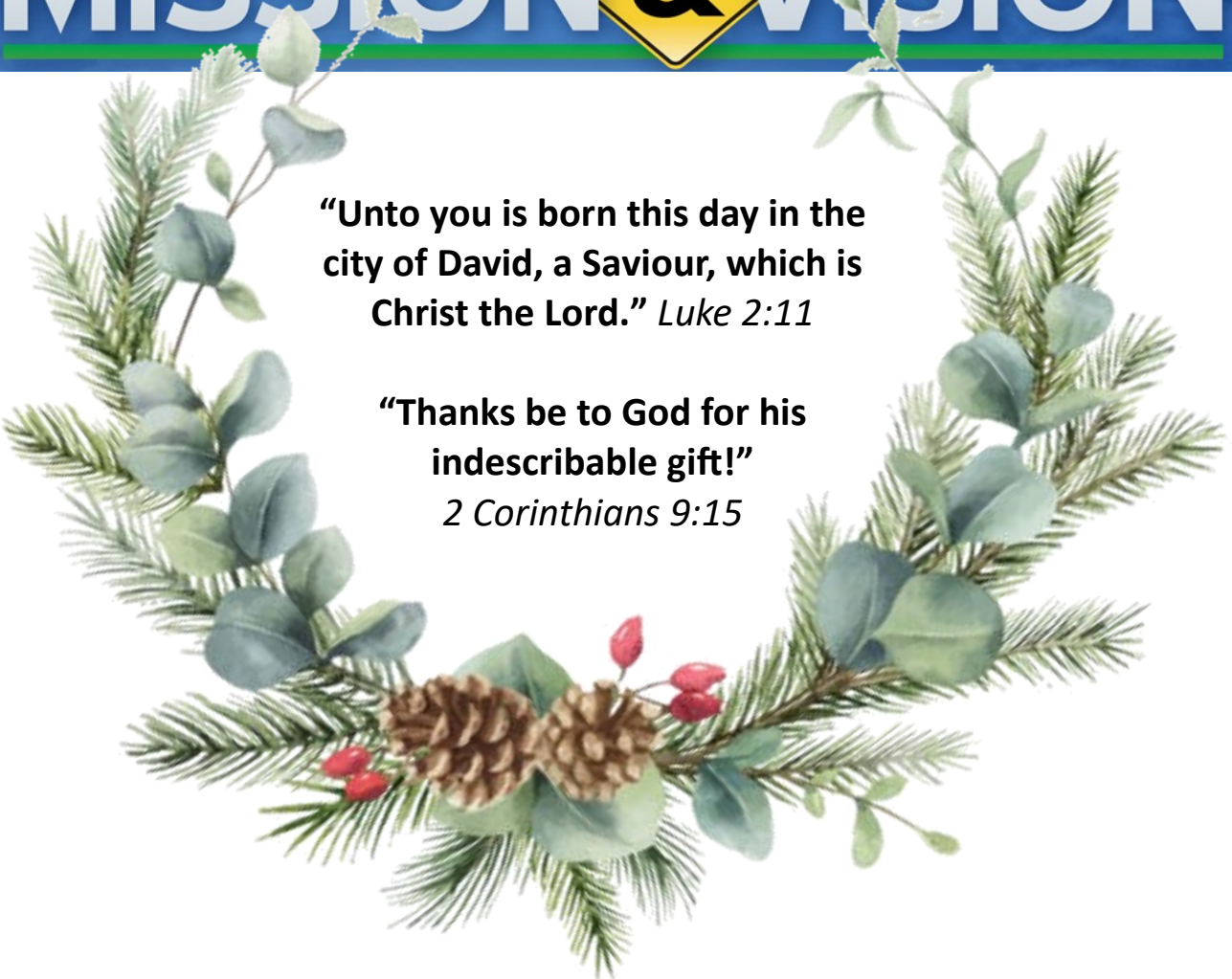
