



**Christ Church** United Reformed Church  
**NEWSLETTER**

**May 2021**

# Getting in contact

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## Minister

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## Secretary

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## Treasurer & Property Committee

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## Bookings Secretary

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## Newsletter & website

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## Serving Elders

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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](http://www.ccurc.org.uk)

## Email

[mail@ccurc.org.uk](mailto:mail@ccurc.org.uk)

## Facebook

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

## Twitter

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

# Pastoral Letter May 2021

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*"Jesus came and stood among them and said 'Peace be with you'... 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (John 20:19-23)*

We have come through the tragedy of death and discovered Jesus risen from the dead.

Jesus appears to the disciples, not simply once, but many times (see 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 for more details). In these appearances what is he doing? Is he giving reassurance? Is he encouraging them for what is to come? Is he making promises about what is happening next?

Pentecost arrives and the Spirit is poured out upon those gathered to pray together leading to their being empowered to be witnesses to Jesus *"in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

Where does Enfield in North London fit in to this picture?

The Holy Spirit wasn't given just at one time, in that one place - the Holy Spirit remains available to us here in Enfield in 2021. We can ask, as many did in those early days of the church for the Holy Spirit to fill our lives:

*"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."* (Acts 2:38)

That Holy Spirit was given freely to those who came to Jesus and gave their lives to him, and it enabled the building of a community that came together, sharing all that they had - needs were met, people were fed. Others were healed.

Houses were sold that there could be provision for others.  
And there was a lot of prayer and worship.

The dynamics of that early Christian community might seem strange to us today in the 21st century but they, for us, remain a challenge and we keep hearing Jesus speak about how we use what we have been given.

*"What have you done with the gifts I have given you?"* a voice echoes in our heads.

During the month of May we have many opportunities to respond to that voice as Christian Aid Week is with us once again, amongst the call of other needs coming from the world around us.

How do we best use the gifts God has provided us with?

We must surely begin by giving everything we have, ourselves included, over to God and praying that God would lead us, by the Holy Spirit, to do the work God wants each one of us to do.

For some of us it may mean that the ends of the earth are found in Enfield, for others it could be Glasgow or Guatemala? Are we truly open to respond to God's voice and God's call?

In the Acts of the Apostles we find Philip in different places at different times (Samaria, on the road to Gaza, in Azotus - see Acts 8) and we find Paul being prevented by the Spirit to go into certain places (Acts 16:6-10) so we know that God can lead us forward and can stop us from going the wrong way.

Are we willing to step out and follow Jesus where the Lord might want us to go?

Your ministers,

Mark and Melanie

# Bible Study

Our Bible Study looking at Mark's gospel continues to meet on Saturday mornings at 9.30 am on the following dates:

- 1st May
- 15th May
- 29th May

These studies will stay on Zoom at present. Please let me know if you need the passcode to join us.

Mark



**QuizZoom**

**India Appeal 2021**  
Church of North India, West Bengal

**7.30pm Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May**  
Please contact [revd.meatcher@gmail.com](mailto:revd.meatcher@gmail.com) for link

**Entry Donations**  
[give.net/IndiaAppeal2021](https://give.net/IndiaAppeal2021)

   **Cathedral Relief Service**  
Kolkata, India  **The United Reformed Church**

# Christian Aid Week 2021

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*Christian Aid Week this year takes place from 10th to 16th May. In this article from Christian Aid, find out more about how you can get involved and give, act and pray to help those in need.*

## **With every gift, we help people like Rose and stop this climate crisis**

In Kenya, extreme weather is making it harder and harder to survive. For communities fighting the climate crisis, every last drop matters and every last one of us can help them thrive. The coronavirus pandemic has only increased the urgent need for families to access a reliable source of water.

The devastating climate crisis robs people of the water and food they need to live.

Rose walks for six hours to fetch water for her grandchildren. She tries hard to give them the kind of life she remembers from when she was a girl: when the rivers flowed with water and the crops bore fruit.

