



London Street

United Reformed Church

BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG21 7NU

and

TADLEY (OLD MEETING) URC



FOCUS
October, 2022

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Tel: 01256 477070

Website - www.basingstokeurc.org.uk

MINISTER:

Vacancy

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Mr Owen Collins
15 Cyprus Road
Hatch Warren
Basingstoke RG22 4UY
Tel: 01256 477425
e.mail - secretary@basingstokeurc.org.uk

TREASURER:

Karen Bell
13 Skyline Plaza, Alencon Link
Basingstoke RG21 7BL
Tel: 01256 352033
e.mail - treasurer@basingstokeurc.org.uk

LETTINGS SECRETARY:

Karen Bell
13 Skyline Plaza, Alencon Link
Basingstoke RG21 7BL
Tel: 01256 352033
e.mail - lettings@basingstokeurc.org.uk

FOCUS:

Mrs Christine Robertson
1208 Skyline Plaza, Alencon Link,
Basingstoke RG21 7AZ
Tel: 07544 466409
e.mail: christina774robertson@btinternet.com

Tadley (Old Meeting) URC

10.00am Prayer Time followed by Worship at 10.30 every Sunday
"TASTE" Youth Event at 7pm at the Point (behind Community Centre)

Minister:

Vacancy

Church Secretary:

Paul Gross
22 Pelican Road, Pamber Heath RG26 3EN
Tel: 0118 970 0809
e.mail: paulgross3107@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Mark Ward
10 Hartleys, Silchester, Reading RG7 2QE
e.mail: mandjward@hotmail.co.uk

A Thought for the Month:

The most wonderful gift you can give anyone!

Romans 12: 9 -21

In this passage Paul has a wonderful array of good advice for the would be disciple in how to live their everyday life. Tucked in the middle is this bit about 'blessing' people rather than cursing them. I don't think we go much in for cursing people but we may be more likely to be critical and negative about people, a far cry from 'blessing' them. To bless someone has a rather old fashioned ring about it. Something you'd expect old comedians or actors to say to their audiences as they end their show?

Yet to ask God to bless someone is the most wonderful gift. It is asking him to reach out and touch someone's life, to bring new life and wholeness to them. To make himself known to them. Something we all value above everything. The start of new relationships. To speak God's blessing into lives and communities is to open up situations beyond our normal influence, open them to his power of love and grace. It is more than intercession, not so specific or restricting. More an acknowledgment of his greatness and creativity.

We have 'the blessing' at the end of each service when the person who is leading the service says 'The blessing of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the holy spirit be with you now and always'. That is quite something and worth pondering on what the practicalities of this are. How easy it is to let those words flow over us without thinking.

Prayer

From Numbers 6: 22-26

The Lord bless you and keep you

The Lord make his face to shine upon you

And be gracious to you.

The Lord turn his face towards you

And give you peace.

Alison Jamieson



Circle of Prayer

Please remember the following in your prayers:

London Street - Beverley Cantwell and family; Christine Clucas; Kay Cook; Christine Holt; Sandy and Liz Lindsay; Stan and Sandra Marut; Maggie Morgans and family; Betty Shipway; the Patterson family; Isobel Martin and Doina Rasnita.

Tadley Old Meeting prayer list: Christine Weaver; Linda Hicks; Heather Saunders; comfort for Rachel Eaves' family. Give thanks that Alister Melrose is now in remission and for the successful operation for Sam Hicks.



Kenita Moavu (5) on 9th
Isaac Dumbleton (2) on 14th
Carys Haywood (87) on 25th

Church Flowers - October

Christine Robertson



Eco Tip:

Release your books: Once you've read a book, leave it on a park bench or in some other public place, with a note inviting anyone who finds it to take it, read it, then re-release it. Alternatively, take it to a charity shop or release it through Freegle.

DECISIONS CAN TAKE YOU OUT OF GOD'S WILL
BUT NEVER OUT OF HIS REACH

ALL Change

As a nation we are experiencing big changes - new Prime Minister, new Monarch.



‘Change and decay is the law of life. Death is the greatest: for your body, it cannot be reversed, but for your soul, death is more than mere change, it is transition, and we shall all be changed. Diurnal change is mostly mundane (did you change your stockings, your mind, your man, that book at the library?). Is there to be a change in the weather, of party, of Prime Minister? These are the trivialities that confront us, till death changes everything.’

