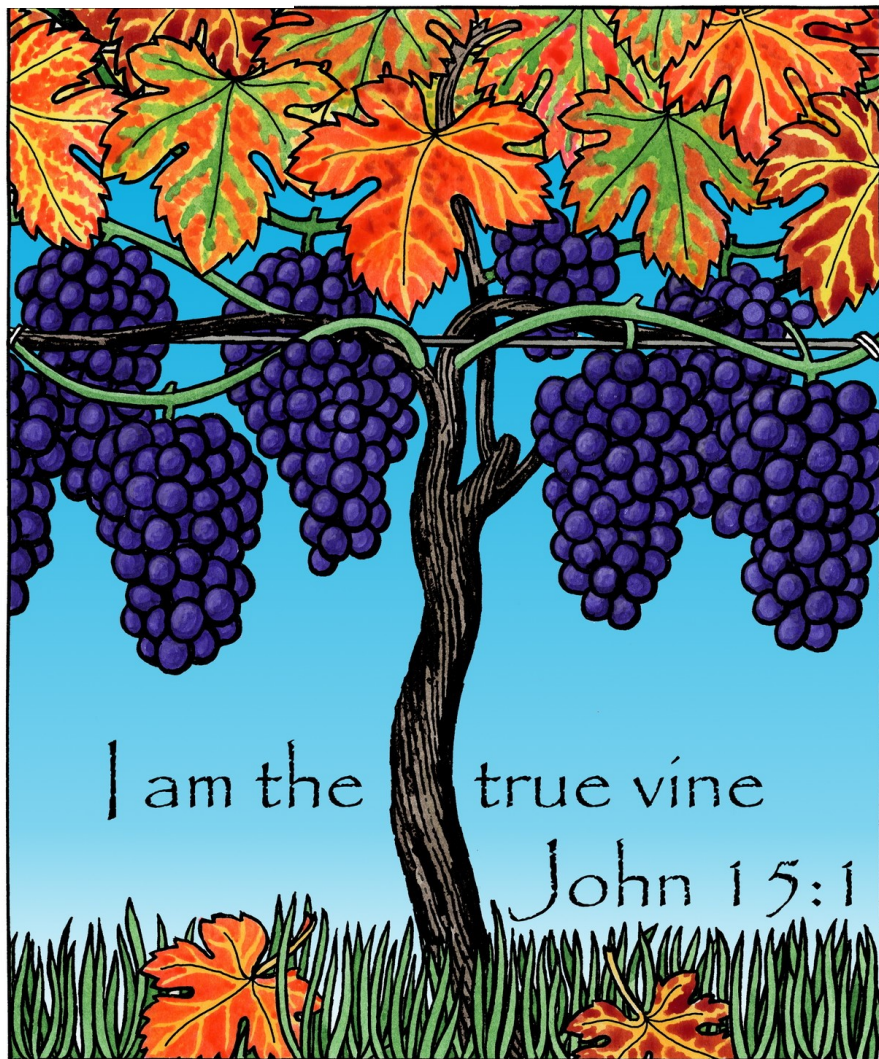


September 2018



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

Who to contact

Minister

Mark Meatcher	020 8374 0509	minister@bhpurc.org.uk
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Serving Elders

Diann Nicolaidides	020 8292 1094	diann.nicolaidides@bhpurc.org.uk
John Vyse	020 8367 0362	john.vyse@bhpurc.org.uk
Lynda Cook	07949 033 869	lynda.cook@bhpurc.org.uk
Martin Hamblin		martin.hamblin@bhpurc.org.uk
Robin Ward (Secretary)	07962 207 256	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

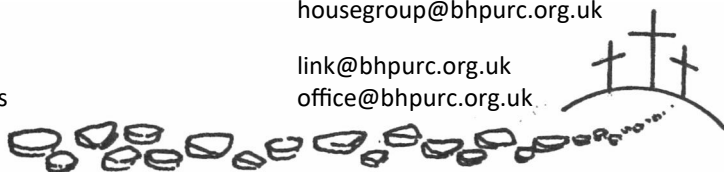
Youth activities

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.

Safeguarding Statement

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this. Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

Please visit <http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding> for further information.

Fools for Christ

Rev Bert Baker led the prayers of thanksgiving at our Induction service by commenting that “We could say thanks that there are two fools willing to take on our six congregations with their separate agendas and plenty of Any Other Business”.



We're not sure how serious Bert was being, but are keen to confirm that we would love to be known, as the apostle Paul called himself and his colleagues, as “*fools for the sake of Christ*” (1 Corinthians 4:10).

Is this calling something which we need to focus on, or should it be part of the work that we do in the churches in Enfield?

Both of us remember with fondness a clown who was well known for his Christian witness, and was able to combine the skill of making people laugh at the same time as being able to deliver a message that made them think... and we do want to do that.

Sharing the message of the good news is about sharing with one another in times of joy – and in times of sadness. Our start in Enfield has brought both very quickly, with Melanie having to visit

a church member in hospital, and her own father having a stroke necessitating some trips further north, but alongside that there has been the joy of the Induction Service itself (thank you so much to all those people who put in a lot of effort to make the day go so well – in spite of the M25!), some watery activities (not forgetting the baptisms that have already taken place), blowing bubbles (is that something to do with West Ham?), Breakfast Bible study, Messy Church and a Holiday Club...alongside many other things. Church life, in our experience, is rarely something that stands still.

