to be hopeful, and to carry these stories with us, and buy Fairtrade.

This is an extract of a blog piece originally published at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/media-centre/blog/2021-time-to-choose-the-world-you-want/>

Eco Tip

Fairtrade, climate and you

Farmers need help to put their voices at the heart of tackling the climate crisis and share the reality of their struggles. Our global trading system is balanced in favour of the powerful few. Trapped in this system, farmers already struggle to meet their immediate needs. More than ever, they need a fair price for their crops and their hard work. Fairtrade works to raise the voices of producers and prioritise what they need to respond to the environmental crises unfolding in already vulnerable communities.

This Fortnight, you are asked to 'Choose the World You Want' and use your voice to tell others about the challenges that farmers face from climate change. Think environment. Think Fairtrade!

Christmas at Christ Church

In December we once again celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ at that first Christmas, although the Coronavirus situation meant that we weren't able to do it in quite the same way as we normally would.



For three Tuesdays in the run up to Christmas the church was open for two hours on a Tuesday morning for private prayer, giving people the opportunity to come and spend some time with God.

On Sunday 13th December we held our first face-to-face service following the November lockdown. The date would have normally seen us hold our Nativity, which couldn't happen for obvious reasons, so Mark instead led us in an all age service which was also broadcast on Zoom for those who couldn't join us in person.

Worsening Coronavirus infection rates and increased restrictions meant that it was decided to suspend face-to-face worship services once again from Sunday 20th December. On that day we were instead able to join with a live stream of the service from Bush Hill Park URC, led by Mark, and then Christ Church was open for private prayer at the time that our service would have been held.

On Christmas Eve the church was once again open for a time of private prayer for an hour in the evening, before Mark and Melanie led a short service of reflections, Bible readings and prayers on Zoom.



Christmas Day would usually see us join in worship with our friends from Lancaster Road URC at their church. An online service was prepared by Revd Martin Legg, and there was the opportunity to come together for a social time and to wish each other a happy Christmas on Zoom.

We thank God that we were still able to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ despite the circumstances, and we give thanks for all those who helped to make the various activities possible.



BUILDING LIFE FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES

A SERIES OF WEBINARS WITH CWM EUROPE



REVD. DR. PETER CRUCHLEY

'WHITENESS AND ANTIRACIST PRACTICE: FROM TALK TO ACTION'

MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY (14:00-15:30)

Can whiteness and white privilege be dismantled? Peter's presentation will aim to help participants move from talk to action regarding more effective antiracist practices in the church.

Continued on next page...

REVD. MELANIE SMITH, REVD. DR. AL BARRETT & DAVID JONATHAN

**A PANEL DISCUSSION ON LIFE-
FLOURISHING ACTIVISM
MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY (14:00-15:30)**

The panellists will be exploring 'what would life-flourishing activism look like and mean'. This would include new ways of grassroots activism towards transformation. These three colleagues are involved in local community advocacy in a variety of ways.



CAROL TROUPE

**'LOOKING BACK: LOOKING FORWARD'
MONDAY 8TH MARCH (14:00-15:30)**

Carol is a Research Associate on the CWM Legacies of Slavery project and has been exploring LMS mission magazine archives. She reflects on her journey so far, and wonders what, if anything, can be drawn from the archives to help the church reflect on issues of mission, race and justice in the present day.

DR. EVE PARKER

**WHAT WOULD A LIFE-FLOURISHING
CURRICULUM FOR THEOLOGICAL
EDUCATION LOOK LIKE?
MONDAY 22ND MARCH (14:00-15:30)**

In her presentation, Eve will focus on case studies from her ongoing research - addressing the barriers to belonging in theological education, whilst exploring the liberative potential of engaged and transformative pedagogy and curriculum.



For each presentation, individual Zoom links will be provided. Please contact Sai & Michael at cwm.europe@cwmission.org

Life After Loss

citizens
advice

Enfield

How has COVID-19 changed your life?

Can't afford funeral costs?

Weighed down by unexpected money problems and mounting debt?

Can't work due to COVID-19?

You are not alone.

We can help you with:

- Immediate Emotional Support
- Bereavement Counselling.
- Fasttrack access to benefit, debt and universal credit advice.
- Emergency Relief Grants of up to £500.

Feeling overwhelmed?

Struggling to cope with grief after losing a loved one?

Need to talk about how you're feeling?



☎ 0300 330 1167

🌐 <https://citizensadviceenfield.org.uk/covid-19-life-after-loss>

✉ lifelafterloss@mind-in-enfield.org.uk
lifelafterloss@enfieldcab.org.uk

Revd Eglan Graham

Francis Ackroyd shares: "Eglan died on 23rd November 2020 aged 91 years after a long illness. His funeral, on 17th December at Mill Hill URC, was a most moving and inspiring occasion. There were 25 people in the church and myself from Leytonstone appeared on the large screen. There were also at least 30 people on Zoom from all over the synod and indeed all over the world. It was a fine celebration of a wonderful Minister of the Gospel. What follows are selected extracts of the sermon I preached on that day."



St Paul says in Romans 8, "I am persuaded that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God shown to us in Christ Jesus our Lord". Eglan lived by that and died in that faith. Yes, Eglan was a man of faith and so especially proud of being a Christian minister. He had a deep sense of God's call and freely offered himself to people and his churches. After his first 5 years in Leicester, he spent most of his ministry in Thames North Synod, apart from 6 years serving in the Commons Team in south London in Southern Synod. When he arrived in Tottenham we were so pleased to welcome Eglan to High Cross URC and the Hackney group of churches, especially when he served as Minister at Stamford Hill URC. Here he was much loved and appreciated and became a great colleague and friend.