Michael O'Mara Books Limited



Daily Bible Readings for October:

	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>New Testament</u>		<u>Psalm</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	
1 st	40:9-17	1 John	3	16 th	John	2
2 nd	71:14-24	"	4	17 th	Reflection	
3 rd	149	Reflection		18 th	"	
4 th	41	"		19 th	John	3
5 th	72	1 John	5	20 th	"	4
6 th	150	2 John	1	21 st	"	5
7 th	1	3 John	1	22 nd	"	6
8 th	108	1 Peter	1	23 rd	"	7
9 th	2	"	2	24 th	Reflection	
10 th	42	Reflection		25 th	"	
11 th	73:21-28	"		26 th	John	8
12 th	90	1 Peter	3	27 th	"	9
13 th	111	"	4	28 th	"	10
14 th	3	"	5	29 th	"	11
15 th	112	John	1	30 th	"	12
				31 st	Reflection	

Ffaldy y Brenin

General Assembly 2022 Resolutions with implications for local churches and/or Synods

Some of the decisions taken at General Assembly:

Resolution 52 UK Asylum Policy

General Assembly is appalled at the cruel and unjust nature of the UK's current asylum policies, including the plan to send some asylum seekers to Rwanda. It believes that those fleeing war or persecution should be treated fairly and compassionately irrespective of the situation which has brought them to our country. It directs the Mission Committee to prepare briefing materials and make representations to Government about these matters and encourages all URCs and their members to write to their MPs to support this call.

Resolution 2 Children and Youth Work Committee

General Assembly shares the concern of URC Youth Assembly to tackle the stigma surrounding mental ill health. General Assembly strongly encourages individuals to take part in Mental Health First Aid training, and encourages all local churches, Synods, and General Assembly staff and committees to help individuals access this training. General Assembly joins Youth Assembly in recommending that local churches strive to ensure that at least one person in leadership has undertaken this training and such training is regularly refreshed and renewed.

Paper I1 Resolutions 17 (a) and (b) Mission Committee Environmental Policy

- (a) Resolves that urgent action should be taken to reduce carbon emissions across the whole of church life, with the aim of reaching net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2030.
- (b) Adopts the Environmental Policy and instructs the committees and bodies under its control, and encourages associated bodies (including Trusts, the Retired Ministers Housing Society, and Resource Centres for Learning), Synods and local churches to adopt as a minimum the practices it sets out.

Donations: The sum given in the two retiring collections for Open Doors is £140.

.....

• **Worship**

• “To worship is....

- to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God,
- to feed the mind with the truth of God,
- to purge the imagination by the beauty of God,
- to open the heart to the love of God,
- to devote the will to the purpose of God.”

William Temple
and ‘A Bucket of Surprises’

.....

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS AND MEETINGS
(all at Old Meeting, Tadley unless otherwise stated)
SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10.30am

October:

- Sun 2nd Visiting another Tadley Church
- Sun 9th Mark Ward
- Sun 16th Greg Whittick
- Sun 23rd Visiting another Tadley Church
- Sun 30th Mel Euerby

REGULAR Weekly EVENTS AT TADLEY:

- Monday evening - Cell group - contact Mark Ward or Paul Gross
- Tuesday evening - joint prayer time with St Paul's - contact Penny O’Bee
- Wednesday evening - prayer - 7pm via Zoom - contact Mark Ward
- Friday afternoon - Men's Shed - contact Paul Gross
(2pm once a fortnight)
- Saturday afternoon - Ladies Cell Group - contact Penny O’Bee

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS AND MEETINGS

(all at London Street, unless otherwise stated)

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10.30am

<i>Mondays:</i>	10.15am	Craft Group
<i>Tuesdays:</i>	10.15am	Little Angels
	5.30pm	Beavers) IN TERM TIME
	6.30pm	Cubs) meeting in the Den
	7.30pm	Scouts) i
<i>Wednesdays:</i>	10.15am	3Cs (Coffee, Chat and Company on the 3rd Wednesday of each month)
	10.30am	Memory Tree Social Club
	-12 noon	
	12.15pm	Lunchtime Prayers

Diary - October, 2022

(at London Street, unless otherwise stated)

Sun	2 nd	8.30am	Prayer Breakfast in the Hook Room
		10.30am	Worship, led by Revd Mike Burrell
Wed	5 th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sun	9 th	10.30am	Worship, led by Peter Bentall
Sun	16 th	10.30am	Worship, led by Joy Williams, including welcome to new members, Christopher and Beryl Wootton

Deadline for articles for November FOCUS

Wed	19 th	10.15am	3Cs
Sun	23 rd	10.30am	Worship, including Holy Communion, led by Revd Julian Macro
Sun	30 th	10.30am	Worship, introducing the charity Mercy Ships

London Street URC, Basingstoke seeks to ensure that all content and information published in this issue of FOCUS is current and accurate. The information included does not in any way constitute legal or professional advice and the church cannot be held liable for actions arising from its use.

London Street United Reformed Church is a working name of Registered Charity
London Street (Basingstoke) United Reformed Church Charity [reg. no.1130801]