

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

“Seek first the Kingdom of God” (Matthew 6: 33)

God
is calling you

Lay Preaching Course 2024

Will you answer the call?

Remind Me @naycrumors

Message

Contact Andy Twilley to find out more.
training@urcsouthern.org.uk

URBAN THEOLOGY UNION

**Announcing the 23-24 Certificate
in
Theology & Discipleship for
Mission**

Session Dates
9 & 23 October
6 & 20 November
4 December
15 & 29 January
12 & 26 February
11 March
29 April
13 May
3 & 17 June
1 July

Join our 23-24 Cohort for the CTDM to participate in

- scholarly readings of Mark's Jesus movement led by the founder of UTU, Rev'd Dr. John Vincent
- sharing of stories in faith journey, evolution, change and discovery
- perspective building through liberation theologians, including Black liberation and Indigenous theologians.
- gain insight from guest speakers who are embedded in mission provide practical insight into what works, how to adapt, and how to flourish as a Kingdom Community.
- Our 15-sessions culminate in student led plans for local mission.

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utusheffield.org.uk

office@utusheffield.org.uk
Urban Theology Union, Victoria Hall
Methodist Church, Norfolk Street,
Sheffield, S1 2JB

Training in
pastoral care

Sunday 20th August
TIME: 14.00 – 18.30

Two seminars:
Introduction to Pastoral Care
Listening Skills

VENUE: Christ Church URC,
High St, Tonbridge TN9 1SG

EVERYONE WELCOME

For more details or to book your place, contact Andy Twilley:
training@urcsouthern.org.uk

Small Church Network

The third get together

An opportunity for all those involved in leadership and members of small churches

BUILDINGS! Nightmare or Sanctuaries?
Making the most of what we've got with limited resources

Co: Saturday 2nd July 2023

Venue: The United Reformed Church, Rochester,
The Parade, Victoria Street, Rochester Kent ME1 1XN

Time: 10.30 – 2.00 pm

Please contact Martin Hayward your Mission and Development Officer
missionofficer@urcsouthern.org.uk for more information and to book a place.

N.B. please bring your own pack lunch

CANCELLED

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Synod Prayer Days

Deployment Missions Outreach
Concerns Future
Congregations Buildings Age profiles
Evangelism Decline

**We talk a lot together,
in Councils, Synod Area
and Synod meetings**

But do we listen?

*Do we spend time listening
to God?*

**This is an opportunity to listen to
God together as Synod (Area)!**

EKSA / WKESSA	Sat 8 July	Cade Road Ashford
S&SSA	Sat 22 July	Crawley URC
SLSA	Sat 29 July	Crossways URC, Elephant & Castle
CSUA	Sat 9 Sep	Emmanuel United Church, Eastbourne

All days start at 10am for 10:30 finishing at 4pm



Synod Prayer Days Agenda

10:00 Arrivals
10:30 Opening Worship + Intro
10:45 General Prayers for Synod and Synod Area
11:15 Prayer Sessions
 Individual Prayers
 Lectio Divina
 Centring Prayer
 Craft & Writing
 Prayer Walks
 Labyrinth
 1:1 prayers
Group prayer activity at 11:30
 Lectio Divina or Listening Prayer

12:30 Lunch
13:15 Gathering Worship
13:30 Prayer Sessions
 Same as in the morning
Group prayer activity at 13:45

15:15 Plenary session to bring
what we heard together
16:00 Close

**These days are an opportunity to
listen to God together!**

PLEASE NOTE: Items for the next issue of “Mission & Vision” need to be sent to [Andy](#) by **14 July**.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website
southernsynodurc.org.uk



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Issue 144

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EXPLORE YOUR CALL

November 22

19.00 – 20.30

An evening on ZOOM to find out what it means to become a...

**Minister of Word & Sacrament
Church Related Community Worker
Local Church Leader
Lay Preacher**

With input from a range of speakers, this will be an exciting opportunity to hear insights from those who are engaged in these ministries, to ask your questions, and most importantly, to **“Explore YOUR call”**.

To find out more, or to book a place, contact Andy Twilley
training@urcsouthern.org.uk

PRESIDING AT A FUNERAL



17 August 2023

10.30 – 13.00

Crawley URC

A training session to explore all aspects of conducting a funeral service, particularly designed for Elders or Lay Preachers who might be called upon to serve in this way.

To express interest in attending, please contact Andy Twilley:
training@urcsouthern.org.uk

Church in focus

S&SSA

Convening a Pastoral Committee (Surrey & Sussex Synod Area) is both a privilege and challenge, with a wide brief with churches and ministers. Starting late November 2022, when due to have just 4 ministers for 30 churches, has meant much “catching up” to be done after 5 retirements in 12 months. Helping churches adapt to a new world with so few ordained ministers, reducing from 16 ministers 4 years ago to a target of 8.5 in 4 years’ time, means much challenging re-thinking of our life and how we work. The LMMR focus on the local church’s mission, and the priority ministry needs to help make that work, remains central to our planning. We have 7 new Visionary Companions to help 14 churches prayerfully consider their life, resources and relationships, and understand how to move forward. We welcome prayers and encouragement and God’s blessing in that work.

*John Bunker
Pastoral Committee Convenor*