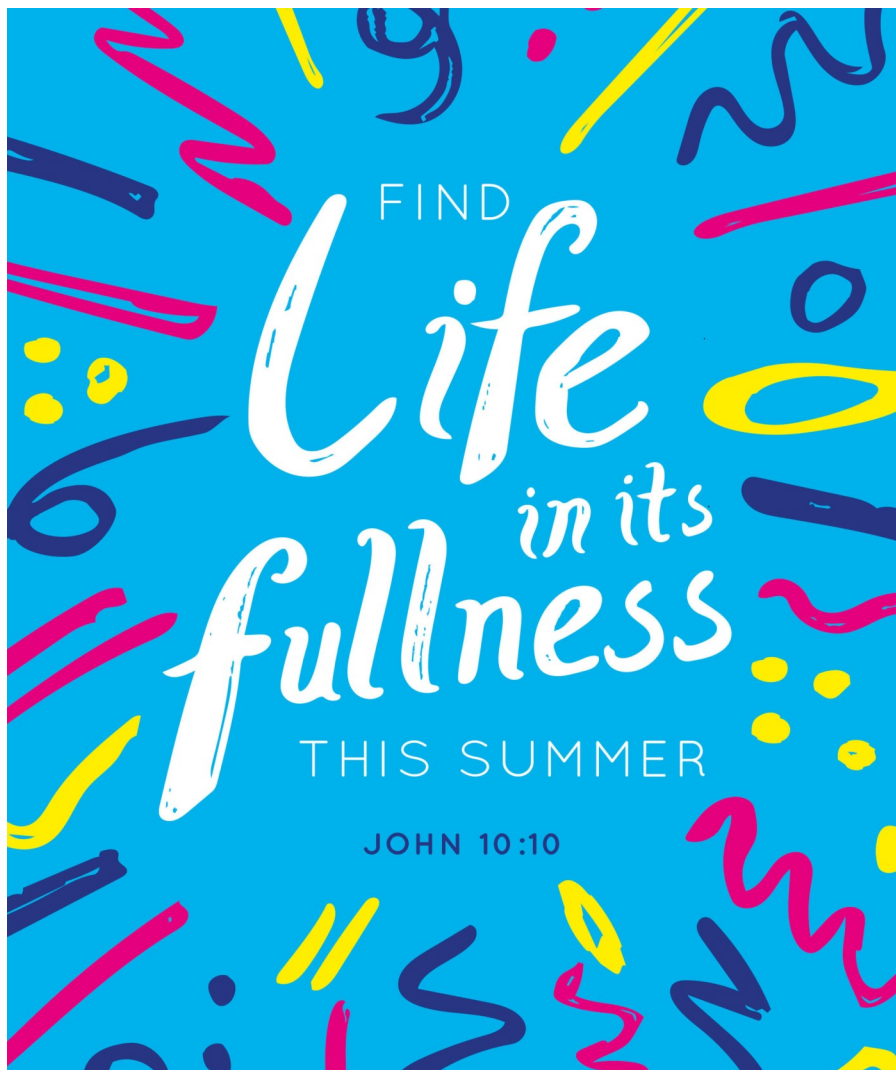




The
United
Reformed
Church

July and
August 2021



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

www.bhpurc.org.uk



Who to contact

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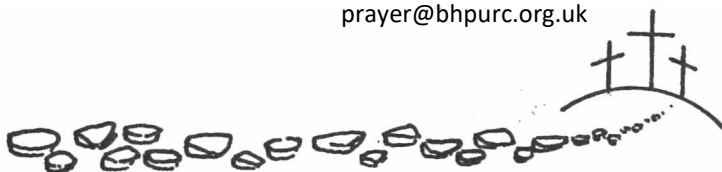
Youth activities

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

Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Newsletter	newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	bookings@bhpurc.org.uk
Prayer requests	prayer@bhpurc.org.uk



We are part of a group of United Reformed Churches in the London Borough of Enfield. If you would like to know what we are all doing please subscribe to our NewsShare mailing list at:
<http://eepurl.com/dHm8TH>.

Emails are only sent once or twice a month so you can keep up to date without getting too many emails, you can unsubscribe at any time.

*The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly. To receive email notifications please email newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk
Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.*

Discipleship

“Discipleship..is a state of being. Discipleship is about how we live; not just the decisions we make, not just the things we believe, but a state of being.” (Rowan Williams)

When I first became a Christian in the early 1980's I found myself in possession of a book that had me gripped from cover to cover. Simply titled “Discipleship”, and authored by David Watson, it was a book that spoke to me clearly about the sort of life that I felt I ought to be living, that I should be considering, as someone who had been brought up in the church but who had only recently begun to work out what it was all about, and come into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

When Watson begins with a quote from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die”* you know that you're not in for an easy read... but the challenge is there for each and every one of us as to how we are to respond to the call of God on our lives.

