

# URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."*

**Isaiah 40: 31**

## Equipping Small Group Leaders in your Church



**Led by Revd. Andy Twilley**  
Training & Development Officer for Southern Synod

**Where:** St. Andrews, Canterbury

**When:** Wednesday July 21  
Wednesday Aug. 25

**Time:** 11.00 – 15.00

Creating dynamic and inspirational small groups within the local church can transform both individual members as well as the vitality of the church. Over 2 days, 4 seminars will be presented:

- How to be Better Group Leader
- Using the Bible creatively in your group
- Refreshing prayer and worship in your group
- Your group can grow

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

To find out more or to book a place please contact:

**Andy Twilley:** [training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

## PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

Interested in attending the  
sacraments course?

Contact Andy Twilley  
to find out more or to  
register:



[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**August 12th and September 2nd**

**10.00—12.00**

**Oxted URC**

**July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**10.30 – 12.30**  
**Caterham URC**



**LICC LEARNING**



**Synod Office:** East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP  
Tel: 020 8688 3730 [office@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:office@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**Issue 96**

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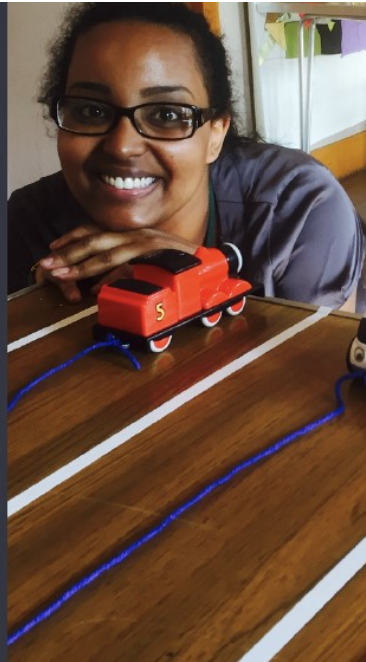
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TIME FOR GOD

## VOLUNTEERING CHANGES LIVES

Has your church  
considered hosting a Time  
for God Volunteer?



**Time for God is ready  
to place a high-quality  
volunteer in your  
church.**

Over the past 60 years, Time for God has been matching volunteers to transformational projects in churches and charities across the UK. We are currently seeking some new church partners.



## FIND OUT MORE



Group for  
Evangelism  
And  
Renewal  
within the United  
Reformed Church

[www.gear.org.uk](http://www.gear.org.uk)

**New Edition of In GEAR available.**

[http://www.gear.org.uk/publications/  
in-gear-magazine/](http://www.gear.org.uk/publications/in-gear-magazine/)

## SERMON OF THE YEAR

**"Sermon of the Year"** is a competition organised by "Preach Magazine" in partnership with, the Langham Partnership, The Methodist Church and SPCK. Finalists were selected from a host of entries from across the country & from all Christian denominations.

This year their sermons had to focus on the theme of 'Cross the Divide'.

**Congratulations** to Katrina Clifford (a member of Trinity URC, Wimbledon) for being one of the three finalists for this year's competition.



## Church Leadership Programme

Transforming leadership from the inside out

Strengthening personal qualities, insights, and skills for effective Christian leadership

**2021 to 2022**

### The Programme

The Church Leadership Programme (CLP) is a comprehensive programme to refresh experienced lay and ordained leaders in authentic leadership, helping church leaders to develop external skills from their core sense of being. A mix of physical and virtual learning, the course threads from September to June every academic year.

### Dates

The first residential will take place September 17-19 2021 at Hinsley Hall, Leeds

### To find out more?

CONTACT: Philippa Linton: Administrator (Education & Learning)

Email: [philippa.linton@urc.org.uk](mailto:philippa.linton@urc.org.uk)

Direct number: 07801 993222

**Deadline for registrations  
Friday 30 July 2021**

**CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE**



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## URC Online Safeguarding Training

The following dates are available for the FOUNDATION module:

15th June 2021 7pm  
12th July 2021 7pm  
24th July 2021 10am  
3rd August 2021 12pm  
3rd August 2021 7pm  
16th September 2021 10am

(This training will last for approximately 2 hours long).

The following dates are available for the INTERMEDIATE module:

17th June 2021 10am  
17th June 2021 6.30pm  
13th July 2021 12pm  
24th July 2021 1pm  
12th August 2021 12pm  
12th August 2021 6pm  
16th September 2021 6.30pm

(This training will last for approximately 2.5 hours long).

Please note that you will be required to enrol and attend the Foundation training before being enrolled on to the Intermediate training, despite any previous workplace training or expertise.

To book on to this training, please email your name, church and preferred date to [safeguarding@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**NOW OPEN**

## JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

*Touring to churches and schools this Advent  
Share the joy and wonder of Christmas with your local community*

"... a magnificent production. Our church members and their guests were powerfully moved."

Rev David Senior

"A wonderful production, so accessible to every kind of audience, especially non-church goers. Opening up the meaning of Christmas."

Rev Novette Headley

"... the best of both worlds: a vibrant piece of entertainment and an opportunity to step back, to reflect, and to refocus."

John Sherbourne, Moortown Baptist Church

Watch now: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIQm2j6hDoE>

[www.springdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi](http://www.springdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi)

### PLEASE NOTE

All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Opuene](mailto:Opuene) by 9 July.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website

[southernsynodurc.org.uk](http://southernsynodurc.org.uk)

### ITEMS: FREE FOR COLLECTION

With the closure of the church at Thames Ditton, there are a wide range of items which any URC church in Southern Synod can have if they have a use for them. To see the full list of what is available, please contact the Synod property administrator, [Mark Price-Haworth](mailto:Mark Price-Haworth)

## CALLED TO PREACH?

The Lay Preachers  
Training Course

January 2022

Who is God calling?



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## LICC LEARNING HUB

July 31st: 10.30—12.30

**This event is open to anyone to attend: ministers, elders and members of the congregation so come and discover the potential of this exciting journey: it would be great to see representatives from all Southern Synod Churches present.**

A learning hub is a series of eight workshops over a period of 2 years which takes a group of 10 churches on a journey exploring how to rediscover the reality of being missional, disciple making communities.

The New Testament sees "*Whole-life discipleship*" as being at the heart of the Christian life yet all too often churches have lost sight of this core aspect of who they are called to be.

Join us on July 31 to be enthused & find out more. Registration to attend the vision day is VITAL in view of restricted numbers.

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)



MOAT CHURCH, EAST GRINSTEAD

AND REDHILL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Moat Church in East Grinstead celebrates 150 years of witness this year. After rearranging plans of the festivities to fit in with Covid restrictions, at last they hope to go ahead with a special service on the 8th August.

The Moderator preached at Moat on the 20th June about moving forward and was much appreciated by the members and friends present. Redhill URC helped Moat worship on the 30th May with members of Redhill preaching, reading and providing music; another act of cooperation between the two churches that inspires and will blossom.

Meanwhile at Redhill, during the lockdown the gardens around the church building were given a total refresh ready for the successful reopening of the worship space. Redhill plan to return their halls to full use starting with the uniformed organisations. Please pray for both congregations who after many upsets over the past 18 months look forward to a more settled time to renew and prosper and a chance to rethink their role in their communities, offering rich worship to those within and those beyond their walls.

Rev. Martin Hazel