However, in amidst all the activities that go on we can easily forget God and miss the opportunities that the Holy Spirit longs to prompt us into exploring.

As we seek to follow Jesus, as we seek to be the fools for Christ that

Bert may have been suggesting we are, how do we ensure that we are putting Jesus first? How do we ensure that we are not simply doing what we've always done and are not open to what the Spirit may be saying to us today?

We are reminded of the parody of a famous hymn:-

*"Like a mighty tortoise,
Moves the church of God
Brothers we are treading
Where we've always trod"*
(In case you're wondering we think this refers to sisters as well as brothers!)

Our passion and desire is to see God's kingdom grow in and through all the churches that we have been called to serve. In trying to do that we are sure there will be times when you may struggle a little with what we may say, or do. We hope and pray that in those times that you find it difficult you

will find forgiveness in your heart. We hope too that you will feel able to approach us in one way or another to share your hurts.

We hope and pray that we too will find the ability to hear what God may say to us through you – we are on this journey together, and together with God the kingdom will be built.

In the autumn period we hope to be able to share our hearts with you for the world around us more fully, and we hope that you will be able to share your vision with us in the same way.

May we be fools for Christ together, as we seek to see the kingdom of God come in Enfield.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Mark and Melanie



Smile Lines

Baby on way

999 Caller: 'Help! My wife has gone into labour and her contractions are four minutes apart!'

999 Operator: 'Is this her first child?'

999 Caller: 'Of course not, you idiot! This is her husband!'

How to get to heaven

The teacher asked her Sunday School class: 'If sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into Heaven?' 'No!' the children all answered.

'If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into Heaven?' Again, the answer was, 'No!'

'Well,' she continued, 'then how can I get into Heaven?' A five-year-old boy shouted out, 'You've got to be dead first!'

Old leaf?

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

'Mum, look what I found!' the boy called out with astonishment in his voice. He turned the leaf over and over. 'I think it's Adam's underwear.'

Here is the News

Contact details

Mark and Melanie now have a phone number at the manse, it is 020 8374 0509 and you can email Mark using minister@bhpurc.org.uk.

Dates for your diary

Don't forget, church meeting this month is on Thursday 20th at 7.45pm in the church.

8th October, 7.30pm at Lancaster Road URC: Meet the Bishop.

The Rt. Revd Dr. Probal Kanto Dutta is the Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur Church of North India and Deputy General Secretary of the Church of North India. He and his wife, Rita, are travelling to the UK to talk about the vital work in the Diocese to prevent human trafficking. This is an event organised by the United Reformed Church in Enfield, and is open to all.

27th October, 10am at Grange Park URC: Embracing Difference, led by the Church and Society Network . See page 11 for details.

10th November 9.30am at Palmers Green URC: Dementia Friendly Church. A day with Revd Mhari McLintock, Dementia Friendly Church Advocate for the West Midlands Synod of the URC.

17th November 8pm at Bush Hill Park URC: "Last Night of the Proms" Music Concert BB Concert, hosted by our Boys Brigade, see page 27 for details.

Next newsletter deadline:
Sunday 9th September

All material for inclusion should be emailed to
newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk

Glorious Guyana

At the end of September, I will be taking Mark in my suitcase as I head off to Guyana for a Council for World Mission (CWM) event. It's focus of Economy of Life, with a rather grand aim of working on a new international financial and economic architecture (NIFEA). Along with three other URC delegates, this is the third in a series of three gatherings, the first in Kingston, Jamaica, the second in Reading and now in Georgetown. As part of the gathering, I will lead a session on 'women and the economy'.

The current financial and economic architecture has not addressed poverty eradication, inequality and ecological destruction particularly in developing countries. People in poverty have not yet enjoyed the fruits of economy that God has given humanity. It is imperative to seriously work on an economy of life. Many of our CWM partners experience grinding poverty and hunger. People are dying daily because of a lack of food. We all are aware of alarming global and national statistics on these problems. This is contrary to the economy of life. We all know that the goals of the Millennium Development Goals of halving poverty by 2015 were far from being met. After the financial crisis in 2008, people around the world particularly youth and women fell into poverty and unemployment and yet we witness huge amounts of money spent on armaments and on other priorities paying no attention to suffering people and the marginalized.

Our concern is that those who are responsible for formulating economic, financial and ecological policies have not addressed the real root causes of the problem. The concept of growth without limits under neo-economic liberalism is still the mantra of most policy makers instead of eradicating poverty by intentionally investing in people. In other words, we need pro-poor growth policies that begin with the people. There are countries that really need qualitative and inclusive growth. The issue of chronic concentration of wealth in the hands of a few while the majority barely live, has not been fully addressed for a long time.

As well as feeding into national church structures, I will be challenging our churches to see how far our churches in Enfield are willing and able to go in working for an economy in the service of life where poverty is eradicated, social justice is embraced, and ecological justice promoted.

Melanie Smith

MAMMA MIA!

— HERE WE GO AGAIN —



**MOVIE
MOMENTS**

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

In the now and beyond

Ten years after the release of the original, *Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again* wonderfully takes us back to the same beautiful island and glorious sunshine. But perhaps it is the difference between the two films that is particularly powerful. The first was primarily themed around discovering one's individual identity and freedom, whereas the sequel explores the enduring nature of relationships.

