



THIS EASTER

THROUGH JESUS

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church 25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ www.bhpurc.org.uk

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Youth activities

Boys Brigade Girls Brigade

Other activities

Baby & Toddlers Book Club House Group

Weekly news sheet Hall & Room bookings toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk

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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.

Next Newsletter

The next edition of the newsletter will be published on Sunday 30th April. All material for inclusion should be emailed to **newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk**) by <u>Sunday 16th April</u>.

Easter morning.

The market square in the garden city lies cold and empty in the first light of a new day. Some twenty men and women dressed in dark suits awkwardly shuffle around. They carry large cases of unusual shape.

A pigeon sitting on one of the ledges of the Guild Hall ruffles its feathers at the early disturbance. It watches keenly as others quietly join the group. A

slow but steady stream of people trickles onto the square during the next half hour. Pressing closer together as the space fills up.

Waiting silently.

Here and there a whisper is heard; a child is reminded to stay quiet. Sheets of paper rustle in restless hands. The thin tones of a few dissonant notes are heard but dissolve. It is the sign for little ones to be lifted onto strong shoulders, to see what is happening.

Suddenly the sound of horns and trombones, of tubas, cornets and percussion instruments rolls backwards and forth, echoing from walls of surrounding buildings. The expectant silence is broken with such force that morning itself seems to be breaking open anew. Hearts and voices jubilantly join nature and instruments:

'Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,

Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.'

My heart still stirs in me when I think back of Easter mornings as a child. My head knows that most years it was freezing at seven o'clock in the morning. The 'five minute talk' was always too long. There was never space left at the front to see.

But my soul remembers the singing. The feeling of being alive. The hundreds of people gathered together. It was, I believe, my earliest experience of the Holy Spirit bringing together God's Church.

Outside.

Beyond denominational boundaries.

Across divisions and schisms.

Together as Easter people.

What does it mean for us today, to be Easter people?

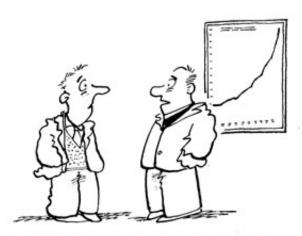
Could it still be the same as on that first Easter morning? That we, like Jesus' followers back then, are called to run and share the message of an empty grave? Of death swallowed up by life? Of a Saviour who suffered and died in order to transform life forever? A message of such good news as had never been heard before?

It is a message which is still deeply relevant. For on that morning, when God's Spirit called Jesus from the grave, God declared through his Son that our life has meaning. That God is committed and faithful to the work of his hands. In Jesus, God became man; entering his own creation to be one of us. Jesus in his humanity was our brother. Through him we now belong to the family of God. Fully accepted and loved as children of the Most High. That is good news! The kind that transforms life. The kind that is worth sharing and living out.

This Easter, may God's Spirit guide you to an empty tomb. May you hear the words of the angel ringing in your ears and heart: 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!'

Yours in Christ,

Henriette



... I wish that was my Sunday attendance figures - but it's actually the age profile of my congregation!

Twitter

A man walked into a church and approached the minister. "I need help. I think I'm addicted to Twitter." The minister looked at him and said gently, "I'm so sorry, I don't follow you."

Preach

When a minister rehearses his sermon, is he practising what he preaches?

The man who drank three beers

A man who had just moved to a village in County Kerry walked into the local pub and ordered three beers. The bartender raised his eyebrows, but served the man three beers, which he drank quietly at a table, alone.

Next day, the man came back to the pub and ordered three more beers. This happened again and again, until soon the village is all whispering about the "Man Who Orders Three Beers". Finally, about a month later, the bartender broached the subject on behalf of the town.

'Ah,' said the man. 'You see, I have two brothers. Long ago, one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank, as a way of keeping up the family bond.' The bartender and the whole town were pleased with this answer, and soon The "Man Who Orders Three Beers" became a local

and soon The "Man Who Orders Three Beers" became a local celebrity.

Then, one day, the man came in and ordered only two beers. The bartender poured them with a heavy heart. The word flew around town, and prayers were offered for the soul of one of the brothers. Next day, the bartender said to the man, 'Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer our condolences to you ...'