Rose and her grandchildren shouldn't have to go hungry. A simple earth dam, built with the help of Christian Aid's partners and your donations, could completely change her life. This Christian Aid Week, you can be one of the hundreds of thousands of our supporters who give, act and pray to stop this climate crisis driving people like Rose to hunger.

From envelope collections to walking 300,000 steps in May, Christian Aid Week brings people together as one community against global poverty and injustice.

This Christian Aid Week (10th to 16th May), please:

- **Give** generously to help ensure people like Rose fight this climate crisis.
- **Act** as we call on the UK Prime Minister to lead the world with ambitious climate action that will also address inequality.
- **Pray** for a radical change of heart for politicians, and that as a global community we will care for our common home and for people living in poverty.



**Together we stop this climate crisis.** Join us at [caweek.org](https://caweek.org)

Photo credit: Christian Aid/Adam Finch

## Donate to Christian Aid Week

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If you would like to make a donation to Christian Aid Week, visit our 'e-envelope' on the Christian Aid website at <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/christ-church-close>

Alternatively, if you would like to make an 'offline' donation please speak to David Fisher. The loose offering at our service on Sunday 9th May will also be donated to Christian Aid Week.

## Zoom to Zimbabwe

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Commitment for Life is hosting 'Zoom to Zimbabwe' with Christian Aid on Tuesday 11th May at 2:00pm, which will include updates, music, food and friendship. If you would like more information or would like to attend, please email [suzanne.pearson@urc.org.uk](mailto:suzanne.pearson@urc.org.uk)

# Pastoral Search Report

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We do not have a happy report to give. We've not been able to find a suitable candidate for this church, though we have one promising prospect still.

We do appreciate all the suggestions from the church members, and we've followed up each one with interviews or calling at least three references.

The following is our confidential report on the present candidates.

- Adam: Good man but problems with his wife. Also one reference told of how his wife and he enjoys walking nude in the woods.
- Noah: Former pastorate of 120 years with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.
- Abraham: Though the references reported wife-swapping, the facts seem to show he never slept with another man's wife, but did offer to share his own wife with another man.
- Joseph: A big thinker, but a braggart, believes in dream-interpreting, and has a prison record.
- Moses: A modest and meek man, but poor communicator, even stuttering at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly. Some say he left an earlier church over a murder charge.
- David: The most promising leader of all until we discovered the affair he had with his neighbour's wife.
- Solomon: Great preacher but our parsonage would never hold all those wives.
- Elijah: Prone to depression - collapses under pressure.
- Elisha: Reported to have lived with a single widow while at his former church.
- Hosea: A tender and loving pastor but our people could never handle his wife's occupation.

- Deborah: Female.
- Jeremiah: Emotionally unstable, alarmist, negative, always lamenting things, and reported to have taken a long trip to bury his underwear on the banks of a foreign river.
- Isaiah: On the fringe? Claims to have seen angels in church. Has trouble with his language.
- Jonah: Refused God's call into ministry until he was forced to obey by getting swallowed up by a great fish. He told us the fish later spit him out on the shore near here. We hung up.
- Amos: Too backward and unpolished. With some seminary training he might have promise, but has a hang-up against wealthy people. Might fit in better in a poor congregation.
- John: Says he is a Baptist, but definitely doesn't dress like one. Has slept in the outdoors for months on end, has a weird diet, and provokes denominational leaders.
- Peter: Too blue collar. Has a bad temper - even has been known to curse. Had a big run-in with Paul in Antioch. Aggressive, but a loose cannon.
- Paul: Powerful CEO type leader and fascinating preacher. However, short on tact, unforgiving with younger ministers, harsh and has been known to preach all night.
- Timothy: Too young.
- Jesus: Has had popular times, but once when his church grew to 5000 he managed to offend them all and this church dwindled down to twelve people. Seldom stays in one place very long. And, of course, he's single.
- Judas: His references are solid. A steady plodder. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money. We're inviting him to preach this Sunday. Possibilities here.

