

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him." Psalm 62: 5

Small Church Network

3rd Gathering

An opportunity for all those involved in leadership and members of small churches

We will be looking at material from **'Talking Jesus'** and their report on the state of the Church in the UK

On: Saturday 25th March 2023

Venue: St John's Marsh Green, near Edenbridge TN8 5QR

Time: 10.30 – 2.00 pm

Please contact Martin Hayward your Mission and Development Officer
missionofficer@urcsouthern.org.uk for more information and to book a place.

N.B. please bring your own pack lunch

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:



Children's & Youth Development Officers
Mersey Synod - Steven Mitchell cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk
Southern Synod - Tom Hackett cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk

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

www.bit.ly/march-mhfa
March 2023 - Morning Course
9:30-12:30

4 online sessions
Mon 20, Weds 22,
Mon 27, Weds 29



www.bit.ly/may-mhfa
May 2023 - Evening Course
18:30-21:30

4 online sessions
Tues 16, Thurs 18
Tues 23, Thurs 25



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Tel: 020 8688 3730 office@urcsouthern.org.uk

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 **BOOST**
STRATEGY FOR SCHOOLS MINISTRY
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ONE DAYTIME SESSION MONDAY 17TH APRIL 10-1PM
OR TWO EVENING SESSIONS THURSDAY 20TH & 27TH APRIL 7:30-9:15PM



 JOIN US FOR AN INNOVATIVE EVENT WHERE EXPERTS WILL ENABLE YOUR TEAM TO CREATE, DEVELOP OR REVIEW YOUR STRATEGY FOR ENGAGING WITH SCHOOLS AND OTHER AREAS OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRY
SUITABLE FOR CHURCHES OR CHRISTIAN ORGANISATIONS WHO WORK IN SCHOOLS, CHURCH LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS, NEW OR EXPERIENCED CHILDREN'S, YOUTH OR SCHOOLS WORKERS AND PARENTS/CARERS...

BOOK YOUR £5 TICKET AT
WWW.SEPARTNERSHIP.ORG.UK/BOOST




 **MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATION**
A reflective day for church administrations
Led by Ven Andy Wooding Jones



At St Benedict's Centre
Tuesday 28th March 2023
10 for 10.15am ending by 3pm

Cost £20
Please bring lunch with you, hot drinks and biscuits will be provided

To book please contact:
bookings@stbenedictscentre.org
52 Swan Street, West Malling, ME19 6JX

 01732 252 651  @stbenedictscentre  @stbenedictscr
www.stbenedictscentre.org ...a place apart

SYNOD TOGETHER

This Saturday; March 11th , at Brighthelm

Let's come expectant of meeting the Lord as we gather together as His people.

 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY** 

LEADING IN CHURCH CHANGE

For more information, email: trinitycollegglasgow@gmail.com
www.trinitycollegglasgow.co.uk

Postgraduate Level
Wednesday Mornings
Online (8 classes)
26th April - 21st June 2023
£499 for recognised UK church leaders




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'No. 84' New Monastic Community

Is New Monasticism catching your attention? Does being part of a small innovative residential missional community appeal?

Does taking time out to think and pray through new possibilities, or taking a gap year feel timely?

Are you excited by new ways of being and doing Church?

From Summer 2023, for those aged 18 and over, Redcar has a rare opportunity in the Northern Synod of the United Reformed Church to become part of a household of three living within a simple Rule of praying, eating, studying and serving together while accompanying Redcar United Reformed Church & Redcar Baptist Church in missional presence in Redcar.

If needed, a modest maintenance allowance is available.
You are invited to register your interest by Friday March 31st 2023.

Information Packs available from
Lisa McAvoy, Northern Synod of the United Reformed Church, 4
College Lane,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8JJ. Tel 0191 232 1168
lisa.mcavoy@urc-northernsynod.org

For an informal chat contact Sue Walker on 0787 335 4171
Biblesusan@aol.com



South London Synod Area



**30
minutes
of
prayer
time**

Starting on the 13th of April you are invited to join with others in the South London Synod Area each Thursday for 30 minutes of prayer at 5.00pm
Zoom ID: 896 3882 1888
Passcode: URC5
Everyone is welcome.

SAVE THE DATE

"I AM MARK"

Christchurch URC, Sevenoaks are delighted to announce that on Friday 9th June they will be hosting a performance of 'I Am Mark', a daring new staging of Mark's Gospel performed by Stefan Smart.

Tickets and more info available soon.

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Word in One *Preachers Training Day* *Speaker: Andy Twilley*

**May 20
at Horsham URC**

This day will revolutionise your understanding of the "Bible's Big Picture" as well as providing an opportunity to explore and discuss preaching on a range of core themes of Scripture.

Refreshments: 10.00
Seminar starts: 10.30
Depart: 15.30

To book your place
Contact: Sue Knight

localchurchleader@reigateparkchurch.org

PLEASE NOTE: Items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Andy](#) by **17 March**.

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

Stepwise

Would you be interested in being part of a Stepwise group: "Faith Filled Life"?

If so, please contact Andy Twilley:

training@urcsouthern.org.uk



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praying – storytelling – wondering together – playing – laughing – making – cooking – exploring – singing – sharing

Brand new resource



From 1 March 2023

Faith Adventures for Children Together
The new weekly Bible-based resource
for children's groups from the URC
Download your free copy now at

www.bit.ly/urc-fact

Online walk-through and introduction to the resource with members of the writing team:

- 11 March 10.00am
- 14 March 7.30pm

Register for a free space
on Eventbrite www.bit.ly/fact-info



praying – storytelling – wondering together – playing – laughing – making – cooking – exploring – singing – sharing



Calling all grandparents

Join our free in-person or online gatherings

10 June in Reading
17 June in Newcastle-upon-Tyne
15 and 19 June online

www.bit.ly/glorious-grandparenting
for more details



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SPRING INTO STEPWISE

Facilitator Training Sessions

We are offering two opportunities to come and learn more about Stepwise and be enthused and equipped to facilitate Stepwise in your church, community or wider context.

An **online session** will take place on **Tuesday 21 March from 10.00am – 12.30pm.**

This will be repeated with an **in-person session at Church House, London on Wednesday 19 April, 11.00am - 3.00pm with lunch provided.**

If you are interested in finding out what Stepwise has to offer, what's involved in facilitating Stepwise and how you might go about setting up a group as a facilitator, then please come along to either session. It would be great to see you!

For further details and to register for either session please contact David Salsbury david.salsbury@urc.org.uk or Marion Brown marion.brown@urc.org.uk



LAY PREACHER TRAINING

There is a possibility that an additional lay preaching course might be run starting later this year, designed for folk who could only attend an evening group. If this might be of interest please contact Andy Twilley ASAP.

training@urcsouthern.org.uk

Church in Twickenham URC

We hear of 'long covid' and I suspect that churches experience something similar. Members of Twickenham URC were back at Sunday services straight away, but we lacked the personnel to restart the weekday community activities. Three of us have enjoyed being involved with the LICC learning hubs. However, the pressures of illness and work amongst church members, plus the fact that different people lead worship week by week, have made it hard to introduce the vision of 'whole life discipleship' in any consistent way. Of course many recognise their faith as holistic already. Recently we have been approached by a local charity which hopes to offer lunches, companionship and help with life skills, using Twickenham church hall. We have been going through a frustrating time as we struggled to offer practical service, but we hope that this relationship will be a 'new thing' which God calls us to this year.

Rev. Stephen Lewis