The man pondered this for a moment. 'You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well. It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent.'

Here is the News

Announcement

As many of you may know by now, I received a call from Trinity URC in Plymouth to serve the church there. I have accepted this call, which means that I will be moving away from Enfield sometime in June. Precise dates are still being looked at and discussed at the time of going to print.

The time with the three churches here in Enfield North has certainly played a role in shaping my ministry. May God bless you and give you strength as you travel into the future.

Yours in Christ, Henriette

We wish Henriette all the best with the church in Plymouth. Please pray for her and for our pastorate.

The Breakfast Club

This is a Bible study and prayer group which meets twice monthly on a Saturday morning between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Elders Vestry at Christ Church URC (accessible through the side door of the church on Christ Church Close).

Forthcoming meetings are on Saturdays 1st and 29th April.

All are welcome to come and join us as we explore God's Word and enjoy some breakfast together.

Holiday at Home

Holiday at Home is a holiday club for adults which will take place on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th May from 10:30am to 4:00pm each day in the hall at Christ Church URC.

The programme will include craft activities, quizzes, Bible talks, musical items and entertainment. A cooked lunch and afternoon tea will be provided and the charge for each day is £6.

For further information and to book a place please contact Rosemary Milns on 020 8363 6571 or mail@ccurc.org.uk. Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment! Lancaster Road United Reformed Church

Will be Showing a

well-known film about the events of Good Friday

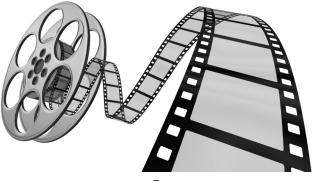
On Friday 14th April 2017

Doors open at 1:46pm, screening at 2:00pm

Everyone is invited to attend.

Tea and coffee will be available following the screening with a chance to talk.

No need to book but should you require any further information please contact Jim on 07740353519 or email jim@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk





MOVIE Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

'My father sacrificed his life for the rebellion'

says Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones) in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* as she leads a small band of rebels to almost certain death in their fight against the evil empire. It is no doubt coincidental, but certainly providential, that this film will release on DVD in this season, as it provides a valuable contemporary talking point for the Easter story.

Rogue One is a prequel to the original Star Wars film, *A New Hope*. In it we discover how the Rebel Alliance managed to obtain the Death Star plans that allowed



Luke Skywalker to destroy the massive space station and become the hero who saved many lives. This is interesting back-story for Star Wars fans, and riveting cinema for a new generation, but most poignantly it provides perspectives on two different types of sacrifice.

The team led by Jyn Erso, and the rebel intelligence officer Cassian Andor (Diego Luna) are willing to sacrifice their own lives for the cause of freedom as they seek to acquire the Death Star plans from the



data store on the heavily defended planet Scarif. To protect their secrets, the Empire uses the Death Star to obliterate the Imperial installation, sacrificing all its staff and troopers in their determination to hold on to their power.

These two notions of sacrifice are starkly contrasted, and provide a valuable opportunity for conversations about the nature of sacrifice, and the unique selfsacrifice of Jesus as he gave his life so that all people can find freedom and restoration.



EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

<u>+</u>+EASTER

PALM SUNDAY

9th April 10:30am All Age Worship with Revd Henriette Wentink

6pm Reflection with Revd Henriette Wentink

MAUNDY THURSDAY

13th April 7pm Worship with Revd Henriette Wentink

GOOD FRIDAY

14th April 10:30am Service of Witness at Enfield Town Market

2pm Film at Lancaster Road (see p 7)

EASTER SUNDAY

16th April 10:30am All Age Easter Celebration with Revd David Hamblin









Christian Aid calls for more help for famine-struck South Sudan

The recently announced famine – the world's first since 2011 – is in South Sudan's Unity State, where some 100,000 people are facing starvation. A further one million are classified as being on the brink of famine.

Speaking from Juba, Christian Aid's South Sudan country manager Rosie Crowther said: 'For many months Christian Aid and our local partners have been sounding the alarm about the escalating humanitarian catastrophe here ... After more than three years of conflict and insecurity, we have seen communities stretched to breaking point."

