URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION WISION

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

Hebrews 10: 23

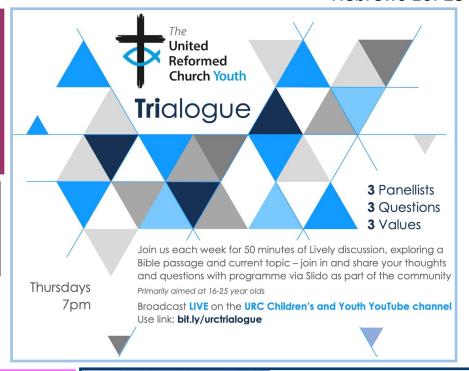
ADVANCED NOTICE

The Climate Sunday initiative is calling on all local churches, denominations, 'streams' and networks to hold a climate-focused service on 6 September preferably, but definitely during the period of 1 September - 4 October, which is recognised by a growing number of denominations as 'Creationtide'.

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

PLEASE NOTE: all items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to Opuene by 22 May.



TWO PERSPECTIVES OF CRISIS



This symbol is Chinese for CRISIS, yet can be interpreted in 2 ways:

DANGER or OPPORTUNITY

Let's allow God to reveal to us how our present "Crisis" can be viewed and responded to as an exciting "Opportunity". We might be surprised by what God opens up for us!

CONDUCTING FUNERALS SEMINAR

May 20th Starting 14.00

Interested in attending then please get in touch: Andy: training@urcsouthern.org.uk





Synod Office: East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP

Tel: 020 8688 3730 office@urcsouthern.org.uk

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PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

SESSION 1 of this 2 part training course will take place on June 12th 10.00—12.00.

Delegates need to be recommended by their Church. Interested in attending?

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



WHICHEVER YOU HAVE...





Cheer someone with a call TODAY!

ANSWERS: FIND THE BIBLE BOOKS PUZZLE

Revelation, Numbers, Mark, Luke, Job, Amos, Judges, Esther, Lamentations, Hebrews, Peter, Titus, Kings, Ruth, Acts, James

Congratulations to everyone who found all 16.

Sue Knight From Reigate Park URC was the fastest response.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

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

Please email me at:

<u>safeguarding@urcsouthern.org.uk</u> 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-support-for-uictims-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 d omestic 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 FundContact Andy Twilley to find out more.





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



TWICKENHAM AND HAMPTON HILL URCS

... are closed, at least the doors are! Here in leafy south-west London, members & friends are keeping in touch (virtually) & we have a half hour Zoom Sunday service, with emails of the script to all on the church lists & printed copies for those without internet.

The challenge for us all is how we will start again and imagining new ways to be church in our communities, with likely medium-term restrictions on numbers and vulnerable groups meeting. Our Community Support Manager, Clare, started working with the two churches in September 2019, two months after me, and has made many positive new relationships, starting new groups for young and old, including music for people living with dementia, but she is now furloughed.

Please pray for the people who are part of our churches, and for all our communities as we look ahead in faith, hope and love.

Rev. Stephen Lewis (minister)



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