This is symbolised physically in the hotel which Sophie has renovated to fulfil the vision of her mother, Donna, who has recently died. We see in flash-back the young Donna singing 'I Have a Dream' as she wanders through the original ruins, intercut with shots of Sophie's completed rooms.

It is symbolised relationally by the arrival of Sophie's estranged grandmother, who has not forgotten her family, and who herself discovers a long-lost love at the hotel.

But it is a scene in the beautiful hill-top church which most powerfully takes this theme to a whole new level – physically, relationally, and spiritually. Even Mark Kermode, the hardened film-critic says of it '*I wasn't just crying, I was convulsing with tears.*' Here, the film reworks the lyrics of ABBA's little-known 'My Love, My Life' to change it from a song about ending relationships to one about their enduring nature: '*I can see it all so clearly, all I love so dearly... I know I don't possess you, with all my heart God bless you ... As one are we, in the now and beyond*'.



In our culture, recently dominated by a focus on individuality and freedom, perhaps reflecting on this film, and its changes to the song's lyrics, might cause us to think again about the enduring nature of relationships. And, perhaps we may then heed some of the other reworked words: '*I see a road ahead, I never thought I would dare to tread*'.



**ETHOS
MEDIA.org**

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



Church and Hall Refurbishments

Following further discussions with the Synod's Property Development Officer and our Surveyor we are now proposing that the refurbishment work proceeds in two phases. It is hoped that by breaking the work down in this way it will enable the church to have a greater chance of getting grant funding to assist us to complete the refurbishment.

Phase 1 will deal with immediate issues including the upgrade and rewiring of the electrics throughout the building, ensuring our accessible toilet meets requirements, installing a fire alarm system together with fire shutters for the kitchen. This will help to bring the church fire protection up to a better standard, make use of the accessible toilet safer and provide much needed additional storage for the Pre-School.

Phase 2 will then essentially involve the full refurbishment of the hall, including the removal of the asbestos from the hall, replacing/insulating the ceiling, enhancing the entrance and replacement of the floor with a new floor.

The new estimated costs (estimated by the Surveyor) are as follows:-

Phase 1: £75,392

Phase 2: £235,312

These are significantly higher than we had previously expected and will involve us in a lot of prayer and hard work in trying to raise the funds necessary for all the work involved. We would, however, like to begin phase one in October half term, with phase 2 following in summer 2019 if at all possible.

If you are able to make a donation towards phase 1 please use one of our gift aid envelopes (available in the Church Lounge) and ensure you mark this for the Building Fund. You can make a donation online at www.give.net/bhp1 if you would like to be anonymous. Please contact Martin (treasurer@bhpurc.org.uk) if you would like to setup a regular donation towards the projects.

Our Building Fund currently has £36,753 available (as of 30th June 2018). It is hoped that we can quickly raise the additional £38,639 through donations, fundraising and grant applications. Every little you can afford to give will help. If you have a fundraising idea please speak to Robin Ward as soon as possible. Further details will be given at our Church Meeting on 20th September.

Thanks for all your support.

Martin Hamblin



**The 2nd Enfield Boys Brigade
Presents.**

**“Last Night of the Proms”
Music Concert**

Saturday 17th November

**At Bush Hill Park United
Reformed Church 8pm**

Featuring:

**2nd Enfield Boys Brigade &
Friends Brass Band.**

**The London Tuba and
Recorder Ensemble.**

Plus More

House Group, new study - Proverbs

Following on from Martin Hamblin's service on some verses in Proverbs, we thought it would be a good idea to study these further. Starting on 11th September House group will begin a new study on Proverbs, do join us at Lisa and Martin's house on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 8pm.

Each year thousands of books are published with the same first two words: "How to...". By reading these books you can learn how to get a job, a mortgage or even a nightclub gig. You can read about how to buy a car, a house or a small business. You can become an astrologer, a pilot, a mechanic or a vampire! Experts out there will make you an expert at picking lottery numbers, losing five pounds fast, building fences or bearing children.

All these books offer us wisdom - skill in one area or another. Books like these proliferate because we all need wisdom to live successfully. Wisdom brings success and prosperity in our work, in dealings with family and friends, and in our relationship with God. One book of the Bible - the Proverbs of Solomon - specialises in wisdom. It gives us direction and guidance that is practical, concrete, reasonable, wholesome, understandable, shrewd and fruitful. By reading it we gain skill in all areas of life.

Comparing the book of Proverbs with other ancient Near Eastern wisdom literature sheds light on how the collection arose in the first place. In order to instruct their sons, court officials in many lands would pull together the wisdom they had acquired in a lifetime of diplomatic service. From Egypt we have at least ten such collections, from *The Instruction of Ka-gemni* and *The Instruction of Prince Hor-dedef*, dating from the Old Kingdom (2686-2160 B.C.) to *The instruction of Onchsheshonquy* in the fourth or fifth century B.C. *The Proverbs of Solomon, Son of David, King of Israel*, takes its place alongside these and other collections. Prophetic authorities added Solomon's proverbs to the canon of Scripture. A manual of instruction for the king's son became available to all of God's children.

This study guide will introduce us to selected proverbs from Solomon's collection, grouped together under ten different themes. Study questions will guide your thoughts as together we ponder the meanings of the proverbs and as we learn to live more wisely.

