

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

"He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 31:8

families on faith adventures

@ home

A new weekly resource produced by the URC Children and Youth Work Team.

Families on Faith Adventures @ Home is a 'pick and mix' selection of activities, games, prayers & challenges based around a different Bible reading each week. Download a copy from URCL:

<https://moodle.urc.org.uk/course/view.php?id=208>

or from the URC website <https://urc.org.uk/resources-for-children-and-youth>



IMAGINE... *Effective leadership at every level of your church.*

Leaders growing in Christ-like character.

Leaders confident about God's call on their lives.

Leaders equipped to lead.

LEADERSHIP is a proven factor in growing healthy churches, yet so many churches struggle to find leaders, and many in leadership feel ill equipped in a changing church and world.

WOULD YOU be interested in joining such a course. Contact Andy Twilley to find out more: training@urcsouthern.org.uk

PASSING ON INFORMATION is one way we can support our friends and family. But what if we pass on fake news? The BBC says that if a person puts something out to their social media group of 20 people, who then each put it to a further 20 people, then in five 'passes' the message has reached 3.2 million people. That's how easily things can go viral.

So I was thinking – as Christian, if we put out something of the Good News of Jesus into our social media group, who in turn pass it on... WOW! ...and folk certainly need to be hearing good news.

PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

COMING SOON: an opportunity to participate in this 2 session course online. Delegates need to be recommended by their Church. Interested in attending?

Please contact Andy Twilley:
training@urcsouthern.org.uk



PLEASE NOTE: A copy of this news sheet can be found and downloaded from the news section of the Synod website: www.southernsynodurc.org.uk

SUNDAY SERVICE: If your church is unable to have a service on Sundays, why not check out the services being run by the URC each Sunday morning at 10.00. [CLICK HERE](#)



Synod Office: East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP
Tel: 020 8688 3730 office@urcsouthern.org.uk

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CONDUCTING FUNERALS SEMINAR

Following the success of this seminar last week, several other folk have expressed interest in attending it & so I am looking at running it again in the forthcoming days.

Interested? Then please get in touch with me:

Andy: training@urcsouthern.org.uk

FIND THE BIBLE BOOKS PUZZLE

There are sixteen books of the bible hidden in the paragraph below. Can you find them all?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain Luke, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a job. We want it to be a most fascinating little moment for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes the preacher to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how you will compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Who will be first to send their answers to Andy:

Training@urcsouthern.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Are you an Elder, Church Secretary, Volunteer, Safeguarding lead, Minister or just wanting to learn more about Safeguarding?

Please email me at:

safeguarding@urcsouthern.org.uk with your name, role, Church and availability (weekends or mid-week).

If there are specific topics which you would like to learn about, please state these in your email.

*Belinda Nielsen
Synod Safeguarding Officer.*



Church Leadership Programme

Transforming leadership from the inside out

Strengthening personal qualities, insights and skills for effective Christian leadership

FIND OUT MORE

SAFEGUARDING DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING & SELF ISOLATION

The Coronavirus (Covid-19) continues to emerge in the UK and throughout the rest of the world. At these difficult times, we would like to help churches not only promote everyone's wellbeing but also consider actions for those who are more vulnerable in the next weeks and months. Unfortunately, other countries have seen spikes in financial abuse, fraud, online abuse and domestic abuse during this time. So now more than ever, it is important that we maintain telephone contact with those who we know to be at risk and seek support and advice from the Synod Safeguarding Officer where there are concerns.

The Government have issued guidance on supporting victims of domestic abuse which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse>

The URC's guide to supporting people affected by domestic abuse, Appendix R of Good Practice 5, is now available to download and can be found here:

https://urc.org.uk/images/safeguarding/GP5/Appendix_R_A_guide_to_supporting_those_affected_by_domestic_abuse.pdf

Please do not hesitate to call me, Synod Safeguarding Officer for support at 07716 640 596 or safeguarding@urcsouthern.org.uk

*Belinda Nielsen
Synod Safeguarding Officer.*



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Discipleship Development Fund

[Contact Andy Twilley to find out more.](#)

INTERIM MODERATOR

Interested in finding out more about the role & responsibilities of an Interim Moderator?

We are running a training day on

July 29th

St. John's URC, Orpington,

led by Rev Jennifer Millington.

It will start with Registration at 10.00, ready for a prompt 10.30 start, finishing at 16.00

Interested in joining? Please contact

[ANDY TWILLEY](#)

God's Big Picture

Presented by Andy Twilley

DATES
22/9/20
27/10/20
24/11/20
26/1/21
23/2/21
23/3/21

Tuesday mornings
10.30 – 12.30
Starting: 22 September

For details
training@urcsouthern.org.uk

VENUE
Redhill URC

Understanding & Handling God's Word

Interested in finding out more about using ZOOM? If so, we are considering running a seminar to help you explore its potential.

Interested? [CLICK HERE](#)

PLEASE NOTE: all items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Opuene](#) by 8 May.

Church in focus

NEW MALDEN AND THAMES DITTON

Now that we are under lockdown it seems strange sharing about a Pastorate that is not functioning as it did 3 months ago. New Malden reordered its sanctuary 3 years ago, the space created produced such a positive reaction that the church now refers to it as The Space. Alongside worship the space has organised fortnightly Lunchtime Concerts given by students from the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music. These concerts of a high standard have gained quite a following. Thames Ditton or Speer Road Church as it is now called has a loyal older congregation that have been finding maintaining worship and church life increasingly difficult. A project called Open Lounge targeted at carers and children on their way home from the local infant school has proved popular. Please pray for God's guidance as the churches consider their future after the lockdown.

Rev. Peter Flint