The year of Eglan's arrival in Tottenham in 1985, the Broadwater Farm Disturbances took place between police and young people, predominantly black young people. Tensions had been building up and Eglan and I were much involved in seeking justice and peace in the community.

Egland was a great supporter of 'Cause for Celebration', an annual event attracting over 100 people from many different ethnic groups. From this grassroots initiative, we petitioned for a Racial Justice Worker to be recruited and appointed in the United Reformed Church, together with a network of volunteer racial justice advocates. So, developing black leadership and encouraging participation by all cultures have been Egland's and my passion. In 2000 Egland and myself, together with the Revd John Danso, led a pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine which was an amazing experience, remembered by many, especially from High Cross.

We cannot think of Egland without remembering his wife Madge. Madge was a dedicated and gifted nursing sister and gave much love to the boys, Egland himself and many of us. We pray that they may be united in God's presence. Egland (junior) has been a devoted son, coming from Canada to the UK as often as he has been able. Revd Egland Graham will now be taken to Canada to be with son, Danny, in the family cemetery in Canada.

Now we say farewell to Revd Egland Graham, a minister and servant of Jesus Christ to the end. Even after retirement he conducted services such as funerals, weddings and healing services. Also many will remember coming to 10 Elmgate Gardens for Bible studies and prayer meetings. Knowing my friend as I do, if he were here today, I believe he would say to each one of us, "Thank God for the faith you have. Ask God to strengthen it. Remember that Christ died on the cross for each one of us, to bring us forgiveness, healing and hope." Surely he would say that the greatest tribute you can pay me is to live your life to the full as Jesus wanted life to be. Especially at this time of pain and suffering, let us all go out into the world to be Christ's change makers and healers. May God bless us so that we can be a blessing to others and show kindness and compassion to all. Jesus said, "Be of good courage, I have overcome the world. My peace I give you now and always."

Prayer diary February 2021

- 1st** - Pray for God's guidance over this coming month.
- 2nd** - Pray for all those who continue to work to roll out the Coronavirus vaccines.
- 3rd** - Pray for the local community around Christ Church.
- 4th** - Pray for our friends from the churches across our Local Area Group.
- 5th** - Pray for all those in our Girlguiding groups.
- 6th** - Pray for all those whose mental health is suffering at this time.
- 7th** - Pray for those who have prepared today's online worship.
- 8th** - Pray for the elders and for their leadership roles at Christ Church.
- 9th** - Pray for school teachers and everything they are doing to help children and young people continue to learn at this time.
- 10th** - Pray for anyone you know who is mourning the loss of a loved one.
- 11th** - Pray for Mark and Melanie.
- 12th** - Pray for those who suffer persecution for their faith.
- 13th** - Pray for this morning's Zoom Bible Study Group meeting.
- 14th** - Pray for our time of online worship this morning.
- 15th** - Pray for the work of Enfield Council.
- 16th** - Shrove Tuesday: Pray for God's forgiveness.
- 17th** - Ash Wednesday: Pray for your personal preparations for Easter at this, the start of Lent.
- 18th** - Pray for the work of Thames North Synod.
- 19th** - Pray that we may better look after the planet that God created.
- 20th** - Pray for this morning's Zoom Bible Study Group meeting.
- 21st** - Pray for our time of online worship this morning.
- 22nd** - Pray for all those in our Boys' Brigade groups.
- 23rd** - Pray for friends and family, particularly those who find themselves on their own at this time.

24th - Pray for the Lent Bible Study which begins its Wednesday evening sessions today.

25th - Pray for business that are suffering from the effects of the pandemic.

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

27th - Pray for the Lent Bible Study which begins its Saturday morning sessions today.

28th - Pray for this afternoon's Church Meeting, taking place on Zoom.

March 2021 newsletter

The **March 2021** newsletter will be published on **Sunday 28th February**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor, Tom Boorman, by Sunday 21st February. 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 **newsletter@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 February 2021

Due to the current circumstances, it has been decided that there will be no face-to-face services at Christ Church at least until the end of February.

We will, however, begin our planning to hopefully celebrate Easter in the church and will keep monitoring the situation as we know that many are missing the opportunity to attend worship in a church building

Weekly services will continue to be provided online and through mail distribution - you can sign up to receive details at <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH> or by contacting Mark.

We will also continue to join together for online worship on Zoom each Sunday. Joining instructions are available via the weekly email (see above) or alternatively please contact Mark.

Sunday 7th February

Enfield URCs online worship

Sign up to receive details at <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>

or contact Mark for a printed copy

There will be no face-to-face service on this date

Saturday 13th February

10:30am to 11:30am

Zoom Bible Study Group

Please contact Mark for joining instructions

Sunday 14th February

Enfield URCs online worship

Sign up to receive details at <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>

or contact Mark for a printed copy

There will be no face-to-face service on this date

Saturday 20th February 10:30am to 11:30am
Zoom Bible Study Group
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

Sunday 21st February
Enfield URCs online worship
Sign up to receive details at <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>
or contact Mark for a printed copy
There will be no face-to-face service on this date

Wednesday 24th February 7:30pm
Lent Bible Study (evening option - session 1)
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

Saturday 27th February 10:30am
Lent Bible Study (morning option - session 1)
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

Sunday 28th February
Enfield URCs online worship
Sign up to receive details at <http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>
or contact Mark for a printed copy
There will be no face-to-face service on this date

Sunday 28th February 12:30pm
Church Meeting (via Zoom)
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

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 note that current circumstances mean that regular activities may not be taking place as they normally would.

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

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