The crisis is the result of over three years of conflict in the world's newest nation. Violence and instability continue amidst severe humanitarian needs. The economy has collapsed, malnutrition has soared and hunger has taken a firm hold. Some 3.4 million women, men and children are displaced from their homes.

Christian Aid partners have been providing aid to families displaced or affected by ongoing violence in Unity State for some time. Christian Aid is ready to intensify its emergency response, and has issued a plea for extra funds for its South Sudan crisis appeal. If you can help: www.christianaid.org.uk/emergencies/south-sudan-crisis

As we go to press the church is mid way through a collection for Christian Aid's emergency appeal. Details of the donation we will make from everyone generosity will be in the next newsletter.



Diary

April

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

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

Sun 2nd		Prayers in the church Communion with Adrian West
Sat 8th	8:30am	Prayer Breakfast in the lounge
Sun 9th	10:30am 6:00pm	Palm Sunday Parade with Revd Henriette Wentink Sunday Evening Reflection
Thur 13th	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Worship with Revd Henriette Wentink
Fri 14th		Good Friday Service of Witness in Enfield Town Market Film at Lancaster Road URC (see p7)
Sun 15th	10:30am	Easter Sunday Worship with Revd David Hamblin
Sun 23rd	10:30am	Worship with Paul Ashity
Sun 30th	11:00am	United Pastorate Worship at Lancaster Road URC

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Next newsletter deadline Sunday 16th April

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Prayer Diary

APRIL 2017

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12

Saturday 1st Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 2nd Thanks for water, whether rain or from the turn of a tap

Monday 3rd Mavis Swlligmann Tuesday 4th Missionaries in Europe Wednesday 5th Roman Way Thursday 6th Member of Parliament for Edmonton - Kate Osamor Friday 7th

Karam, our sponsored child in

Bethlehem Saturday 8th Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow Palm Sunday 9th Give thanks for family and friends

Monday 10th Robert Stone Tuesday 11th Missionaries in Asia Wednesday 12th St Marks Road Maundy Thursday 13th Member of Parliament for Enfield, Southgate - David Burroughs Good Friday 14th Those who still don't know Jesus personally

Saturday 15th Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Easter Sunday 16th Give thanks for Jesus

Easter Monday 17th Sue Stubbs Tuesday 18th

Missionaries in the Americas

Wednesday 19th Second Avenue

Thursday 20th Member of Parliament for Enfield North - Joan Ryan

Friday 21st Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

Saturday 22nd Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 23rd

Thanks for carers and those helping people to stay in their own homes Monday 24th Vicky, Wayne, Jude, Owen & Tilly Thompson

Tuesday 25th Missionaries in Africa

Wednesday 26th

Southbury Road

Thursday 27th

Local government decisions

Friday 28th JustOne J.John event at Emirates Stadium

Saturday 29th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 30th

Thanks for those who faithfully attend our church services week by week



The real message of Easter

'When you die, that's it. Nothing. Out like a light.' That's what the man in the pub said, and his mates all nodded, though the one whose mother had died the week before wasn't really quite so certain.

Still, it seemed to make sense. After all, we know what 'dead' means: dead leaves, dead batteries, dead fish, dead pets . . . and dead people, to be honest. While we recognise that it's all too easy to go from alive to dead, we've got serious doubts about the possibility of any return journeys.

Which is why Christians have an uphill task at Easter. Jesus was a great man, and people want to remember how He died. Fair enough. But it starts getting complicated when Christians insist that Jesus died but didn't stay dead - in fact, that He's alive now. That 'return journey' has happened, they say.

That's the problem about Easter. Christians persisting in what sounds like a ridiculous belief. If they just dropped the resurrection bit, and concentrated on the wonderful teaching of Jesus and His example of generosity, compassion and love then everybody would find Christianity much more believable. Wouldn't that make sense? And wouldn't that fill the churches again?

Well it might (or, more likely, it might not). But in any case, the trouble is that it wouldn't be Christianity at all. The faith of Christians actually depends on the resurrection of Jesus, and always has done, right from the earliest days. After the crucifixion the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross by some of His friends and put in a rock tomb with a heavy stone. But after His death, His followers claimed that they had met Him, seen Him, talked with Him.

