

October 2017



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church
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www.bhpurc.org.uk

Who to contact

Serving Elders

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Robin Ward (Secretary)	07962 207 256	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

Youth activities

Boys Brigade	bb@bhpurc.org.uk
Girls Brigade	gb@bhpurc.org.uk

Other activities

Baby & Toddlers	toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club	bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
House Group	housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk
Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	office@bhpurc.org.uk



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 29th October. All material for inclusion should be emailed to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk by **Sunday 15th October**.

Hi everyone, it seems as always that the year is rushing past, now that summer holidays are complete its time to start planning for winter and of course Christmas. Whilst I was on my holidays I noticed the peculiar ways in which God reminds us of his presence. We went to eastern France and were climbing “Le Grand Colombier” in the Jura mountain range, as we crested the summit we were greeted by an enormous cross.



This made me think of our three churches in Enfield, we don't have a mountain that's 1520 metres high (just shy of 5000 feet in old money) to build a massive steel cross upon and even if we did have such a mountain I'm not sure our efforts would be best spent putting a cross onto it.

When Jesus was alive he did not spend his time making buildings and structures instead he spent his time and concerns on people; teaching, healing and helping them.

We might not be physically as big as that steel cross but if our own actions follow the example Jesus set then we can remind others of God's presence just as effectively.

The URC has just launched a new project called “Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today” Hopefully you will be hearing a lot more about it very soon.

Let's pray that as we Walk the Way, we can all become living examples of the presence of God in our society.

Robin Ward



Quotes from observations on our faith

Prayer is nothing else than being on friendship terms with God. Teresa of Avila

How else, but through a broken heart, May Lord Christ enter in? Oscar Wilde

Though the Lord is out of sight, we are not out of His. M Henry

Man does what he can, and God what He will. John Ray

The Gospel is good news. But Jesus never said it was easy news. Charles Colson

History is a story written by the finger of God. C S Lewis



"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'-attraction ratings guide, it's a Health and Safety warning!"

Smile Lines

The Perfect Minister

When looking for a new minister, it may be helpful to bear the following in mind:

The Perfect Minister preaches exactly 10 minutes. They condemn sin roundly, but never hurt anyone's feelings. They work from 8a.m. until midnight, and are also the church handyman.

The Perfect Minister lives on a very small salary, wears good clothes, drives a good car, buys good books, and donates £30 a week to the church. They are 29 years old and have 40 years' worth of experience. Above all, they are good looking.

The Perfect Minister has a burning desire to work with teenagers, and spends most of their time with the senior citizens. They smile all the time with a straight face because they have a sense of humour that keeps them seriously dedicated to their church. They make 15 home visits a day and are always in their office to be handy when needed.

The Perfect Minister always has time for church meetings and all of its committees, never missing the meeting of any church organisation. And they are always busy evangelising the unchurched. They also spend hours preparing couples for their weddings, hours preparing parents for their baby's baptism, and hours visiting the bereaved. But their life is dedicated to solitude, prayer and meditation.

The Perfect Minister is always in the next town over! So if you think that our minister does not measure up, it has been suggested that we simply send this notice to six other churches that are tired of their minister. The idea is that we bundle up our minister and send them to the church at the top of our list. If everyone cooperates, in one week we will receive 1,643 new ministers. One of them should be perfect. Have faith in this plan. One church broke the chain and got its old minister back in less than three months.

Here is the News

Donations

Thank you to all who donated to the Christian Aid Emergency Appeal in support of those affected by the South Asia Floods. £150 was collected and sent to Christian Aid so support more than 40 million people across South Asia who have been affected by relentless flooding. An estimated 1,200 lives have been lost, while survivors' homes and livelihoods have been destroyed.

Thanks also to everyone who donated food at our Harvest service which will go to the North Enfield Foodbank, full details in the next newsletter!



Wednesday Fellowship at BHP Methodist Church

Every other Wednesday at 2pm a group meet at Bush Hill Park Methodist Church on Wellington Road. This is open to everyone, do support this local church.

Upcoming topics for the Wednesdays are:

11th October Ray Pickering - Shakespeare (also a bring and buy)

25th October Brenda Brown - Mystery



Upcoming events:

Saturday 21st October 10.30am - 12 noon
Autumn Fayre

Saturday 4th November 10.30am - 12 noon
Coffee morning at Mary's home

For further details, feel free to contact
Margaret Barbour 020 8292 2274.