Saying Thank You for Food

Throughout this month and next, churches across the country will be having Harvest Festival Services. These often involve bringing food donations and toiletries to give to food banks or homeless charities. Often there will be songs to say 'thank you' to God for all that He provides, every day.

This year our Harvest Service will be held on 16th September at 10:30am and will have a food collection for the North Enfield Food Bank, located just off Lincoln Road. Items which are in need are: Tinned tomatoes, Tinned fruit, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti Hoops, Crisps, Washing Powder, Toilet Rolls, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Instant Mash, Pot Noodle, Meat Soup, Baby Toiletries, Custard and Rice pudding. In the meantime, here are some simple ways to say 'thank you' to God at home, too:

Say a Thank You prayer

A line in the Lord's Prayer asks God to 'Give us this day our daily bread.' When we say that line, we're asking God to provide the basic things in life that keep us healthy and happy. It can start with the food we need to eat each day, but for lots of different reasons, not everyone has enough.

So saying thank you for our food is important – we might thank the person who cooked it, and we might go back further and think of the people in the shops where we bought the ingredients, and even trace it right back to the farmers who grew the crops in the first place.

Saying grace before a meal is a way of saying thank you to God for making the earth and everything in it – all good things come from God, and it's up to us to use them in the very best and most generous way.

Try singing this grace:

One, two, three, four, five, thank you God that I'm alive.

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten, thank you God for food. Amen!

One of the most traditional graces goes like this:

'For what we are about to receive, may the Lord make us truly thankful and keep us always mindful of the needs of others.'

Some families hold hands while they say grace – this reminds us that we are thankful not only for our food, but that we can share it with people we love.

Embracing Difference

Church and Society Network

A day to explore how we understand and embrace diversity in our churches, ourselves and our faith, and how diversity in a variety of ways impacts people and issues. We hope to share in this exciting and thought provoking programme together, with opportunities to share our own experiences.

Saturday 27th October 2018

Grange Park URC

10.00am – 1.30pm

(Lunch provided)

Please contact Sandra – churchandsociety.sga@gmail.com

You can just come on the Day, but it would be helpful and encouraging for us to know those who are intending to come, especially as a meal will be prepared.



Image by Miss Irene Benewaa

Travel:

1. Come to Leyton Underground station (Central Line) and walk west along Leyton High Road towards the church which is in Grange Park Road (5 minutes)
2. Come to Leyton Midland over- ground station , turn left out of the station and walk east along Leyton High Road until you come to a Jet garage. Just after that, cross the road, take the right turn and then left into Grange Park Road where you will find the church on your left.
3. There is a church car park for car drivers, post code: E10 5EP

Start with what you have, and don't worry about what you don't have

When Jesus fed the 5,000, He did not produce the food from thin air. Instead, He asked the disciples how many loaves of bread they already had (Mark 6:38).

When they produced the five loaves and two fish, it seemed laughable. Everyone knew that wasn't enough. No one thought that what they had was, in the hands of God, more than sufficient.

Moses had the same problem. He was told to go to Pharaoh and ask him to release the Israelites out of Egypt. He asked a very natural question, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me?" God asked him, "What is that in your hand?" It was his staff which, to his utter amazement, became a snake in front of him. That staff in the hand of Moses became the staff of God. It parted the Red Sea, it made the waters close over again, when it was used to strike a rock out came water and when in time Aaron took it, it sprouted, budded, blossomed and produced almonds. In the hands of God, more than sufficient.

A desperate widow appealed to Elisha the prophet. Her two children were about to be taken as slaves to make good a debt. 'What do you have?' asked Elisha. 'Nothing, but a flask of oil,' she replied. 'Go and borrow jars and containers from all your neighbours, as many as you can,' he ordered, 'then fill them from your flask.' She went inside her house with her two sons and filled every jar. 'Then the oil stopped flowing' (2 Kings 4:6). 'Sell the oil, pay off your creditor, and live on the remainder,' said Elisha. In the hands of God, a flask of oil was more than sufficient.

What do you have now? A couple of spare hours a week? Some clothes that you no longer need? A willingness to visit someone who is lonely? An opportunity to help a neighbour or colleague? A talent for DIY? For sewing? For sharing your faith? What actually do you have? In the Bible, people who used what they had in the service of God found that, however seemingly insignificant, it was more than sufficient with God's blessing on it.

What is the key that opens the divine grace? Obedience. It was obedience in using what they already had that engendered the miracle. May it be so for you also.

Diary

September

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

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

Sun 2nd	10:00am 10:30am	Prayers in the church Communion with Revd Melanie Smith
Wed 5th	9:30am	Wednesday Toddlers restarts
Fri 7th	9:45am	Friday Toddlers restarts
Sun 9th	10:30am 6:00pm	Worship with John Stynes Sunday Evening Reflection
Mon 10th	6:15pm	Boys Brigade restarts
Mon 10th	8:00pm	India trip 2019 explained, at the manse (see p22)
Tue 11th	8:00pm	House group restarts (see p11)
Wed 12th	8:00pm	New songs restarts
Wed 12th	6:15pm	Girls Brigade restarts
Fri 14th	6:00pm	Anchor Boys restarts
Sun 16th	10:30am	Harvest Worship with Ray Pettipher (see p12)
Thur 20th	7:45pm	Church meeting
Sun 23rd	10:30am	Worship with Paul Ashitey
28th—30th		National Prayer Weekend (see p24)
Sun 30th	10:30am	Worship with Barrie Thompson