So certain was their belief that nothing could make them recant it. Not ridicule, not torture, not even death itself. They couldn't do it because they were absolutely convinced that it had happened. Plenty of clever and powerful people at the time had a vested interest in proving them wrong. It shouldn't have been difficult to prove that a dead man had stayed dead,

especially when you have at your disposal the resources of the greatest empire in history. Yet they didn't do it, because it couldn't be done.

Still today millions of people all over the world believe that Jesus did in fact rise from the dead. They include brilliant scientists and philosophers as well as plenty of 'ordinary' men and women of all ages. They believe it because they respect the witness of those first Christians, and because in many cases their own lives have been transformed by a relationship with Jesus - a relationship that wouldn't make sense if He were dead!

Christians don't put their faith in a dead hero from the past, but in Someone who is alive and active in their own lives and in the world. That, in a nutshell, is the real message of Easter.

Jonathon Green



Ron and Pancho were always glad to see each other at the Palm Sunday service.

Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea & Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
2nd	Evelyn	Sylvia	Yvonne		Robin H
9th	Kath	Brigades	Ivy & Jane		Tony
16th	Alison	Judith	Valerie		Robin H
23rd	Evelyn	Bill	Sylvia		Robin H

If you can fill in the gaps above please put your name in the sheet on the wall in the lounge.

If you would like to do any of the above but feel you'd need a little guidance first please talk to Lisa, she'll make sure you find the right person. The sound room is easier than you think - go on, volunteer!



Real Easter Egg NEW 2017 Range





The egg that shares the Easter story

The new look Real Easter Egg 2017 range has been launched and churches are being asked to encourage people to support this unique way of sharing the story of Easter.

This year a 24 page Easter story-activity book illustrated by Alida Massari is included in the Original, Egg Hunt and Dark eggs. The Special Edition has an Easter traditions booklet inside. The Sharing box, with 30 eggs, comes with colour-in posters.

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has a copy of the Easter story in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and makes a donation to charity from sales.

The Real Easter Egg was launched in 2010 but the supermarkets turned down the idea. It was left to churches and church schools to place orders to fund The Meaningful Chocolate Company to make The Real Easter Egg. A 24 page Easter story-activity book illustrated by Alida Massari.

To date, more than one million eggs have been sold with 750,000 of these sent through the post directly to churches and schools. The rest have been sold through independent retailers and supermarkets.

The success of The Real Easter Egg has meant that the production of Fairtrade chocolate has moved to the UK. Over £250,000 has been raised from sales for charitable causes.

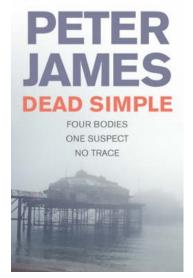
Where to buy

The whole range can be ordered online at www.realeasteregg.co.uk or from Traidcraft, Eden.co.uk, TLM trading.com, Embrace the Middle East. Christian bookshops and some cathedrals also have stock.

You can also buy the blue Original egg from Tesco, Waitrose, Morrisons.

See the full shop list or order at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Book Club



Dead Simple by Peter James

Well, what a read! A definite page-turner.

This is the first novel by Peter James with Roy Grace as the Detective Superintendent. Set in the Brighton area it is a stag night which went wrong and the Police become involved. Three days to the wedding and the bridegroom has disappeared. Where is he?

The friends who went with him are unable to tell for a reason I will not quote here! His fiancée is distraught. The best man, his business partner, did not manage to get to

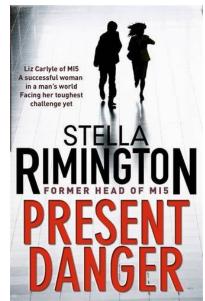
the stag night but does he know more than he is telling?

We loved it!

Sylvia Page

Present Danger by Stella Rimington

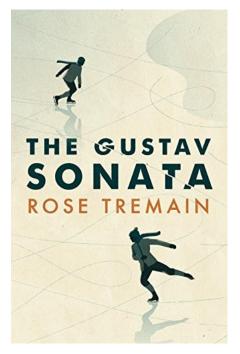
MI5 officer, Liz Carlyle is posted to Belfast, where she thinks life will be quite uneventful, with the "troubles" in the past. Unfortunately, almost immediately she realises there are forces at work, renegade IRA men, trying to upset the peace process. She learns that there is a plot to kill members of the security services – and she is only too willing to believe this as an attempt has already been made on her life.



