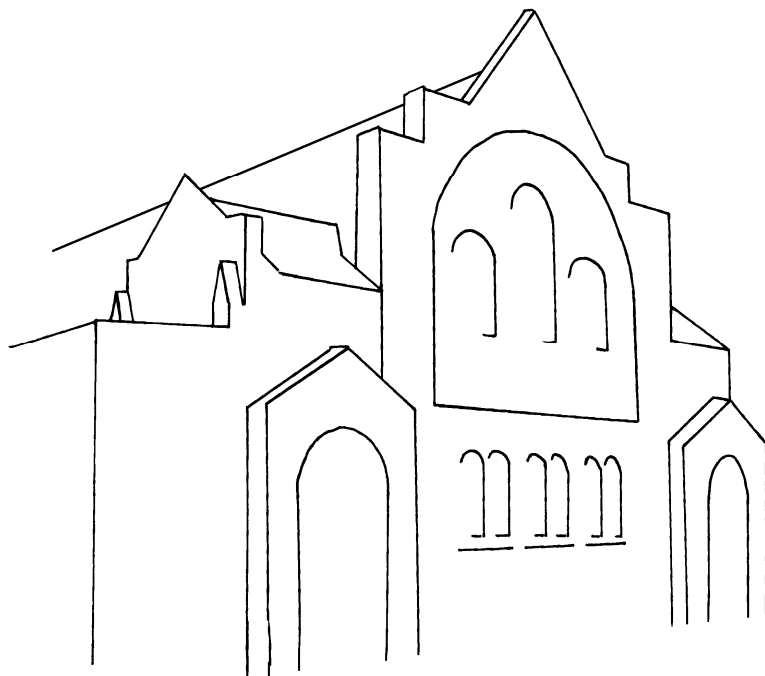


December 2013
& January 2014

Newsletter



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church
25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ

www.bhpurc.org.uk

Associate Minister:
Secretary
Office:

Revd Martin Legg
Sylvia Page

020 8367 0289
020 8366 7481
020 8366 5526

Serving Elders

(with areas of special responsibility)

Andrew Caddies 020 8363 0844

Lynda Cook 020 8360 5112

Martin Hamblin (Treasurer) 020 8363 0974

Sylvia Page (Secretary) 020 8366 7481

Where an Elder is listed with special responsibility for an area, please contact them first if your question relates to that area.

The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy. Have you seen the news on the Church Internet site? Check it out at

www.bhpurc.org.uk/news.htm

Next Newsletter

The next edition of the newsletter will be published on Sunday 26th January. All material for inclusion should be e-mailed to **newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk** by **Sunday 12th January**

Please note that late contributions may be held over.

Editor: Lisa Hamblin, 130 Clive Road, Enfield EN1 1RF

Have you come far?



Transport is something most of us take for granted even if we don't have our own cars, Christmas is often quite a busy travelling occasion as we meet friends and families. Some years we seem only to come home to sleep. There was quite a bit of travelling that first Christmas. Can you imagine what it would be like in this country if everyone had to go back to his or her hometown to be registered? If you add that to the normal every day traffic? What a nightmare.

We think of four journeys in particular. Mary and Joseph travelling down from Nazareth to Bethlehem. As the crow flies it is about a 110 kilometres up hill and at least half the journey in the mountains of Judea. A journey that would have taken them several days. I wonder what it was like. Did

The Christmas and New Year period has become a traditional time for travelling. With family now living some distance from one or more sets of parents, we have become used to sharing our time between travelling families. It is not always easy to alternate and Christmas is never a good time to be travelling a distance. Unless of course you're getting away from it all abroad!

they travel with anyone, as there must have been others on the road? I wonder what they talked about? Perhaps plans and concerns for the birth of the child. When would they return home? How they would tell the family. When we travel anywhere, and we are planning to stop over, I always book a room for the night, especially during the summer holidays. Mary and Joseph couldn't do this. Imagine travelling from place to place trying to find a room for the night. I was reading an interesting article in the local paper. A reminder about foreign students studying in our colleges and universities who will be spending Christmas on their own when their house mates go home to their families. Something we were always mindful of when our boys were at uni.