Prayer Diary

SEPTEMBER 2018

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1

Saturday 1st

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 2nd

Thanks for the small things people do to help us

Monday 3rd

Lynda and family

Tuesday 4th

Worship God for his compassion

Wednesday 5th

Cecil Avenue

Thursday 6th

Staff and pupils at Bush Hill Park Primary School

Friday 7th

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

Saturday 8th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 9th

Thanks for our Brigades as they help local girls and boys to learn useful skills

Monday 10th

Derek and family

Tuesday 11th

Worship God for his justice

Wednesday 12th

Clive Road

Thursday 13th

Staff and pupils at Grafton
Nursery School

Friday 14th

Elijah, our sponsored child in
Zambia

Saturday 15th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 16th

Thanks for what we harvest and
can share with others

Monday 17th

Jill

Tuesday 18th

Worship God for his righteous-
ness

Wednesday 19th

Charles Street

Thursday 20th

Staff and pupils at George Spicer
Primary School

Friday 21st

The work of Beyond Ourselves
(we support them)

Saturday 22nd

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 23rd

Thanks for all the benefits we
enjoy living in England

Monday 24th

Robin, Chris and family

Tuesday 25th

Worship God for his perfection

Wednesday 26th

Chatsworth Drive

Thursday 27th

Staff and pupils at Raglan Prima-
ry School

Friday 28th

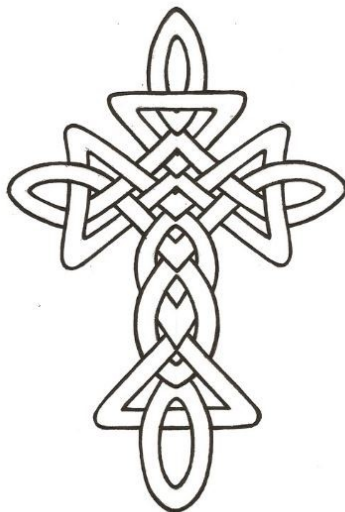
The work of Christian Aid (we
support them)

Saturday 29th

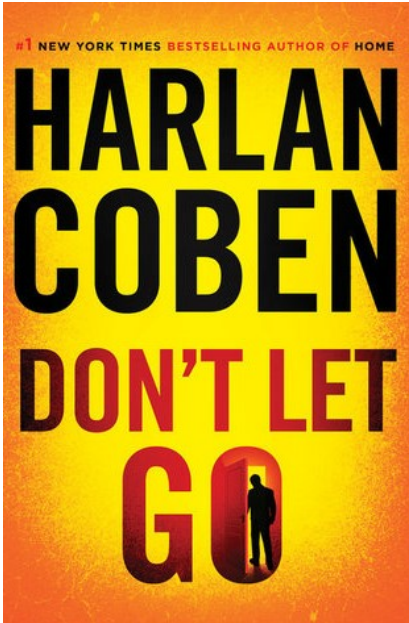
Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 30th

Give thanks for God's love



Book Club



'Don't Let Go' by Harlan Coben

Set in suburban New Jersey Detective Napoleon “Nap” Dumas hasn't been the same since senior year of high school, when his twin brother Leo and Leo’s girlfriend Diana were found dead on the railroad tracks—and Maura, the girl Nap considered the love of his life, broke up with him and disappeared without explanation.

For fifteen years, Nap has been searching, both for Maura and for the real reason behind his brother's death. And now, it looks as though he may finally find what he's been looking for.

When Maura's fingerprints turn up in the rental car of a suspected murderer, Nap embarks on a quest for answers that only leads to more questions—about the woman he loved, about the childhood friends he thought he knew, about the abandoned military base near where he grew up, and mostly about Leo and Diana—whose deaths are darker and far more sinister than Nap ever dared imagine

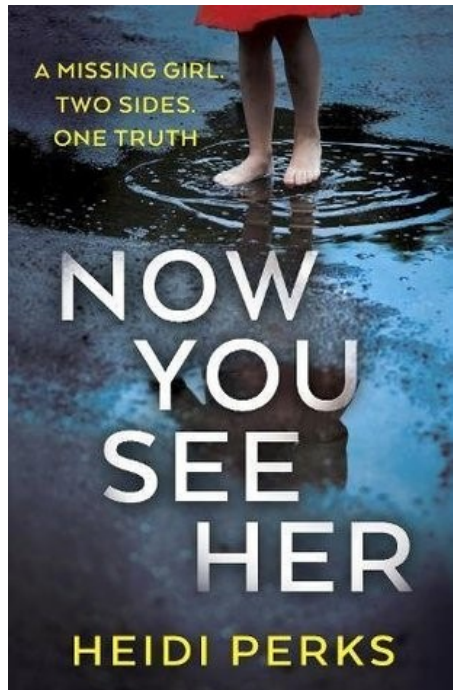
This was a good read with only one of us realising the identity of the true perpetrator early in the book.

Sylvia Page

'Now you see her' by Heidi Perks

Again, a tried and tested storyline of a missing child and the search to find who has abducted her, yet this is somewhat different. The flipping back in time was confusing and one had to read back to find whose account it was.

The testing of friendship is explored as is the subject of controlling partners, weak characters and the difficulty of release from obsessive behaviour. This book had it in excess at times so contrived as to be predictable. We did not feel it met its 'can't put down' advertising.