To a relatively young person, one might say that I suddenly saw the attraction of the *“radical, uncompromising nature of true Christian discipleship”*, something that I think I'd missed hearing about somehow in church life up to that point in time (was it preached, or did I simply not “hear” properly?).

In Discipleship, David Watson speaks of the call to discipleship, God's family, creating community,

making disciples, life in the Spirit, prayer, the word of God, spiritual warfare, evangelism, discipleship and simple lifestyle, the cost of discipleship and abounding in hope (now there's some ideas for a series of sermons!).

So now, many years later, how do I respond to that book and Watson's thoughts - is the call to discipleship still valid?

Was there something present in what I read that I now look back on and considered ill-advised, that I might want to change my mind about or an issue I might want to approach in a different way?

Little, if anything, would be the answer I would want to give.

The fact that the book is still sitting on my bookshelf in several

different pieces, witnesses to the fact that I still read bits of it from time to time and refresh my memory about discipleship and what following Christ is really all about, or should be about.

I think that the only thing that I would want to say more about than what David Watson explores is the need to listen to others. It is not that Watson doesn't cover that – he does, but it is that the way I have developed in my Christian understanding and actions is that I hope and think that I need to listen to others more so that I can understand where they are at, rather than assume that I know all the answers and can solve everyone's problems (none of us can!).

This hopefully leads me to try and ensure that I am putting all my trust in God, relying on the Holy Spirit to guide me at all times, and making sure that I consult with God about any decisions that need to be taken.

Others have written about what it means to be a disciple of Christ over the years since Watson penned "Discipleship" – see for example the quote from Rowan Williams' book "Being Disciples"

above - but the words which first stirred me in my late teens still encourage me in my response to God today in 2021.

Is there another book that had the same effect on you? Why not share your thoughts about it in a future edition of the church magazine, or write about it so that we can put something on our website or social media pages?

As we journey forward as Christians we all need to be continually encouraged and strengthened in our faith, and this can often happen best when we hear what has helped others to have their faith strengthened. So let's share the good things we've heard, read, watched and witnessed with others.

As the writer to the Hebrews puts it:- *"let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together.. but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* (Hebrews 10:24,5)

May you find and discover new ways of sharing your love of God with others in the days ahead.

With every blessing,
Your minister, Mark

Smile Lines

Holiday themed books

A Tour of Niagara by Walter Falls

Afternoons on the Lawn by T. N. Bisketts

Aimless Walks by Wanda Ring

Breaking the Ice by D. Frost

Country Cottages by Ivy Covered

Down Under by Ann Tipodes

Far Away Places by Tim Bucktoo

French Perfumes by O. De Cologne

Highlands & Islands by Bonnie Scotland

(Ed: Thanks to Evelyn for the books!)

With holidays approaching, some of the following may strike a chord!

Holiday: an all-expense tour

Holiday: something you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight before you appear in a swimsuit, because by then your body and your fat are really good friends.

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains? (A question for anyone holidaying in the Lake District or Wales.)

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes when he had the chance?

I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges.

Here is the News

Hall update

As at 31st May, we need to raise **£228,000** the final £40,000 (plus interest) to pay off the loan for our hall refurbishment.

Fundraising idea(s) from www.easyfundraising.org.uk/fundraising-ideas
#church-fundraising-ideas

Diary Dates

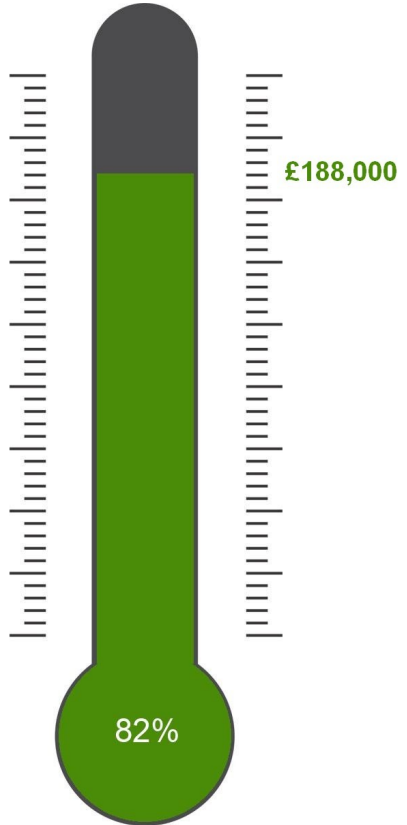
Sunday **4th July** 4pm Church Meeting at Bush Hill Park URC - including election of elders (Martin Hamblin) and afternoon tea.