Christchurch also have a Friendship Club which meets in their church hall and runs once a month on Mondays at 2.15pm. Their October meeting is on the 16th with Rev Mandy James.

Christian Aid responds to those suffering in South Asia floods

Christian Aid is bringing emergency relief to families in India, Nepal and Bangladesh as more than a thousand people have been killed and 40 million more affected by floods.

The charity has deployed £45,000 of emergency funds and is also using a further £200,000 from Irish Aid and the DFID-backed START fund to provide 4000 households with hygiene kits, tarpaulin, shelter materials and community water filters to provide safe drinking water. Elsewhere 20,000 families are being taught about good hygiene practices to protect themselves from diseases.

Christian Aid's Head of Humanitarian Programmes for Asia & Middle East, Madara Hettiarachchi, said she hoped people wouldn't forget people in South Asia whilst floods in Texas were dominating the news agenda. 'These are some of the worst floods we've seen in South Asia in decades and the impact is likely only going to get worse,' she said. 'Farms and livestock have been washed away so food security is going to be a huge problem in the coming days and we will likely see the death toll rise.

'The good news is we are reaching people and bringing them the vital help they need to stay alive and begin to rebuild their lives.'

Rapid response of chaplains to Hurricane Harvey

Following Hurricane Harvey a few weeks ago, 250 'rapid response' chaplains were sent by the relief organisation Samaritan's Purse to minister to the victims of the record-breaking floods around Houston. The crisis-trained chaplains provided emotional and spiritual care to people reeling from fear and loss at some of the hardest-hit locations.

Now Samaritan's Purse has called on Christians to continue to pray for the victims as they face a desolate autumn, for the Texas National Guard, the military, law enforcement, and local leaders who are working so hard to help in the aftermath of this crisis. It will take months, and even years, to recover from the floods.

Ed: and pray for all areas recently hit by storms, flooding and earthquakes!



MOVIE MOMENTS

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

Leadership and mental health

With the strapline “The icon you know. The man you don’t”, *Churchill* offers an unusual perspective to consider the mind of this great wartime leader (brilliantly played by Brian Cox who gives what film critics have described as ‘a master-class in acting’). And like all good art, this iconoclastic movie causes the viewer to think again about our assumptions and preconceptions. Here, we don’t just see the strong stable person that we assume Churchill to be because of his inspirational speeches and place in history. Rather we experience a thought-provoking viewpoint on some of the personal struggles behind his public rhetoric and robust decisions.



The film powerfully depicts Churchill’s inner turmoil as he wrestles with regrets about the past (the vast loss of life at Gallipoli in 1915) and fears about the future (that this carnage will be repeated on the Normandy beaches), highlighted against the backdrop of his own battle with the ‘black dog’ of depression.

Some have criticised the film for historical inaccuracies such as the fact that, although Churchill did oppose any hasty return to France in 1942, by 1944 he was committed to Operation Overlord. But that is to misunderstand the nature of art, as the film theatrically condenses this journey into one week before D-Day. And, more important, that also misses a key message in this film, which is particularly relevant today as we become increasingly aware of the mental health challenges that many of us face – including those in positions of leadership.



All of us, whatever our position and responsibilities, can wrestle with doubts and struggle with depression. But we can keep going. And we can take heart from the biblical message: ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’

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

**ETHOS
MEDIA**.org

Churchill is released on Blu-ray™ and DVD on 16th October 2017.



Diary

October

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

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

Sun 1st	10:00am 10:30am	Prayers in the church Communion with Martin Hamblin
Sun 8th	10:30am 6:00pm	Enrolment Parade led by our Brigades Sunday Evening Reflection
Sun 15th	10:30am	Worship with Ray Pettipher
Sun 22nd	10:30am	Worship
Sun 29th	10:30am	United Pastorate Worship at BHP URC led by Laura Marlow

Next newsletter deadline
Sunday 15th October

Prayer Diary

OCTOBER 2017

This is what the Lord says,
he who made the earth,
the Lord who formed it and established it —
the Lord is his name:
‘Call to me and I will answer you
and tell you great and unsearchable things
you do not know.’
Jeremiah 33:2-3