Next month we meet on 3rd September taking a different slant. We will discuss the life of Lizzie Borden the alleged murderess from the USA, but can each choose which of a few books to read.

Sylvia Page

Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea & Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
2nd	Alison	Tony	Yvonne	Kath	Robin
9th	Evelyn	Judith	Jane & Ivy		Tony
16th	Kath	Anne	Valerie		Tony
23rd			Sylvia	Diann	Tony
30th		Judith			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!

Reflections on being a Christian

The kingdom of God is not for the well-meaning, but for the desperate. – J Denney

How many Christians live their lives packed up and ready to go? – J I Packer

Confessing your sins is no substitute for forsaking them. – Anon

The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor.

Nobody can fight properly and boldly for the faith if he clings to a fear of being stripped of earthly possessions. – St Peter Damian

You're not free until you've been made captive by supreme belief. – Marianne Moore

The Christian believes that he was created to know, love, and serve God in this world and to be happy with Him in the next. – Evelyn Waugh

Back to School – and daily life

‘Most Christians don’t really believe that the ordinary things they do every day have anything much to do with God’s purposes in time and eternity. But the reality is that God can and does work through His people... among the people they naturally meet, doing the things they normally do.’ (Mark Greene).

September is the time when we get back to our normal routines after the summer break. It’s a good opportunity to ask how God wants us to make a difference in our workplace, school, family or with friends. Paul writes:

‘And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.’ (Colossians 3:17).

As disciples, we are called to do the ordinary things in the name of Jesus, i.e. act in the way Jesus would in our situation.

‘WHATEVER you do’: God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. Do we believe this? Our lives shouldn’t be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which the whole is available to God.

‘Whatever YOU do’: God wants to use us to make a difference to the people and places where we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

‘Whatever you DO’: Our work is for God alone, out of gratitude for God’s love for us. How does this perspective make a difference when what we do seems hard, unrewarding, or unappreciated by others?

‘Work doesn’t take us away from God; it continues the work of God.’ (Eugene Peterson).

Rev Paul Hardingham

India 2019

We are planning to visit North India again in January 2019 between 14th and 31st January and would love to take a few people with us.

At present we are trying to work out an itinerary for our trip but it is expected that it will involve the following:-

Visiting Kolkata, to include:

- Visit to the Mother House, where Mother Theresa is buried, and where she worked for many years
- Spending time with Cathedral Relief Services
- Visiting other organisations working with those affected by human trafficking
- Opportunity for some sightseeing, seeing life “on the streets” in Kolkata

Visiting Durgapur, where Bishop Probal Dutta is based, and seeing the work of the Church of North India in that area

Visiting Khristiya Seva Niketan Hospital in Sarenga, this is likely to include:

- Joining the healthcare teams on visits to outlying villages, where work is being done in the community
- Gaining an understanding of the work being done at KSN
- Spending time with the nurse trainees
- Visiting Sarenga itself, and seeing life in a rural town
- Joining in worship at the local church

The trip will probably cost between £900 and £1,000 per person in total (allowing for visa costs, flights, accommodation and food) but excluding any spending money, or gifts that people may wish to take with them, insurance and costs of vaccinations that may be needed. There may be grants available to help cover some of these costs.

If it is something that might appeal to you then either let us know or come and join us at the manse (10 Orpington Road N21 3PG) on Monday 10th September at 8pm when we will explain a little more about all that may be involved.

Mark and Melanie

Prayer

Security

(John 1:4,5 Hebrews 13:5)

God knows the end from the beginning,
He knows His purposes are good.
When darkness hides the path and signposts,
He keeps our feet on the safe road.
His light shines in Jesus, true forever,
Darkness a trick of troubled minds,
God is real and travels with us
Guards our steps before, behind.

Let's be thankful for this moment,
Trust our questions to His grace,
He knows the end from the beginning,
We are secure, He has a place...
Prepared and waiting and beautiful,
For His children.



By Daphne Kitching

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.



28-30 September 2018

Your prayers
Impacting **your** street
Affecting **your** community

 *We had many answers to prayer: new jobs opening up, ministry positions being filled, housing needs met and physical healing from cancer!* 

Get involved!

Sign up

Commit to pray as an individual, a small group, or a whole church.



Get ready

Make the most of free online resources – everything you need to plan and run your weekend.

Pray

Gather prayer requests and pray for your neighbours, schools, businesses – your whole community.

Join in at
national-prayer-weekend.com

Find us  and follow us  @NPWtogether

CWR Applying God's Word
to everyday life and relationships

evangelical alliance
better together

HOPE
in our colleges, homes & cities

 **24-7 PRAYER**

 **Interfaith Dialogue**

 **Neighbourhood**
PRAYER UK



What is 'health'?

This summer we've been celebrating the 70th anniversary of the National Health Service. I can recall, years ago, my GP pointing out that it was the National Health Service, not the National Illness Service. This was when our local practice changed its name from 'Medical Centre' to 'Health Centre'. It seems a pedantic point, but in fact it touches on a huge issue. What is 'health'?

In the Gospels the healing miracles of Jesus are sometimes called 'cures' and sometimes 'making well or whole'. These are attempts by the translators to convey a difference in the nature of what had happened. People who had 'conditions' (blind, lame, infirm) were 'cured'. Those with serious illness were often said to be 'made whole'. When Jesus was faced with ten people with leprosy, nine were described as 'cured' and one – the Samaritan who came back in gratitude, was 'made whole' (Luke 17:19). So was the woman with a long-term haemorrhage, who touched the hem of the Lord's garment: 'your faith has made you whole (well)' (Luke 8:45).