Sunday **11th July** 10am Rev Martin Legg celebrates 30 years as an ordained minister at Bush Hill Park URC.

Saturday **14th August** 3pm Afternoon tea at Christ Church URC, Chase Side, Enfield.

The church is in Bloom

With thanks to Sylvia and Yvonne for their work preparing the front of the church for Enfield in bloom.





When I walk around the area I have noticed bins overflowing with

recycled waste, this can be avoided by squashing it down. If not, come dustbin day we end up with half of it getting blown down the road, sometimes animals such as foxes will have a sniff around and pull things out. You can squeeze the air out of your plastic bottles and then put the lid back on, this creates space in your bin. Folding and tearing cardboard into small pieces also makes more space.



Tony

Church requires carpenter to help feed the poor!

Not a joke - Ponders End URC is part of Enfield Food Alliance, which is working to provide emergency food to some of those most in need through the pandemic. But we need some help to build an external cupboard for some food storage. We have a design and we have a budget to cover materials, but it wouldn't cover labour unless the carpenter could work at super-human speed!

Would be a great project for a retired handyperson, apprentice piece, or to give some meaning to furlough...

Sample plans here (will confirm actual size): www.littlefreepantry.org/resources-1

Please contact Melanie if you'd like to find out more!

Waste Warriors

Vikkie and the Thompson family continue their food waste tips, picked up from participating on Channel 4's Cook Clever, Waste Less with Prue & Rupy which first aired on the 27th May.

Some of the tips you may already do, which is awesome, keep that up, but for others, this may all be new ideas for you. Continue to reduce your waste in as many ways as possible to help the planet and the environment for the younger generations that come after you.

Good luck!

Vikkie and the Thompson Waste Warriors

Tip 3: How long?

Every year, around half a billion pounds worth of food is thrown away from homes linked to a "Best Before" date – 180,000 tonnes!

41% of food is thrown away because it is not used in time. Less than 1 in 5 of us, rarely or never refer to on-pack information about how long to store items once they have been opened. (Source - BBC Studios Science Unit).

'Use by' – refers to safety: you must not eat food past the 'use by' date. Whereas 'Best before' – refers to quality: food will be at its best before the date given. It might not be at its best after the date but should be safe to eat. Use your senses to make a judgement.

A guide to a few key food items and how long after the date they can be eaten:

Fresh, uncut fruit and vegetables – the quality of the best before date depends on the food type, its variety and seasonality. It may range from 1 additional day (for perishable items) to two weeks for more robust crops, like swedes.

Bread and bakery products – remain good to eat for between 2 days for bread, and up to 1 week for other bakery products. Some bakery items are sold in long life packaging (e.g. pitta bread) so can be eaten for a longer period after the Best Before date. This may be a month or longer.

Frozen food – will be safe to eat for months after the Best Before End date. Check your freezer temperature, freezers should ideally always run at -18°C if yours is -18 a three star rating means it will keep for three months, four stars is even longer!

Store cupboard foods – will be safe to eat for months, sometimes years:

- Crisps – 1 month
- Biscuits, cereal – 6 months
- Canned meat and soup, confectionary, drinks (cans / plastic/ glass), pasta sauces – 12 months
- Dried pasta – up to 3 years
- Jams – 3-5 years.

Tip 4: Freeze it

Only a third of us refer to on-pack information about how long items can be frozen for. 81.25% of fruit we waste is wasted because we haven't used it in time.

You can freeze almost all fruit, put it in a handy (reusable) freezer bag and simply grab a handful next time you're making a porridge or a smoothie.

If you've got mashed potato leftover, place it in a shallow rectangular shape in the freezer. That way, it's easier to break off how much you need to defrost.

Don't throw away milk you're not going to use, pour it into an ice cube tray to freeze it in perfect tea-sized portions. (Milk is never wasted in our house as I drink an awful amount of tea!)

Grate up your cheese and then freeze it, even if it's gone a bit hard – it's perfect for grabbing as much as you need for your toastie or pizza.

Cut chicken or turkey breasts into thin strips, lay them out on a tray and put the tray in the freezer. Once frozen you can pack the strips in bags. (Even though we were shown this by Prue, when it came to do it, we completely forgot and ended up with 5 breasts stuck together!) Freezing on a tray first means they won't stick together and are easy to use later.

Sign up for the Plastic Challenge



It's nearly time for the Plastic Challenge!

