

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

John 1: 5

A CHRISTMAS LIKE NO OTHER

Online presentations, ideas and discussion about how to celebrate the birth of Christ with children, young people and families in a reimagined and COVID secure way

Thursday 12th November 2020
10-12noon

Book at
www.separtnership.org.uk/boost



BOOST

ONLINE ROCKET FUEL FOR
CHILDREN'S, YOUTH & FAMILIES'
WORKERS, CHURCH LEADERS,
VOLUNTEERS AND PARENTS/CARERS

Armchair Mission

A ZOOM meeting on 24th November 2020

Is it possible to 'do mission' with the present limitations the pandemic has created? A time to explore and discuss ways of reaching out during restrictions.

We will be looking at the acronym 'ACORN' developed by Michael Harvey (founder of the National Weekend of Invitation) as well as sharing stories of growth and health in these challenging times.

To register your interest please email

missionofficer@urcsouthern.org by 16th November



Group for
Evangelism
And
Renewal
*within the United
Reformed Church*

The Group for Evangelism and Renewal (GEAR) is planning a short series of prayers for the URC ahead of November's Mission Council, beginning on 29 October at 8.15pm for four Thursdays on the dedicated Facebook page. A guest will introduce some prayer needs in the URC family, and a panel will lead prayers for 15 minutes while others can chip in via the comment facility. Meanwhile, short inspirational prayer videos are being uploaded each Thursday. For more information, please contact GEAR's Prayer Secretary, Richard Turnbull, [here](#).

CALLED TO PREACH?

The Lay Preachers training course has now run for 3 years with over 50 delegates enjoying an exciting and inspiring journey.

The next course will start January 2021.

Do you know anyone who might be interested?

Please contact me to find out more: [Andy Twilley](#)



The
United
Reformed
Church

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Issue 80

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GROW YOUR MINISTRY

November 7th
10.30 – 12.30

4 topics for you to choose from

<p>Equal Partners: Empowering Children & Young People TOM HACKETT</p> <p>Come and learn more about the URC's "Charter for Children" and discuss how it can be used in our local churches. Join us for a conversation exploring children and young people as equal disciples – able to play their part in the mission of God.</p>	<p>Empowering Our Generation ANDY TWILLEY</p> <p>We can transform this generation by creating intentional, dynamic relationships in which we enable one another to maximise our God-given potential through sharing experience, encouragement and challenge. This seminar will explore how we can help one another get <i>"fit in our faith"</i> & truly fulfil our potential.</p>
<p>Eco-Church: good for your church, good for the world, good for you. ALEX MABBS</p> <p>Eco-Church is a free tool that helps Churches and Church members respond creatively to the environmental crisis. It covers every aspect of life, not just buildings, and Churches have found that it opens new doors into life-affirming mission and discipleship. Alex will outline how Eco-Church works and how it can be a blessing to all. He will also introduce some simple ideas that can get Churches started in making a difference on an over-heating planet.</p>	<p>"Strengthening the Churches life & Mission" MARTIN HAYWARD</p> <p>The future will always have a church, the question is 'what will it look like?' As we go through the pandemic and prepare to walk out the other side what will it mean for your church and your witness? During our time together we will look at how different churches have coped, what we have learnt, what we need to take into the future, what we need to leave behind and how we can make changes that last.</p>

Choose your seminar and then book your place by e mailing Andy Twilley

training@urcsouthern.org.uk

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EXPLORE YOUR CALL

November 18

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

EXPLORE YOUR CALL

How might God be calling you to serve?

This event is to help you understand different roles in the life of Church which God might be calling you to. Have your questions answered and discover how to pursue what God is saying to you.

SPEAKERS

Bridget Banks
Angela Rigby
Jo Patterson
Ted Bellingham
Pam Tolhurst
Mark Minott
Sue Knight
Bill Bowman
Hosted by: Andy Twilley



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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:
all items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Opune](#) by 6 November



A FREE conference for all those engaging with under-fives in faith settings running over three consecutive evenings.

Book via Eventbrite: bit.ly/faith-with-under-5s

7pm to 8.45pm Tuesday 24th November - Faith with under 5s in wider mixed-age groups

Keynote: Becky May with discussion and small group time

7pm to 8.45pm Wednesday 25th November - Faith with under 5s in church worship (creche and pew)

Keynote: Gill Ambrose with discussion and small group time

7pm to 8.45pm Thursday 26th November - Faith with under 5s in toddler groups

Keynote: Alison Hulse with discussion and small group time

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

Church in HASSOCKS URC

The church is ideally situated in the middle of the village on the high street; worship took place Sunday and Thursday mornings; a number of community organisations used the premises; there was a thriving toddler group; and various ecumenical activities took place including Messy Church and Godly Play. Then lock down hit!

Since then we have strived to keep in touch with one another; to remind the community that though the building was shut God was still alive and active, and hosted the local Food Bank set up by the Anglican Parish. In September we opened again for worship and at the time of writing are looking to see what activities might return and how we can still be creative in our engagement with the community. All this as the church contemplates a vacancy from next summer.

Our prayer is that we will stay focused on the role God has called us to in this community.

Rev. Darryl Sinclair