The wise men probably travelled from the area around the Persian Gulf. A journey ten times that of Mary and Joseph. We can't imagine what that must have been like, crossing the deserts of Arabia. No satnav in those days and they weren't even sure where they were going. When did they start their journey? How long did it take them?

And then the journey of the shepherds, running down from the hillside and through the town, shouting and singing and laughing. It must have caused quite a stir. People looking out wondering what they were doing or perhaps what they had been drinking. I wonder what it was like after they had seen Jesus. What did they talk about? Who did they tell? Who would have believed them? Their journey was short and relatively easy

Our last journey is our own. What sort of journey have we had to make to meet Jesus? Was it just round the corner? Or perhaps a journey that has taken many years.

Some may still be on that journey to find the Saviour of the World. Christmas shouldn't be the time when we go back to visit the baby in the crib but instead to have the opportunity to pause and think about a journey with Jesus as we travel through life.

I'm sure that there are some that are worried and concerned about where your journey is going to take you in the new year. You will meet some obstacles and challenges, which together you will overcome' I'm sure there will be some good experiences too, with something to celebrate. Like the Wise men, you search for it and do not turn back.

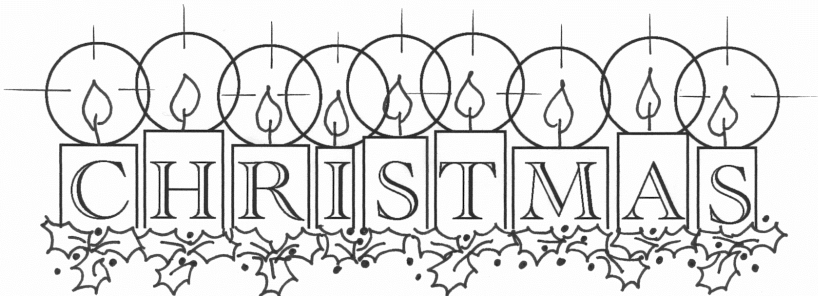
God, our Father we pray Your blessing on each traveller and each visitor to our Church this Christmas. May everyone find room to meet the Saviour of the World.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.




10 Invitation Replies to a Christmas Party

1. Einstein thought it would be relatively easy to attend.
2. Pierre and Marie Curie were both radiating with enthusiasm.
3. Newton thought he might drop in
4. Geiger said we couldn't count on him coming.
5. Beethoven said he would make a note of the date.
6. Wilbur Wright accepted, provided he and Orville could get a flight.
7. Dr Jekyll declined as he hadn't been feeling himself lately.
8. Pavlov was drooling at the thought.
9. Darwin said he'd have to see what evolved.
10. Morse said he would be there on the dot, but would have to dash away early.



Here is the News

The Boys Brigade are playing carols around Bush Hill Park on Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th of December then again on Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th December. Do look out for them & support their efforts.

We have heard that Formbes is still not fully recovered from his stroke and was in Homerton hospital. We pray that he has left there already because he has been healed.

Congratulations to Vicky & Wayne Thompson who are expecting their third child in January. We pray for a stress free pregnancy & a safe birth.

Thank you for sending the newsletter - we still enjoy reading it to catch up with what's going on in BHP. Wishing you all a happy Christmas and a good New Year - both as a church and each one of you.

Maureen and Eric

The loan we had to complete the hall roof is now fully paid off, thank you for your generosity. We are now raising funds for the next phase of our hall refurbishment.



"It's worth getting to church an hour early to grab a pew by the electric socket."

The end of 2013 is a sad day for the life of Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church as our beloved Associate Minister preaches his last sermon in the post. Perhaps this is not the right space to say after how many years, but perhaps it is! Martin was Ordained during the leadership of Revd David Hamblin on 13th July 1991 and has been serving us on and off before and since then in an unpaid and often unrecognised capacity. Stipendiary Ministers have come and gone but Martin has been a consistent presence; a stalwart, especially in vacancies. His leadership at Elders' Meetings and Church Meetings especially at these times has been of incalculable value. His variation of the format of worship has been good to experience. We have loved the full robes or the shorts and chef's hat.