Source: Unknown

# From Enfield Women's Centre

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Our food distribution project is working very well with many new families and individuals being referred for help; to the point we need to appeal for more donations to share. People can either drop these in the donation boxes at Sainsbury's A10 or Lancaster Road branches or deliver direct to the Centre. If you cannot deliver contact us and we will try and collect. We have some large families on our list as well as single women and those sheltering.

People can donate to the fund for this via JustGiving by visiting <http://www.justgiving.com/enfieldwomenscentre>

When buying things in packs - rice, pasta, etc. please buy in packs no more than 2kg - it is easier to distribute to families than large bags of pasta, rice etc. Whilst we can deliver to families the large sacks are difficult. We can share the same weight in goods amongst families - we make sure all families receive goods weekly. Some people still insist on coming to the Centre personally so smaller packs are also easier for them to carry. Our clients consist of families with children and also older folk or single people who are all vulnerable/isolated for a range of reasons.

- Canned meats and fish - stews, curries, etc. corned beef, hotdogs (packets too), ham, spam, Fray Bentos pies, Canned chili (meat or veg), steak and minced beef
- Fish; tuna, sardines, salmon, mackerel, pilchards, anchovies
- Quorn products and similar, cauliflower rice pastas (all sorts), noodles, cous cous, Lentils, rice including microwave rice packs (variety), instant mash
- Coffee (inc. decaf), tea, hot chocolate
- Canned veg - beans (all kinds), peas, corn, carrots, tomatoes, chickpeas, spinach etc.
- Canned spaghetti, spaghetti hoops, ravioli, macaroni

- cheese, beans and sausages, etc.
- Canned fruit; peaches, pears, apples, fruit cocktail, prunes, strawberries, mandarin segments, grapefruit, pineapple
- Canned custard (also cartons), milk - evaporated and condensed
- Milk - long life, semi skimmed & whole, lactose free, powdered milk
- Fruit juices, squashes - low sugar if possible
- Salt and pepper, other seasonings - small pots for sharing, gravy granules
- Mayo, ketchup, brown sauce, salad cream, pickles, etc.
- Jars of sauces for pastas, curries, casseroles, cooking oils, etc.
- Jams and marmalade and other spreads - including sandwich spread
- Biscuits, lunch time snack type things
- Cereals (no bran at present), toddler snacks/biscuits
- Nappies, baby wipes, talcum powder, nappy cream, baby shampoo and bath shampoo
- Toilet roll, shampoo, conditioner, shower gels, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, talcum powder, washing up liquid, hand soaps, soap and fabric conditioner - must be non-bio, toilet roll, kitchen towel, cotton wool, plasters, cotton buds, sanitary pads
- Cat and dog food - dried/tins/pouches

## Thank you

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Can we say a big THANK YOU to all those who helped recently with the clean up after the fire at Ponders End URC - this was truly one of those moments when we saw community in action and, we believe, the Spirit moving in our midst. Thank you again.

Mark and Melanie



# BUILDING LIFE FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES

A SERIES OF WEBINARS WITH CWM EUROPE



## PROF. DR. ANTHONY REDDIE

'THEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE LEGACIES OF SLAVERY: SOME PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS'

MONDAY 24TH MAY (14:00-15:30)

This session will draw on the archive work undertaken by Professor Reddie as a part of a CWM funded pilot research project looking at the Legacies of Slavery. Prof Reddie will look at the ways in which Church leaders in the 17th and 18th centuries incorporated ideas around the notion of 'race' into biblical interpretation as a means of justifying a racialised approach to Christian mission. The implications of this move are still with us. Slavery may have ended but as the events of last year have shown, Black Lives still do not matter. How can the church make a difference?