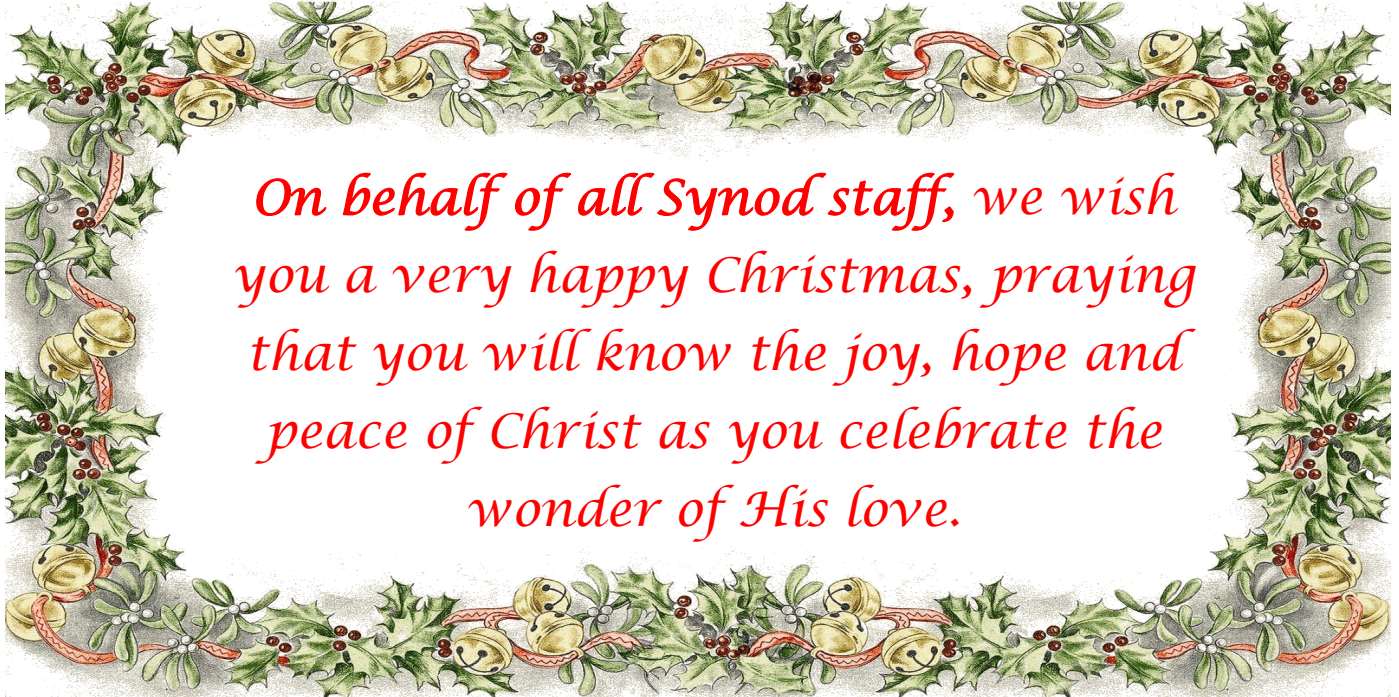


URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION



"Unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." *Luke 2:11*

**"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"
*2 Corinthians 9:15***



On behalf of all Synod staff, we wish you a very happy Christmas, praying that you will know the joy, hope and peace of Christ as you celebrate the wonder of His love.

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PRESIDING AT A FUNERAL

8 February 2022

14.00 – 16.00

Geddes Place URC, Bexleyheath

A training session to explore all aspects of conducting a funeral service, particularly designed for Elders or Lay Preachers who might be called upon to serve in this way. To express interest in attending, please contact Andy Twilley: training@urcsouthern.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE

Equipping Small Group Leaders in your Church



Refreshing Prayer & Worship in your group

This seminar explores imaginative ways to incorporate prayer and worship in your small groups. It is ideal for either new leaders or existing leaders, to get renewed, refreshed, and re-envisioned for leading a group.

Led by Revd. Andy Twilley

Training & Development Officer for Southern Synod

Where: St. Andrews, Cheam

When: Tuesday January 25

Time: 11.00 – 13.00

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

Nigel Dickinson: nigel@33sandy.co.uk

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

Visit the MHFA England website at mhfaengland.org
Find us on social media @MHFAEngland

Evening Course 18:30-21:30

Tues 8, Thurs 10

Tues 15, Thurs 17

February 2022

<https://feb-mhfa.eventbrite.co.uk>

Morning Course 9:30-12:30

Mon 21, Weds 23

Mon 28, Weds 30

March 2022

<https://march-mhfa.eventbrite.co.uk>

PLEASE NOTE: All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to Opuene by 7 Jan.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website southernsynodurc.org.uk



Faith and Science in the Local Church 2022

A Workshop for Christian Leaders

Friday 7th January – 9:30am – 6pm & Saturday 8th January – 9am – 4pm

FIND OUT MORE



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

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URC Youth Leaders' Gathering **JUBILEE!**

The URC Youth Leaders' Gathering will take place from 28-30 January 2022 at [Whitemoor 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



JUBILEE!

28-30 January '22

Whitemoor Lakes, Alphenes, Staffs

CELEBRATE THE PAST
CELEBRATE THE NOW
CREATE THE FUTURE

BOOK IN BEFORE 1 JANUARY 2022 AT
www.urc.org.uk/urcya

Contact the Children's & Youth Work Office if you would prefer a printed booking form.

Post: Children's & Youth Work Office,
United Reformed Church,
86 Tavistock Place,
London WC1H 9RT
Tel: 020 7916 8083
Email: children.youth@urc.org.uk

A WEEKEND OF FUN, FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP INCLUDING:

- YOUTH DECIDES — DISCUSSIONS
- WORKSHOPS AND KEYNOTES
- WORSHIP
- SILENT DISCO

COST ON OR BEFORE 11 NOVEMBER: £115
COST FROM 12 NOVEMBER: £145

AGE: YEAR 10 STUDENTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND 13 STUDENTS IN SCOTLAND UP TO 26 YEARS (INCLUSIVE)

Age limit extended for 2022 only due to cancellation of YA2021.
Creche available for children 0-5 years old.

FUNDED SPACES AVAILABLE
CONTACT
CYDO@URCSOUTHERN.ORG.UK



Church Leadership Programme

Transforming Leadership from the Inside Out

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

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.

To find out more:

<https://urc.org.uk/church-leadership-programme>



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PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

Interested in attending the
sacraments course?

Feb 28th & March 28th

14.00 – 16.00

Oxted URC

Contact Andy Twilley to find out more or to register:

training@urcsouthern.org.uk



The Significance of Worship in a Changing World

A 24 hour conference to explore how worship might need to be developed in the post-covid world of the mid 21st century, and reflecting on the findings of the British Ritual Innovation Under Covid-19 Research project.

Sessions will include:

Eco-worship, Creation and Climate Change
Intergenerational worship
Worship in the Post-Covid context

Date: 26th - 27th April 2022 (lunchtime to lunchtime)

Venue: Kings Park Conference Centre, Northampton

Cost: £80 full board, if booked before 16th December 2021
£90 full board, if booked after 16th December 2021

The conference is organised by the *Theology of Worship Group*, an informal group of mainly ministers and lay preachers of the United Reformed Church who meet quarterly, on-line, to explore issues relating to worship. The meetings are open to all.

Further details to follow soon, but register your interest now at:
john@spiritualseekers.co.uk

Church in focus YOU?

During the past year each newsletter has included an item provided by a Minister, Local Church Leader or a member of Synod staff. As the year draws to an end, I want to leave you with a couple of thoughts to reflect on. Some of you will have heard me talk about the fact that the plural of "disciple" is "church". This means that each of us is in effect "church" whatever we are doing, and wherever we go.

So as you look back to 2021, what has that meant for you?

As you look forward, what is God calling you personally to do or be as his "church"?

Finally if later in the year instead of this item on the newsletter focussing on a group of believers, what if it was you, what would you say about how God is at work in and through your life, and what prayer requests would you ask the wider church to be praying for you?

As we all reflect on these thoughts, let's allow the Holy Spirit to focus our minds and hearts on how He is calling us as individuals to be His church in 2022.

Rev. Andy Twilley



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