Many babies have been baptised; thirteen marriages have been registered by him but we know he has shared with other ministers in such blessings over the years. The recognition of the end of a life has been tactfully handled with respect yet fun when the circumstances allowed. He certainly has a knack.

His chaplaincy to Girls' and Boys' Brigades has been greatly appreciated and much more than a nominal title. He has recently instigated a youth club again, which we pray will continue for our teenagers.

Thank you to Viv who has stuck by him, worked tirelessly within her own church yet supported her husband and us.

Thank you Martin for all those un-known tasks you have done for us and for those we remember so well. May the next phase of your life be meaningful and a blessing. We will miss you but are glad to see your name is already on the Preaching Plan for 2014. We feel sure other fellowships within this area will benefit from your knowledge and wisdom.

The Elders

TwS @ bhpurc

Time: 7.30 to 9.00



Anyone who regularly attends B.B. G.B. church , or any other church or youth organisation is welcome. We meet in the Church Hall.

Speak to Matthew Witter or Joseph Nicolaides

Are you 13 to 18?

Do you like spending time with your friends?

Do you want some where to meet on a Friday night?

Then BHP URC is the place to 'start the weekend'.

What you do is up to you. You can chat, watch, play, eat and relax with your friends.

Christmas collections

This year the Christmas charity is WaterAid's big pipe project. Collections will be taken at the Carol service on the 22nd & the Christmas day service.



The Big Pipe Project aims to raise £1 million to bring safe water to 130,000 people in Ethiopia.

Deep within the highlands of Tigray sits the small village Adi Sibhat. A punishing 35 minute hike from the nearest road, the village consists of around 800 people. Many earn a small income from selling butter at the nearby market, but most live from the land they farm.

Collecting water is a daily struggle. After clambering over the rough ground the women of Abi Sibhat must wait their turn to collect water from the trickle that's available. People and cattle alike share this water source and jostle for position to be able to collect enough to drink.

Everybody fears the same thing; leeches. Although it looks pure, the only source of water here contains leeches and bacteria. Many filter the water through their clothes, but for their cattle swallowing a leech is a daily threat, and one that could kill them. For the people of Adi Sibhat, cows are their most precious possession – their livelihood. For a family who have little else, losing a cow could mean losing everything.

Donate now and every pound you give will be doubled.

Thanks to two generous WaterAid donors, every pound you give to the Big Pipe Project will be doubled! Together, we can provide enough pipes and water points to bring about powerful and lasting change across Ethiopia.

The logo for "THE BIG PIPE PROJECT" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The word "THE" is smaller and positioned to the left of "BIG". "BIG" and "PIPE" are on the top line, and "PROJECT" is on the bottom line.

Expecting a Baby!

The Advent season can make you wonder: how did Mary feel when she was expecting her first child? The huge responsibility of knowing that the Saviour of the universe was growing inside her and that it was her job to keep him safe, alive and kicking!

Those of us who have had children will remember the great expectation we felt; and how we did everything possible to keep ourselves healthy so that nothing hindered the development of the baby within us. Expectant mothers take regular health checks, keep an eye on weight gain, blood pressure and any other health issues. They can also often sit talking to their 'bump', dreaming of what their baby will one day become.

This advent, let's make it our prayer that Christ will continue to grow in our hearts unhindered in any way. May the seed of his spirit planted in us grow, watered by his word, to bear much fruit of righteousness. May God grant us the grace to avoid and remove from our lives anything that may taint damage or corrupt the precious seed of faith that grows within us. May our lives be regularly checked against, and found in tune with his holy Word.

May we always walk in step with you, Jesus. May your Holy Spirit and your precious Word always be the fresh air we breathe. In Jesus name, Amen.