Sunday 1st

Thanks for Christian organizations providing aid when disasters strike

Monday 2nd

Valerie & Martin Vant

Tuesday 3rd

Missionaries in Europe

Wednesday 4th

East Crescent

Thursday 5th

Staff and pupils at Raglan Primary School

Friday 6th

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

Saturday 7th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 8th

Give thanks for the hard won freedoms we enjoy in the UK

Monday 9th

Rebecca Vant

Tuesday 10th

Missionaries in Asia

Wednesday 11th

Ermside

Thursday 12th

Staff and pupils at George Spicer Primary School

Friday 13th

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

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

John & Marlene Vyse

Tuesday 17th

Missionaries in the Americas

Wednesday 18th

Falmer Road

Thursday 19th

Staff and pupils at Grafton Nursery School

Friday 20th

Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

Saturday 21st

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 22nd

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

Monday 23rd

Robin, Frances, Cerys & Erin Ward

Tuesday 24th

Missionaries in Africa

Wednesday 25th

First Avenue

Thursday 26th

Staff and pupils at Bush Hill Park Primary School

Friday 27th

Those suffering from Multiple Sclerosis and the charities who seek to find a cure

Saturday 28th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 29th

Thanks for the preachers who come to our church each Sunday

Monday 30th

Kally-Anne Westgarth

Tuesday 31st

Missionaries in Australasia



Book Club

Book club hadn't met by the time we went to press but in case you want to join their next meeting on 9th October the book they will be discussing is The Essex Serpent by Sarah Perry.

Now is the chance you were waiting for, you have time to read the book and can join the group!

This month brings us Bible Sunday on 29th October. Here is a fun way to sum up the Bible....

The Bible in 50 words

God made
Adam bit
Noah arked
Abraham split

Jesus born
God walked
Love talked
Anger crucified

Joseph ruled
Jacob fooled
Bush talked
Moses balked

Hope died
Love rose
Spirit flamed
Word spread

Pharaoh plagued
People walked
Sea divided
Tablets guided

God remained.

Anon

Promise landed
Saul freaked
David peaked
Prophets warned

Well, why Do the Nations?

‘Why do the nations so furiously rage together?’ we used to sing from Psalm 2. We’ve just had a summer of international discontent, war-like words shouted across the oceans, accompanied by blood-curdling threats of fire and fury ‘such as the world has never seen’. So the question is eternally relevant: Why do nations threaten, rage and conspire? What is it in human nature that makes people who would actually prefer to live in peace act in warlike ways? The psalm, having posed the question, offers us an answer, but it is in the context of Israel 3000 years ago rather than the present world. The nations were conspiring against God’s chosen nation, so watch out!

The truth is that fear of ‘the other’ usually lies behind national anger and threats. We do not trust those strange people over there, so we will conspire or rage to stop their supposed threat to us. Fear and ignorance generally lie behind international disputes, just as they often do in domestic or personal ones. Reverence for God (‘fear’ of him) is the psalmist’s answer, and probably those who truly believe that ‘our times are in his hand’ will find it easier to replace fear and anger with prayer and trust.

That’s not a diplomatic or political answer to a real military threat, of course. But perhaps understanding other people’s fears may help us to find a solution to our own.

Canon David Winter



Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea & Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
1st	Evelyn	Judith	Yvonne	Sylvia	Robin H
8th	Kath	Bill	Ivy & Jane		Tony
15th	Alison	Anne	Valerie	Alison	Robin H
22nd	Evelyn	Bill	Sylvia		Robin H
29th	Kath	Anne	Sylvia		Tony

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!

A prayer for Walking the Way

Lord of all,
as you walked this earth sharing love, grace and mercy,
we pray that we will place our footsteps in yours
and walk where you lead
as we live out your life in our daily living
for Jesus' sake.
Amen.



Think shopping, think **easyfundraising**

Don't forget to help **Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church** raise free donations.

Remember easyfundraising.org.uk every time you shop online.

Simply...



1. Join

Head to [easyfundraising](https://easyfundraising.org.uk), search for us to start raising.



2. Shop

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.



3. Raise

After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost whatsoever!

Join, shop and raise here:
easyfundraising.org.uk/bhpurc

Ever wonder what real difference reading the Bible could make in your life?