## MAXIME DE PALM

ART & LIFE-FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES'

MONDAY 10TH MAY (14:00-15:30)



For each presentation, individual Zoom links will be provided. Please contact Sai & Michael at [cwm.europe@cwmission.org](mailto:cwm.europe@cwmission.org)

# Prayer diary May 2021

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- 1st** - Pray for today's Zoom Quiz in aid of the India Appeal.  
**2nd** - Pray for this morning's Service of Holy Communion.  
**3rd** - Pray for all those enjoying today's bank holiday.  
**4th** - Pray for the local community around Christ Church.  
**5th** - Pray for our friends at Ponders End URC, dealing with the aftermath of a recent fire.  
**6th** - Pray for the various elections taking place today.  
**7th** - Pray for those who face struggles in their faith.  
**8th** - Pray for Mark and Melanie.  
**9th** - Pray for the members of The Worship Group as they lead our worship today.  
**10th** - Pray for the work of Christian Aid.  
**11th** - Pray for the young people in our church fellowship.  
**12th** - Give thanks to God for his word to us through the Bible.  
**13th** - Pray for God's help in looking after the world around us.  
**14th** - Pray for the work of Enfield Women's Centre.  
**15th** - Pray for today's Zoom Bible Study Group session.  
**16th** - Pray for our Annual General Meeting today.  
**17th** - Pray for all those who continue to work to bring an end to the Coronavirus pandemic.  
**18th** - Pray for all those at Chase Side Primary School.  
**19th** - Pray for Feryal Clark, our local Member of Parliament.  
**20th** - Pray for our elders.  
**21st** - Pray for the work of the emergency services.  
**22nd** - Pray for those who remain isolated at this time.  
**23rd** - Pentecost: Celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
**24th** - Pray for the external groups that use our buildings.  
**25th** - Pray for God's guidance in your own life.  
**26th** - Pray for today's Local Area Group Meeting.  
**27th** - Pray for anyone you know who is suffering from sickness or ill health.  
**28th** - Give thanks to God for his unending love for us all.  
**29th** - Pray for today's Zoom Bible Study Group session.  
**30th** - Pray for our time of worship this morning.  
**31st** - Pray for all those who are beginning a half term break.

# Church diary May 2021

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Face-to-face worship services at Christ Church will continue in May. Social distancing, hand cleansing and face covering requirements will remain in place, and Track and Trace records will be maintained in line with Government guidance. Please also follow any instructions as given by the elders. For the time being, please leave the building as soon as the service has ended - refreshments will not be served.

Services at Christ Church will be streamed live via Zoom for those unable to attend in person. Please contact Mark for joining instructions.

Saturday 1st May 9:30am to 10:30am  
Zoom Bible Study Group  
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

Saturday 1st May 7:30pm  
QuiZoom (Zoom Quiz Night for the India Appeal - see page 5)  
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

**Sunday 2nd May 11:15am**  
**Revd Mark Meatcher**  
**Holy Communion (offering for the Lancaster Road URC**  
**Special Supper Ministry)**

**Sunday 9th May 11:15am**  
**The Worship Group**

Saturday 15th May 9:30am to 10:30am  
Zoom Bible Study Group  
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

**Sunday 16th May 11:15am**  
**Revd Mark Meatcher**

Sunday 16th May 12:30pm  
Church Annual General Meeting (via Zoom)  
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

**Sunday 23rd May 11:15am**  
**Anna Erickson**  
**Pentecost**

Saturday 29th May 9:30am to 10:30am  
Zoom Bible Study Group  
Please contact Mark for joining instructions

**Sunday 30th May 11:15am**  
**Revd Mark Meatcher**

## Other upcoming dates

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10th to 16th May - Christian Aid Week  
Thursday 13th May (7:30pm) - Joint Elders Meeting  
17th to 19th May - Ministers Spring School  
Saturday 22nd May (11:00am) - Farewell to Andrew Prasad  
Wednesday 26th May (7:30pm) - Local Area Group Meeting  
Saturday 5th June (2:30pm) - Induction of New Moderator,  
Revd George Watt, to Thames North Synod

Please contact Mark for more details about any of these.

## June 2021 newsletter

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The **June 2021** edition of the newsletter will be published on **Sunday 30th May**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the editor by Sunday 23rd May. Any late submissions may be held over to the following issue.

# 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

Please note that views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship, nor are they representative of church policy.

Cover image by Yoksel Zok on Unsplash