Next newsletter deadline
Sunday 12th January

easyfundraising
.org.uk

GIVE
SOMETHING
FOR NOTHING

* Raise free funds by shopping online
with **easyfundraising.org.uk** – just visit:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/bhpurc

and follow the simple steps to sign up.

Every time you shop, you'll earn a donation for us
and it won't cost you a penny!

OVER 2,700 RETAILERS TO SHOP WITH, INCLUDING:

Viking

John Lewis

ASOS

amazon

M&S

ebay

next

Argos



TESCO

ASDA

Sainsbury's

very

Premier Inn

LAKELAND

DEBENHAMS

PLAY.COM

Late Rooms

LOVEFILM

Diary

December & January

See also Prayer pages, back cover for regular activities

The diary is also online at www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar

Dec		
Sun 1st	10:30am	Communion with Rev Martin Legg
1st Tues	7:30pm	Elders Meeting
Sun 8th	10:30am 5:30pm	Parade led by 2nd Enfield BB Second Sunday Study
Mon 9th	8:00pm	Book Club
Sat 14th	7:30pm	Asaph Ensemble's Christmas Concert (p20)
Sun 15th	10:30am	Worship led by Sylvia Page
Sun 22nd	10:30am 4:00pm	Worship led by Lynda Cook Family Carol Service - with collection for WaterAid's Big Pipe Project (p9)
Tues 24th	11:30pm	Communion at Christmas
Wed 25th	10:30am	Christmas Day Christmas Celebration with Rev Martin Legg
Sun 29th	10:30am	Worship "Angels" with Rev Martin Legg
Jan		
Sun 5th	10:30am	Worship led by Lisa Hamblin
Sun 12th	10:30am	Leprosy Mission Parade (p21)
Mon 13th	8:00pm	Book Club
Sun 19th	10:30am	Worship with Ray Pettipher
Sun 26th	10:30am	Worship with Michaela Lawrence

PRAYER PLAN

DECEMBER 2013

Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

Psalm 119:105

Sunday 1st

Thanks for Christian
organizations providing aid
when disasters strike

Monday 2nd

Sue & Graham Stubbs

Tuesday 3rd

For Community Support
Officers

Wednesday 4th

Hadrians Ride

Thursday 5th

Bin & recycling men

Friday 6th

The homeless on the streets of
London as the weather gets
colder

Saturday 7th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 8th

Thanks for our musicians, the
stewards, tea makers and
those who project our services
and provide the flowers week
by week

Monday 9th

Vicky, Wayne, Jude & Owen
Thompson

Tuesday 10th

For paramedics

Wednesday 11th

Halstead Road

Thursday 12th

Our libraries & those who work in them

Friday 13th

Karam, our sponsored child in Bethlehem

Saturday 14th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 15th

Thanks for clean water, gas and electricity and sanitation for our homes

Monday 16th

Margaret Trevallion

Tuesday 17th

For the Coastguard Service

Wednesday 18th

Hazelwood Road

Thursday 19th

For our parks & those who maintain them

Friday 20th

New believers to grow in their faith

Saturday 21st

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 22nd

Give thanks for family and friends

Monday 23rd

Stuart, Mason & Kai Trevallion

Tuesday 24th

For hospital staff

Wednesday 25th

Give thanks for Jesus

Thursday 26th

Social workers

Friday 27th

Ruth, our sponsored child in Zambia

Saturday 28th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 29th

Thanks for all the work Martin Legg has done for us

Monday 30th

Valerie, Martin & Rebecca Vant

Tuesday 31st

For Special Policemen & women



PRAYER PLAN

JANUARY 2014

Sanctify them by the truth;
your word is truth.