Now the Bible Society can tell you, by sharing examples of what Bible reading has done for other people. It has been gathering modern day stories of how the Bible can impact on people's lives. Just visit:

www.biblesociety.org.uk/latest/mybible

Of course, the Bible has inspired many social causes over the centuries. It was Scripture that inspired William Wilberforce to fight tirelessly against the slave trade, Elizabeth Fry to bring prison reform by teaching convicts to read and Martin Luther King to lead a powerful campaign of peace for racial equality.

The 'My Bible' series introduces itself by saying: 'Whether you connect with a former financial manager convinced of God's existence by the words of Colossians 1; a student worker sustained by the words of Isaiah or an 82-year-old who's recently rediscovered the Bible, we hope you feel uplifted by these stories. And - if you've got a story of how the Bible has impacted your life, we'd love to hear it.' Just email mybible@biblesociety.org.uk and the Bible Society will be in touch.

Reap a good harvest

If you've been out and about in the countryside in recent months, you'll have noticed that there was a bumper crop of blackberries and other fruit this year. That was no accident. It was because, from Spring onwards, there has been just the right amount of heat and cold, rain and sun, to make the plants bring forth their best.

It's the same when we are making Jesus known. Only God knows if the people we meet are ready to respond to the Gospel. We might be simply planting a seed, and that person still has years to go, or it may be that the person is finally ready to become a follower of Jesus.

This autumn, as we prepare for Christmas, let's be intentional – praying for friends and family members who don't yet know Jesus. Let's ask God for opportunities to sensitively share the Good News of Jesus. And let's be ready to serve and speak in Jesus name.

Prayer

Attractive faith

Loving God,
give us such grace
as Christians in the world,
that people, seeing and hearing us,
may find us always gentle and just,
always honest and generous,
encouraging and supportive.

Make our lives so attractive
that our faith in you
may be seen to be creative and beautiful,
and the words we speak
may open people's minds
to your own great reconciling Word,
which we have received
in Jesus Christ our Lord

Alan Gaunt

From the URC prayer handbook 2011 for 30th October looking at 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Ed: If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk. If you want it in a particular month make sure you meet the deadline for that month, usually the second Sunday of the month. Thanks.

Wordsearch

William Tyndale

This month we remember both the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, and Bible Sunday, so it is a good time to pay tribute to William Tyndale (1494 – 1536). William Tyndale was an English priest and scholar who was the first to translate the Bible into English, and thus give the common person direct access to the Word of God.

The Roman Catholic Church and King Henry VIII were furious, and Tyndale fled England for the Continent. Here he completed the Bible, but was finally betrayed, arrested and imprisoned. He was condemned to be strangled and burned at the stake near Brussels.

His dying prayer was that God would 'open the eyes' of the King, and sure enough – two years later King Henry commissioned the Great Bible for the Church of England – which relied heavily on Tyndale's version.

Anniversary
Reformation
Bible
Sunday
Tribute
William
Tyndale
First
Common
Person
word
God
King
Furious
Betrayed
Arrested
Imprisoned
Strangled
Burned
prayer



The Vineyard and the tenants

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A MAN WHO OWNED A VINEYARD

AS THE MAN LIVED A LONG WAY AWAY FROM THE VINEYARD...



...HE ARRANGED FOR SOME TENANTS TO LOOK AFTER IT FOR HIM.

BUT WHEN THE OWNER SENT SOME SERVANTS TO CHECK ON THE CARE AND PROGRESS OF THE VINEYARD...

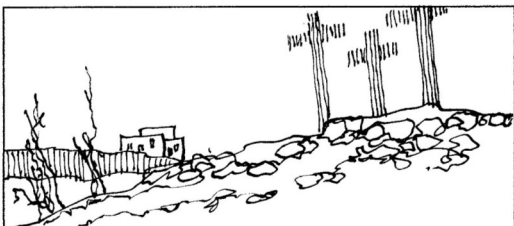


...THE TENANTS BEAT THEM UP!



THIS HAPPENED SEVERAL TIMES. EVENTUALLY THE OWNER SENT HIS OWN SON TO SEE WHAT WAS HAPPENING.

BUT THE TENANTS BEAT THE SON UP SO BADLY THAT HE DIED!



JESUS USED THIS PARABLE TO EXPLAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN HIS OWN LIFE. IT IS A VERY CHALLENGING STORY.

see Luke 20:9-16

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
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)