Together with some close colleagues, they try to find out more, which takes Liz over to France where she is informed that a former very experienced French intelligence officer had "changed sides" and is now involved in illegal arms dealing, and there is a good possibility he is aiding the renegade the IRA men.

During the course of the investigation Liz's colleague, Dave, goes missing and it soon becomes apparent that he has been kidnapped. It is a race against time to find Dave - hopefully alive and beat the underground movement.

It is written by the former head of MI5, and is an interesting and informative



read which keeps you engaged throughout. We all enjoyed the book.



Our next meeting is on 8th May (there will be no meeting in April) and we have chosen two books this time (very different, but which look very interesting books) which are: The Gustov Sonata by Rose Tremain and The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan.

The Book Club wishes everyone a very Happy Easter and we'll "speak" again soon! Yvonne Coe

Prayer

Suffering servant

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who feel the bitter pain of betrayal.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide Over all who lack courage to stand up for truth.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who endure torment and torture.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who are alone and terrified.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who are powerless in the face of violence.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who are in sorrow and mourning.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide over all who need forgiveness and healing.

Jesus Christ, suffering servant, stretch your arms wide and hold your world in love.

Francis Brienen

From the URC prayer handbook 2016 for 25th March (Good Friday) looking at Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 and John 18:1 - 19:42.

Boys' Brigade News

We started back after half term with our Seniors taking to the kitchen for some gourmet cooking classes. Hand rolled large sausage roll, luxury cakes and stone baked pizzas freshly prepared (including making the dough from scratch) have all come out of the kitchen on a Monday evening - much to the delight of the hungry staff.

The middle aged boys are continuing to work on their Rockets, which when finished will fly 300ft into the air, deploy a parachute and then glide back down to earth, to be relaunched. They are at the painting stage and then we will be ready for a test launch.

Our year 7 boys are now undertaking a range of different things each week. They will cover basic first aid, electrical safety and also fire safety with in the home. This does include the annual escape through smoke scenario.

Every Monday the whole company spends 15 minutes practicing drill, ready for the drill competition. On Wednesday 15th March, we entered the drill competition. The weekly practices must have paid off as the squad team came first. We also won the single line drill and our colour party also won the colour competition, which means we now hold the battalion colours for the ensuing year. We will now be entering the London drill competition. We wish the boys good luck for that.

At the end of March the battalion held their annual church parade, which all three sections attended. As holders of the battalion colours, our boys got to parade them in the church service.

After the service was the 'explore event', which is an afternoon of fun and games. This year's theme for the event was a beach party. There was limbo competitions, a surfing simulator, a large sand pit, lots of beach games, loads of food and also some worship time. It was a good afternoon and enjoyed by all who attended.

As Easter approaches we will be taking a two week break from BB activities and when we return after Easter, we will be getting ready for our awards night, which this year is being held on Friday 5th May. You are all welcome to attend.

After the awards night we start our summer session programme of activities, games and trips and of course, the countdown to camp begins!!!!!

Andrew Caddies

Wordsearch

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life.

passover	bread	wine	body	blood
betrayal	Jerusalem	pilate	judas	gethsemane
trial	crucifixion	soldiers	cross	nails
vinegar	temple	curtain	tomb	angel
stone	risen	gardener	mary	

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Weekly Activities

Monday	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade Junior Section
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
	8.00pm	Book Club (Once a month, see inside for date)
Tuesday	8.00pm	House group (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
Wednesday	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.15pm	Girls' Brigade
Thursday	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)
Friday	9.15am	Prayers in the Hall, open from 9 for a chat first
	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
Saturday	8.30am	Prayer Breakfast (2nd Saturday)
Sunday	10.00am	Prayers (1st Sunday)
	10.30am	Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)
	6.00pm	Sunday Evening Reflection (2nd Sunday)