John 17:17

Wednesday 1st

John Street

Thursday 2nd

For those on duty or training in
the Army

Friday 3rd

Children in care, that they
would be fostered/adopted by
a loving family

Saturday 4th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 5th

Thanks for doctors and nurses
who go to areas where the
people have no access to
health care

Monday 6th

John & Marlene Vyse

Tuesday 7th

Persecuted church in
Afghanistan

Wednesday 8th

Kingsbury Place

Thursday 9th

For those on duty or training in
the Special Forces

Friday 10th

Karam, our sponsored child in
Bethlehem

Saturday 11th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 12th

Thanks for Sunshine and rain

Monday 13th

Robin, Frances, Cerys & Erin
Ward

Tuesday 14th

Persecuted church in Saudi
Arabia

Wednesday 15th

Ladbroke Road

Thursday 16th

For those on duty or training in
the Navy

Friday 17th

For the future of our church
and fellowship

Saturday 18th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 19th

Thanks for those who help with
Kings Club

Monday 20th

Chris Whippe

Tuesday 21st

Persecuted church in Somalia

Wednesday 22nd

Landseer Road

Thursday 23rd

For those on duty or training in
the Royal Marines

Friday 24th

Ruth, our sponsored child in
Zambia

Saturday 25th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 26th

Thanks for those who entertain
us, make us smile and show us
other worlds

Monday 27th

Tracey, Steven, Georgina &
Rhianna Williams

Tuesday 28th

Persecuted church in Maldives

Wednesday 29th

Lathkill Close

Thursday 30th

For those on recovering from
injury on the battlefield

Friday 31st

Safety for men, women &
children facing violence in the
home from a spouse or parent





Light shining in the forest by Paul Torday

For those who have been to Kielder Water the start is very reminiscent of that dark and lonely forest where you can drive for miles and see no-one; mobile 'phone networks do not function and it is a 'spooky' yet in some ways beautiful silent place. In this story there is a secret to be unearthed.

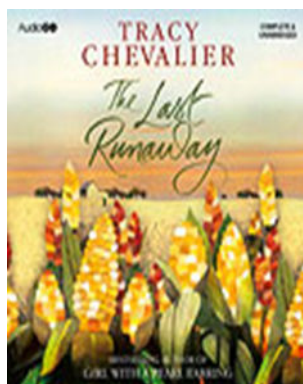
Norman Stokoe has just been appointed Children's Czar. He sells his flat and moves north to take up the position. However before his first salary cheque has even hit his bank account, new priorities are set for the government department for which he works. The Children's czar network is put on hold but it is too late to reverse the decision to employ Norman. He is given a P.A. and a spacious office in a new business park on the banks of the Tyne. He settles down in his new leather chair behind his new desk, to wait for the green light to begin his mission. The green light never comes.

What does happen is that two children go missing but the Police think they are runaways and not abductions. As Children's Czar, surely this case should fall within his remit, but Norman has built a career on doing nothing, on stamping pieces of paper with 'send to the relevant department'. Now, faced with a campaigning journalist and a distraught mother, he is forced to become involved. The search takes him to dark places and makes him ask questions about the system he is supposed to uphold.

There is more in this read and 'enjoyment' is perhaps not the word for it, but it is a good read. We discussed the descriptive writing and the characters at some length. It is perhaps not a book for all.

In December we'll be reading 'The Last Runaway' by Tracy Chevalier, the January book is still to be decided, speak to Yvonne for more details.

Sylvia Page



Farewell not Goodbye

I didn't want to include this short 'thank you & goodbye' with my pastoral letter. The connection with BHP goes back to my days as a boy in the 1st Enfield. Gymnastic competitions in the hall and the Southend to Enfield walk are just some of the events in which I met staff and boys of the 2nd. I started my training for Auxiliary Ministry in 1986 at Oak Hill College in Southgate. I met David Hamblin around the beginning of 1989 I think. David was doing a bit of hospital chaplaincy at Chase Farm, something I was interested in. We had to undertake some practical pastoral observation as part of our course. As it happened, it didn't, but my meeting with David, and my interest in ministry among young people, led partly to my coming to BHP in late 1990 and working with FURY, GB and BB.

Going back through my files I found something that I had written for my review in 1994.

