



# 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.*



# 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*

## TALKING ABOUT... OUTDOOR CHURCH

Exploring the  
opportunities of  
worshipping outside



Thursday, 26th January 7-8pm on Zoom  
Book your free place at: [bit.ly/TAoutdoorchurch](https://bit.ly/TAoutdoorchurch)



## LAY PREACHING COURSE 2023

This 8 session course will  
commence on January 23rd.



The sessions will take place at Caterham  
URC from 11.00—13.30.

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)

## 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:



Children's & Youth Development Officers  
Mersey Synod - Steven Mitchell [cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk)  
Southern Synod - Tom Hackett [cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk)

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

Fully funded places  
available for participants  
from Southern Synod  
Book via the link below

[www.bit.ly/february-mhfa](https://www.bit.ly/february-mhfa)

2 Feb - 3 Feb 2023  
Northern College,  
Manchester M14 5JP



**NEWS FLASH**

THREE MORE PEOPLE from  
Southern Synod have been  
accepted to train for  
ministry, following the  
recent assessment board  
conference.

**PRAISE THE LORD!**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need  
to be sent to [Andy](#) by 6 January.

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

# 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**

Training in

**pastoral  
care**

January 24: SESSION 1: Introduction to Pastoral Care  
February 21: SESSION 2: Building the team and Boundaries  
March 21: SESSION 3: Developing your Listening Skills

VENUE: Faversham United Church (LEP),  
Preston Street, Faversham ME13 8PE.

TIME: 10.30 – 13.00

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

For more details or to book your place, contact Andy Twilley:  
[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**PROFESSOR DAVID BLOCK**

**GOD AND  
GALILEO**

**The battle for the soul of the world**

Professor David Block explores the relationship between  
contemporary science and faith

**FREE  
EVENT**  
Donations  
Welcome

**SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 2023**

**2:30PM**

**All Saints' Church  
Tudeley, Kent  
TN11 0NZ**  
(Doors open 2pm)



LIMITED SEATING, BOOKING ADVISABLE  
Booking & more information on our website  
[www.tudeley.org](http://www.tudeley.org)

or contact the church office: email [chadmain@tudeley.org](mailto:chadmain@tudeley.org)

**WHAT IS DEMENTIA AND WHAT CAN THE CHURCH DO TO HELP?**

<https://southernsynodurc.org.uk/advocating-for-the-elderly/>

For further information

follow the link or e-mail [drjanethopewell@outlook.com](mailto:drjanethopewell@outlook.com)

Church in **focus**

**MARSH GREEN & OXTED URC**

There was a time when the main role of an interim moderator was to facilitate the introduction of a candidate minister to a pastorate. But that was in the days when potential ministers could be plucked like ripe fruit, from low hanging branches. Now, I see my task as being more about challenging, encouraging, and assisting local elders, and members, to see themselves as heirs to the future of the church - helping them to find their vision, and to carry that forward. I am delighted to report that the elders at both Marsh Green (St John's) and Oxted (Church of the Peace of God) have understood that. Of course, if God, in God's wisdom, introduces the right minister, she or he will be welcomed lovingly. But until then, the churches are striking out, with growing confidence, and discovering gifts they didn't know they had. And that is quite exciting.

*Stuart Dew  
Interim Moderator*



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

**Issue 131**