

# URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."* Prov. 3: 5 - 6



**Reigate Park Church**  
Park Lane East, Reigate RH2 8BD



**An Introduction to Wellbeing and Mental Health  
in Children & Young People**



**Tuesday 23 November, Park Room**  
**7.30pm, to include refreshments**  
**led by Ella Sowton**

*Ella works for the YMCA and is heavily involved in their Waves Project*

For further details contact Pat Denchfield, [pat.denchfield@reigateparkchurch.org](mailto:pat.denchfield@reigateparkchurch.org)

**THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING – ALL WELCOME!**





## Online Youth Mental Health First Aid

Learn to support young people

- Gain an in-depth understanding of mental health and factors that can affect wellbeing in the youth sector
- Develop practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Feel confident to step in, reassure and support a young person in distress
- Enhance your interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening and learn to champion self-care

For more info and to book, contact:



Tom Hackett  
Children's & Youth Development  
Officer  
Email: [cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk)

Visit the MHFA England website at [mhfaengland.org](http://mhfaengland.org)  
Find us on social media @MHFAEngland

**<https://evening-mhfa.eventbrite.co.uk>**

**Fully Funded or  
Subsidised Spaces  
Available**

**Evening Course  
18:30-21:30**

**Mon 15, Tues 16**

**Mon 22, Tues 23**

**November 2021**

**(Must attend all 4 sessions)**

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## CHILDREN & YOUTH WORK... IN MY CHURCH?

Working with children and young people in our churches has always been a challenge. Increasingly churches employ youth workers to address the gaps. But many cannot.

We are always looking for new ways to provide help and to support children on their life journey and encourage self-exploration in matters of faith.

Synod children's & youth committee is exploring a possible solution to providing youth work in your church using a tried and tested model that is less expensive than employing a youth worker as well as providing an opportunity for a young person or student. What do you think?



If you have one or more young person/s looking for part time employment...

If you as a church would like to consider how such a scheme could benefit you...

If you have a young person interested in working in your own church community...

**If you would like to hear more contact [cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk) or call 07455 840 676**

## Westminster College Cambridge

A resource centre for learning

### Creating New Christian Communities (TMM1397)

A 3-day course for those interested in  
Pioneering and Fresh Expressions of ministry  
**In person and online**

Pre-course preparation via Moodle (Virtual Learning Environment). Classes at Westminster and on Zoom.

This course will enable you to:

- Explore biblical resources and relevant theological themes for the practice of church planting
- Deepen your understanding of what 'church' means today in different traditions and what it has meant in the past
- Discuss what it means to create and sustain new expressions of church
- Reflect critically and theologically on contemporary examples of new Christian communities



**Dates:**  
Mon 6th Dec 9am—  
Weds 8th Dec 1pm

**Course cost:** £105  
(URC), £155 (non-URC)  
(Bursaries available)

**Accommodation and meals for 3 days:** £170 (URC), £246 (non-URC)  
(other meal / pricing options available)

For more information and a booking form please contact the Tutorial Office  
01223 330632  
[admin@westminster.cam.ac.uk](mailto:admin@westminster.cam.ac.uk)



## URC Youth Leaders' Gathering JUBILEE!

The URC Youth Leaders' Gathering will take place from 28-30 January 2022 at Whitmoor Lakes.

It's a gathering for all who work with young people aged 11-25 that are in any way connected with the URC (volunteers and employed) in uniformed organisations, Pilots, youth groups or any other setting.

Join us for a weekend connecting with other youth leaders across the URC:

- gather to share your situations, stories, needs, dreams and ideas.
- gather to receive inspiration and resources for your ministry.
- gather for a time of reflection and worship, encouragement and fellowship.
- gather for some 1-2-1 mentoring support.
- gather to discover what the URC and URC Youth offers you and your young people.

This event will be in the same place, at the same time as [URC Youth Assembly](#)

This is a wonderful opportunity to have a taste of URC Youth Assembly, or even to bring young people along!

[urc.org.uk/events-and-opportunities](http://urc.org.uk/events-and-opportunities)



**FUNDED SPACES AVAILABLE  
CONTACT  
[CYDO@URCSOUTHERN.ORG.UK](mailto:CYDO@URCSOUTHERN.ORG.UK)**



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



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## LAY PREACHING COURSE 2022

This 8 session course will commence on January 27th. The sessions will take place at 4 weekly intervals and there are 2 time slots to choose from:  
Either: 2—4.30 or 6.30—9.00

Is God Calling **YOU** or someone you know to be trained as a Lay Preacher? Contact Andy Twilley to find out more or to register your interest.

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

### PLEASE NOTE

All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Opuene](mailto:Opuene) by **12 November**.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website  
[southernsynodurc.org.uk](http://southernsynodurc.org.uk)

### WIDE SELECTION OF CHURCH ITEMS AVAILABLE AT

#### EPSOM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Chairs, tables, office & kitchen items... and so much more.

To find out what is available, please contact:

Mrs Pamela Galliers (Church Secretary)

Tel 0208 33940229 Mob 07876 307106

email address: [pamjo@talktalk.net](mailto:pamjo@talktalk.net)

## Church in focus

### REFLECTIONS FROM WKESSA AREA LEADER

A 60-mile long geographical sausage, curving from Sheerness beside the Thames to Bexhill beside the Channel, the WKESSA territory has never been densely populated with churches of our tradition. This may be one reason why we have made enthusiastic use of Local Church Leaders since long before they were called that. Nine of our 22 churches have successful experience of this model. Most of them have grown in membership. This does not mean our six stipendiary ministers work any less hard than elsewhere: each of them has a wider Synod Area or Synod role as well as a congregational base.

If God were minded to set us some homework, I think it might be to work more at sharing resources between the WKESSA churches. That might involve money but, more importantly, growing godly leaders willing to serve where their gifts are best used.

*John Ellis (WKESSA Area Leader)*