I have been involved at BHP since September 1990. I was placed with David to assess my suitability for ordained ministry, and particularly among young people. The assessment lasted 6 months. In March 1991 a questionnaire was circulated among a cross-section of people. The results were favourable and while I waited for a decision from the District and the Ministerial Training Committee, I continued at BHP. At an Elders meeting I was asked what I was going to do. I was asked if I would stay at BHP. I suppose the outcome of all this was that the folk at BHP knew in some measure what they were getting, yet they still asked.

I am involved in most things at BHP. I chair Church and Elders meetings as well as being involved in Finance and other occasional meetings. I appear to work well with David and we cover issues which not only affect young people. David and the Elders and Members at BHP are very supportive. David and I have worked together on Elders retreats, Formation of Pastoral teams, a Worship Team etc. I have helped to restructure the Kings Club, introducing new material and new leaders. This work is on-going with plans to integrate Boys Brigade as well as the FURY group. A Youth Forum is just beginning. This will include young representatives from all the youth organisations. Although I am not Chaplain to the Girls and Boys Brigades at BHP, I am involved in their various activities and events, from leading devotions to running a badge class or testing.

I feel privileged to be able to minister at BHP. David had obviously done a lot of

*ground work over the years, and I have been able to share in the harvest 19
that this work has started to yield. I feel as though I have become sufficiently
established at BHP.*

Sharing in ministry with David was a very special time for me. It could not have been easy, sharing responsibility for the fellowship with me. We did seem to work well together for the benefit of BHP. Needless to say I learnt a lot in the first few years, not least with juggling church, work and a young family. The highlights were the holiday clubs, and church family weekends at Yardley Hastings, oh and wandering round to the manse and slipping in the back door before a meeting with David. Ruth always had tea and biscuits ready and some words of encouragement and advice.

It was all change in the summer of 1997 when David moved to Hitchin. I tried to operate a 'business as usual'. Easier said than done, but everyone rallied round and we were able to run the holiday club and the church weekend and there were some other special events too. I enjoyed the challenge and the fellowship, as always, were very supportive. September 1998 saw a new minister, in Steve and a new family, and all change. I had been considering moving on at this point. Trinity Church, in the town, was now without a URC minister. They had two previous NSM's, Tom Holst and David McNair working alongside a Methodist minister. However, Steve beat me to it, announcing he was leaving in the summer of 2003. There followed an even longer period without a stipendry minister and a significant change in the fellowship with many established members retiring and moving or just moving away.

I had always thought that I would be working alongside another minister at BHP, even if wasn't a fulltime minister. This would have made my departure that much easier. As it turns out, that has not been the situation in which we find ourselves and certainly not the one that I would have wanted. I am grateful for the support that my family and I have received from the many friends, some which sadly, are no longer with us, but whose fellowship and friendship, I have valued and will always remember. I shall finish there before this begins to sound even more like a eulogy. 23 years seems like a lifetime and for some it has been as I have baptised and married them or married them and baptised their babies. I have seen our youngsters grow and flourish and succeed and our friends who have given their service and been called home.
Thank you.

Martin Legg



Asaph
CHRISTIAN TRUST

presents the

Asaph
Ensemble's

Christmas
Concert

Festive Music

for Trumpets, Sopranos & Organ
with

Carols for All

7.30pm Sat 14th December 2013

Bush Hill Park URC

Main Avenue, Enfield

Tickets available on the door £6.00

Fullness of life The apostle John tells us that Jesus came so that we may have 'fullness of life' (John 10: 10). Throughout the gospels we hear of Jesus's concern for the poor and the oppressed. It is following Jesus's example that The Leprosy Mission works to not only treat people with leprosy, but take an holistic approach to their life, helping to lift them from poverty. Leprosy-affected people face a triple blow of disease, disability and discrimination. Simply treating a person's leprosy does not change the fact they remain living in poverty. Due to disabilities incurred as a result of the late treatment of the disease and age-old stigma surrounding leprosy, earning a living often seems an impossible dream. Without a helping hand these people, so loved by God, can be reduced to begging in order to survive. The good news is that, thanks to your generosity, The Leprosy Mission can offer people affected by leprosy gifts of reconstructive surgery, sight-saving eye surgery, housing, a fresh water supply, schooling for their children, job training and help to start a business. In other words, everything needed to restore their dignity and enable them to be self-sufficient.