This suggests that 'health' is more than being free of sickness. Indeed, it seems to imply that health relates to our whole life experience – to be truly healthy, we are 'well' mentally, physically and spiritually. I think I would go further: I have ministered to people who were desperately ill but in the deepest sense of the word radiantly 'healthy'. That may sound odd, but just as 'peace' is not simply the absence of war, so 'health' is not just the absence of illness. I suspect many of those working in the NHS know the truth of that.

Canon David Winter



Eco Church

One of God's earliest interactions with humanity was to give us care for creation. The general public's interest in all things green was piqued last year with the BBC series Blue Planet 2. As a local church, what can we do?

I would like to propose that one or two folk from any of our churches come to the Manse at 8.00pm on Friday 14th September to work through the Eco Church scheme. This is an award system run by leading Christian environmental charity A Rocha. Depending on how 'green' we are, a church can qualify for a bronze, silver or gold award. The scheme is pitched at a level that even churches with 'difficult buildings' can be recognised for their efforts. It would be really helpful if those attending this initial meeting could bring a laptop or other suitable device as there is an on-line questionnaire involved.

I'd also envisage that this group would have first refusal for a visit to the Edmonton Eco Park, to see first hand how household waste not suitable for recycling generates electricity, and how food and garden waste makes compost.

If you are interested in green issues and would like to take this forward, please email me.

Melanie Smith
revd.melanie@gmail.com



Boys' Brigade News

Review of BB Camp 2018

At 7am on Saturday 21st July a group of Oompa Loompas, Willy Wonkas, Fantastic Mr Foxes, Georges, Twits, The BFG and Grandpa Joe boarded the minibus and we set off for camp. This year the theme for camp was Roald Dahl and everyone had to dress-up as a character from one of his books, but no two people in the same tent could come as the same character.

We all arrived at camp safely on Saturday afternoon, unloaded the lorry and set up our tents ready for camp to begin. We did various activities over the week with each tent getting more competitive, wanting to win the most points, as the week went on.

On the first couple of days we spent some time on the beach going for a refreshing swim in the sea. We also did some challenges such as Feats of Strength which is a series of strength-based games and brain games which tested our mental ability and teamwork.

On Monday we did an orienteering challenge where we each got given different starting points on a map and had to go to certain checkpoints, each of which had a different coloured pen and a letter spelling out the name of someone who used to be in the 2nd Enfield BB Company. There was a bonus for completing the name but there was also a penalty, for every minute a tent was late back to the final meeting point they lost one point. Tent 1 had successfully found six out of the 10 checkpoints which meant they were awarded 60 points, Tent 2 found two checkpoints so had 20 points and Tent 3 found four checkpoints so had 40 points. Tents 1 and 2 both thought they'd arrived at the meeting early and were waiting for everyone else. However, they were at the wrong place and after 25 minutes they arrived at the correct meeting point, which was about 10m to the right of where they were! Tent 3 arrived at the correct meeting point 2 minutes early which meant Tent 3 ended up with 40 points, Tent 1 35 points and Tent 2 lost this task with minus 5 points!

Before we knew it we were half way through the week and it was Theme Day. This year it was called Wonka Wednesday. In the morning we competed in several games based around the creations of Roald Dahl,

these included Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory where we made our own chocolate bars, a search to find ingredients for George's Marvellous Medicine, a Miss Trunchbull pony tail toss, Pheasant target shooting and an Escape room.

After lunch the competition continued as each tent had to make the following to bring to camp; the longest dream blower, the most colourful sign, the largest golden ticket and a tent sign. These were then judged by the staff along with our costumes. Now we were all in fancy dress, led by the brass band we headed down to the beach for the annual Beach Olympic Games.

The beach Olympics include events such as the 100m backwards sprint, the 5-legged-race, match stick throwing, a swimming race, a stretcher race (where the lightest member of each tent is carried around a course on a stretcher by the other members of their tent) and a mummy competition where one member of each tent is wrapped up in toilet roll to look like a mummy and whoever goes the longest without the toilet roll breaking or without moving wins. This year at camp we also got creative and constructive with a scrapheap challenge style soapbox building and racing competition. After building and designing our soapboxes we then raced them, after some breakages and repairs to the soapboxes, everyone managed to make it down the course.

The weather at camp this year was hot so we all welcomed the water assault course. The water assault course is made up of three different challenges. The first, each member of each tent has a bucket full of water and has to complete the course carrying the bucket, when they cross the finish line the water remaining in their bucket is poured into a bigger bucket and whichever tent manages to keep the most water wins. The second is a team time trial, this time it's not about keeping as much water in the bucket but getting around the course the quickest. The third is an individual time trial where everyone sets an individual time and the fastest member of each tent then compete in a final race for first second and third place. The course starts by spinning in a circle ten times before going over, under and over some benches. This is followed by going under some camo netting and then through a zig-zag rope path. We then have to go under some tarpaulin and then through a tunnel where buckets of water are thrown over us as we come out. The final stage is

walking over a log and up back to the finish line which is next to the start point. All of the course must be completed with the bucket of water in our hands making it difficult to keep as much water in as possible.