Please pray for the three million people globally with irreversible disabilities as a result of the late treatment of leprosy. And, if you can, please give a gift of hope so that The Leprosy Mission England and Wales can continue its life-changing work in 11 countries across Asia and Africa

For more information ring 01733 370505 or visit www.worldleprosyday.org.uk

Our Parade service on 12th January will be focusing on the Leprosy Mission and there will be a retiring collection towards their work.



Do your Christmas shopping online to raise money for Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church!

Are you doing your Christmas shopping online? Did you know that every time you buy a gift you could also be raising money for Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church?

That's right, over 2,700 well known retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay and Tesco will donate a percentage of what you spend this Christmas to Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's a really simple process, all you have to do is:

- Register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- When you're asked to choose your cause, select Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church.
- Get shopping - it couldn't be easier!

Easyfundraising has already raised over £5 million for over 50,000 good causes across the UK. So what are you waiting for? Head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk to fundraise for Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church now. Already registered? Spread the word to family and friends this Christmas to let them know just how easy it is!

P.S. When you register, you'll be asked if you want to install the Find & Remind toolbar - make sure you do this so that you receive a handy reminder each time a donation is available when you shop online!



Bush Hill Park URC future when Revd Martin Legg departs 23

Elders have been in discussion with Area Committee and it is hoped that a Vacancy will be declared after their committee meeting in mid-February 2014 but an introduction may not happen for many months, even up to a year or two. It is envisaged that the Pastorate will be a stipendiary minister to serve BHP, Christ Church and Lancaster Road. Apportionment of the Minister's time, use of which manse and our financial commitment to this is under consideration by the three Treasurers and we are grateful for advice from the Revd Ray Adams who has been appointed to assist us, in spite of having three other churches in Enfield himself. His finance team set up their Pastorate and are generously giving time to help us sort this one. Long-term it could mean that when Ray retires and there is no date for this, Enfield churches may be considered as a borough-wide team ministry.

Meanwhile the Elders of the three churches will be forming a small vacancy committee under Ray's guidance to 'tweak' our Pastorate Profiles so they may be submitted to allow the greatest chance of an early introduction without too many questions from a candidate. This will not be an easy task.

Please give prayerful thought to the life of the church and not only the filling of the pulpit each Sunday. That in itself is a huge task with fewer and fewer lay preachers to assist. This will mean that some services will have to be taken by Elders who have little or no training but love their Lord and do their best. Any help with this task would be most welcome. If two or three together feel guided to take a service one Sunday then please, please, let Angela Rushbrook know. If there are any ideas for a theme where we may tap into a charity then let us know. It may mean that we miss a communion service occasionally when there is nobody authorised to preside, or the Sunday of the month for celebrating may have to be changed from the regular first. We will attempt to keep Parade services each second Sunday of the month to create consistency for our young people.

We are in this together as a membership and fellowship. Please prayerfully encourage those in a position of leadership; they are simply one of you. Criticism is unhelpful unless given in the right spirit so please do not be destructive in this but we welcome ideas. The first person to approach is the Secretary who will be able to pass to the appropriate person for response/reply. She aims to take a break from all church work on a Monday so try and avoid this unless an emergency arises. If there is someone out there to help prepare the rota or weekly LINK, please let Sylvia know.

Boys' Brigade News

Well, it's December already. Firstly I need to get you up to date with things gone by.

At the start of half term (back in October) we went on our annual trip to Thorpe Park. Everyone was very excited this year as it was our chance to try out Thorpe park's 'The Swarm' backwards. This ride is Europe highest winged roller coaster and the only winged coaster in the UK. A winged coaster is like a traditional roller coaster except you are on the wings of it, meaning there is nothing below or above you, meaning you can experience very near misses. Once again Thorpe Park was holding its 'Fright Nights' event, where all kinds of strange goings on happen once it gets dark, and four scary mazes, containing live action actors ready to jump out on you.

With Europe's fastest rocket coaster (0-80mph in 2 seconds), the world's only 10 looping rollercoaster, the world's first air powered swing, free fall rides, the only 'in the dark backwards rollercoaster' in the world, inverted roller coasters, water rides and many, many more amazing rides, it was a great day.

After half term, the lads started new badge classes. The younger members have started making bird boxes. They are making them from scratch, from sheets of wood. This badge class covers wood work skills as well as a nature element.

The year 9 lads are currently carrying out in depth first age training. They are covering a range of life saving techniques, from - Unconsciousness, resuscitation, recovery position, catastrophic haemorrhage.

Our oldest lads are starting work on their bronze Duke of Edinburgh and are also doing some gymnastic training, which involves Vaulting and the parallel bars.

25

Once again this year we will also be going out carolling, around the streets of Bush Hill Park. Please come and say hello if you hear our brass band playing down your street. The boys will be collecting and Mr Rushbrook will be in the kitchen cooking loads of hot dogs, ready to feed all the boys after their cold night of collecting.

From all the boys and staff, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Andrew Caddies

Girls' Brigade News

As we write the Girls are putting the finishing touches on questions for the quiz night and plans for the cakes to be sold at the quiz night at the end of November which is raising funds for the summer camp. I will give a full report of the evening next month.

Thanks for your support over the year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

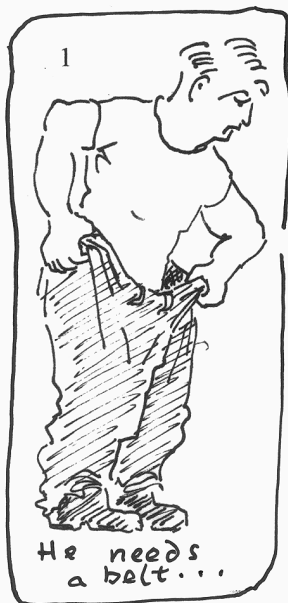


Wordsearch

This month the Christmas story will be read and reread by hundreds of millions of people around the world: how the shepherds were in the fields of Bethlehem when the angels appeared with the astonishing news that the Messiah had been born! How many words from the Christmas story can you find below?

baby	tree	Jesus	nativity	shepherds
angels	donkey	sheep	inn	manger
mary	virgin	joseph	star	hallelujah
turkey	holly	presents	heavenlyhost	mistletoe
stuffing	pudding	carols		

H O L L Y S C A R O L S H
 G N I F F U T S S N D H D
 O A D E S T A R L R J E E
 I T S O H Y L N E V A E H
 A I L T N E J H G E E P A
 L V R E N K P B N E H E J
 R I I L S E E M A R Y E U
 B T M T H O S Y V B T A L
 A Y A S N H S E I U Y M E
 E G N I D D U P R N O S L
 T N G M U U S K G P N S L
 H P E S O J E O I R T H A
 A S R A N Y I O N L U H H



Get belted up!

“Go buy a belt,” said God to Jeremiah. And he did. It worked really well. “Now bury it!” Said God and he did.

When Jeremiah dug it up later it was rotten – useless! God said, “That’s what too many people are like – useless!”

He said people should be belted up close to him and listen to him, but because they refuse and are stubborn – they are useless.

This is a very big reminder to us all to get right with God – be belted up to him – all the time!

**How’s your belt?
Read more in
Jeremiah 13:1-11.**

BHP DAY BY DAY URC

Monday	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade Junior Section
	7:30pm	Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
	8:00pm	Book Club (1st or 2nd Monday)
Tuesday	8:00pm	Housegroup (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
Wednesday	6:15pm	Girls' Brigade Explorers & Juniors
	7:40pm	Girls' Brigade Seniors & Brigaders
Thursday	7:30pm	Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)
Friday	9:30am	Prayers in the Junior Room
	10:00am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6:00pm	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
	7:30pm	TwS@bhpurc
Sunday	10:30am	Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)
	5:30pm	Second Sunday Study (2nd Sunday)