On the beach along side swimming we also played the frisbee game and the burrowing game. Some of us also played games such as tennis and catch with the frisbee. Some of the evening games we played included Danish rounders, volleyball, non-stop cricket, lemonade and bulldog.

As camp was coming to an end we did some out of field activities such as head hunters, which is an outdoor quasar game where we played a few rounds of capture the flag. We also went to an activity centre where we went on a giant swing. Two at a time, we pulled ourselves up into the air whilst we held on to a metal bar attached to us by rope and then a string was pulled when we were at the top which released us and we swung high up and quite quickly too. Anyone who had the pleasure of going on the swing with Tom Brown was lucky enough to get a rendition of ABBA which included Mamma Mia, Super Trouper, Money, Money, Money and Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!

After a week of hot weather and non-stop sunshine Friday came. After spending the morning at the activity centre doing the giant swing and Jacob's ladder we headed to Culver Down Battery for lunch where we had a light shower of rain. Another light shower followed as we headed into Sandown to have a look around the shops, buy some souvenirs, eat doughnuts and play on the arcade machines before heading back for fish and chips along the Sandown sea front.

Like every year we also did tent inspection which ended with the results being very close and there only being a few points between first and third place. However, differently this year we tried to break world records. Some of the world records we tried to break included fastest time to put a tin of Alphabetti Spaghetti in alphabetical order, the furthest distance throw and catch of a water balloon and the most pairs of underwear put on in a minute. Unfortunately, we didn't break any of the world records we attempted this year.

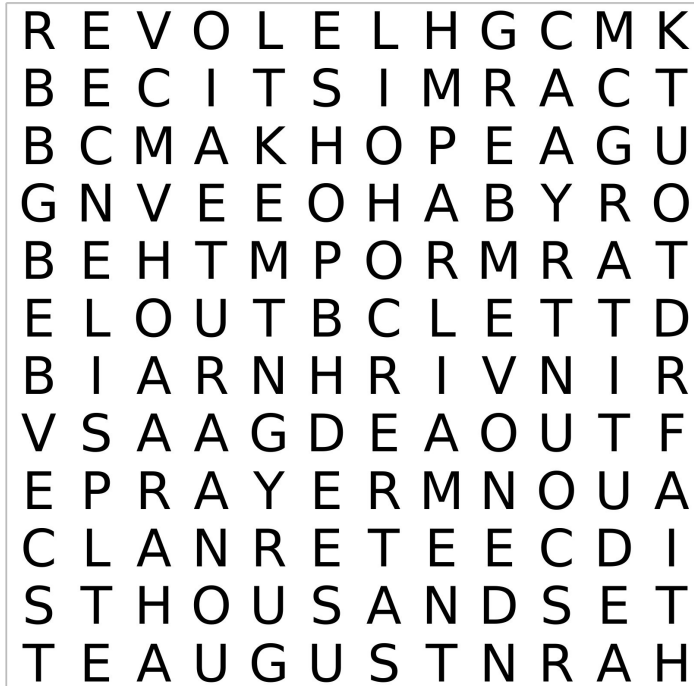
As usual the food at camp was great and everyone had a good, fun enjoyable time and it won't be too long before camp 2019 is here!

Joseph Nicolaides

Wordsearch

On 4th August 1918 King George V met to pray with members of the Houses of Parliament. One hundred days later, the war ended. Last month, 4th August 2018 was the first day of 100 days of prayer across the country, running until Armistice Day in November. Thousands of Christians across the country are using daily prayers, Bible readings and reflections from 100 Days of Peace and Hope, which can be downloaded, a week at a time from <https://www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days> HOPE has also published a beautifully illustrated booklet called *Silence* to give away at Remembrance events. *Silence* invites readers to look back with gratitude, and to reflect on eternal themes of faith, hope and love. Find out more at: <https://www.remembrance100.co.uk/silence/>

august	George	Parliament	prayer	hundred
country	armistice	day	November	Thousands
Peace	Hope	Remembrance	Silence	Gratitude
Eternal	Themes	Faith	love	look
back				



Other local church activities

September

Date	Time	Activity	Location
2nd	3pm	Tea and worship in the hall	Methodist
12th	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship <i>Bits & Pieces</i>	Methodist
15th	11am	Lunchtime @ Christ Church	Christ Church
17th	2:15pm	Friendship Club Revd Mandy James	Christ Church
26th	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship <i>Amanda James</i>	Methodist
27th	10.30am	Community coffee morning	Methodist

Weekly

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Sun	6.30pm	Service (1st of the month is Café style, 4th of the month is Contemporary with the band)	Lancaster Road
Mon	10am	Ladies Bible Study	Living Room
	7.30pm	English Conversation Club	Living Room
	7.45pm	Prayer at Betty's (Fortnightly)	Methodist
Tues	10am	Tots and Toys	Gospel Hall
	1.30pm	Open House (Coffee and Chat)	Living Room
Wed	9.45am	Bible Study (Fortnightly)	Lancaster Road
Thurs	1pm	Back to Life (Support Group / Board Games) starts with lunch	Living Room
Fri	10am	Shoppers Coffee Morning	Lancaster Road
	4pm	EPIC (Club for kids in years 3-6)	Gospel Hall
Sat	9am	Breakfast Club (2nd and 4th of the month)	Christ Church

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
	8.00pm	New Songs (1st Wednesday)
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
	9.45am	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)