Every year 11 million tonnes of plastic are getting into our seas causing devastating harm to wildlife, polluting our water with chemicals and breaking down into microplastics that enter our food chain.

In recent years, an increasing number of organisations, individuals and businesses have woken up to the plastic crisis our ocean faces. But with new challenges brought about by coronavirus, a lot of us have found it more difficult to avoid plastic – with more food being delivered and more packaging being used.

For safety reasons around coronavirus, supermarkets haven't been able to accept plastic bags for recycling purposes. We know it has been tough.

Sign up now at www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/plastic-challenge/take-part-in-this-years-plastic-free-challenge

We believe that whether you go single-use plastic free for a day, a week, or the whole month, you'll be making a huge amount of difference to our ocean and marine wildlife. Small changes can have a big impact.

Sign up today and we'll email you tips, hints and fun resources throughout July that will help you reduce your use of single-use plastic.

By joining the Plastic Challenge we'll help you not only reduce your plastic footprint but also your carbon footprint and you'll become part of a movement to protect our beautiful blue planet.

Learn more at www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/plastic-challenge

Join the Plastic Challenge and be part of the solution.

William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson

During the 18th century many people in England were involved in the campaign to abolish the slave trade. The Church of England remembers especially William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson – three very different but all tireless campaigners against the evil practice.

Thomas Clarkson (1760-1846) was an Anglican clergyman and one of the most prominent of the anti-slavery campaigners. In 1787 he helped form the first Abolitionist Committee, and his energy and hatred of injustice made him a ‘moral steam-engine’. He travelled hundreds of miles, gathering evidence from people caught up in the slave trade, from ship captains to doctors.

Olaudah Equiano (1745 – 1797) had been kidnapped in Nigeria, sold into slavery and sent to the West Indies. When he finally escaped, he made his way to London and became one of the most prominent black campaigners. His brutal autobiography of 1789 ran to nine reprints, and was translated into many languages, bringing home to people the horrors of the slave trade.

William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833), of course, became the main figurehead in Parliament. He came from a wealthy family in Kingston-upon-Hull, and represented the town in Parliament. He was recruited by Thomas Clarkson, who saw the need for a brilliant advocate within Parliament. Wilberforce was an inspired choice: not only wealthy and well- connected, but a gifted orator with a social conscience, especially after his conversion in 1785. He made his first speech in Parliament against slavery in 1789, but it was not until 1807, after a debate that raged for many years, that the Abolition Act was finally passed.

Enfield Street Pastors

Enfield Street Pastors began in 2006, and we are part of a network, first pioneered by Revd Les Isaac in 2003, CEO of Ascension Trust, our parent body. Since 2003, Street Pastors have been established in over 280 towns and cities around the country, including most London Boroughs. Street Pastors are also expanding overseas.

A Street Pastor is over 18, a committed Christian and member of a local church who, as a volunteer, and after training, has chosen to respond positively to the night time problems of a town centre.

Our brief is to listen to people who want to chat, care for those who feel vulnerable, and help those who need it in the context of the moment.

We are there to meet people where they are and respond to their current need. We are non-judgemental and have no view that would create a barrier when responding to them, be it views on religion, politics, morality or ethics.

Street Pastors are welcomed by the authorities and the people we meet because they know we are not there to evangelise or preach to them. However, because the Street Pastor uniform identifies us as Christians, people often come to us and ask us about the Christian Faith, giving us the opportunity to share our faith with people and, if people are happy about this, pray with them.

In Enfield we have four teams and our patrol hours range between the hours of 9.00pm and 3.30am. Currently, we are patrolling the Fore Street corridor in Edmonton; Enfield Town Centre; and Chase Side, Southgate. These are all places where people gather at the weekend to socialise and enjoy an evening out. Sometimes, however, that evening out can take a turn through too much alcohol or through

other circumstances, and people can need a helping hand. That's where Street Pastors can play their part.

We engage with people in a friendly way. It could be with passers-by; with door staff; those serving in late night convenience stores or takeaways; with groups of girls or guys, particularly if there seem be tensions in the group; and with people outside for a smoke who just want someone different to talk to.

The vulnerable could be someone who has had too much to drink; a homeless person who needs a meal or direction to homeless services; a lone female at a bus stop late at night who could just do with someone nearby so she feels safe; or helping people get home late at night. We can be a reassuring presence for people who might feel nervous or anxious.

Street Pastors are a calming influence on the streets. We have been to communities in shock after a fatal stabbing, and brought reassurance to the people we meet. We have seen the power of prayer in helping deal with Anti-Social Behaviour. We have advised young teenagers to go home to their parents.

Street Pastors is an incredible opportunity to take the Christian faith on to the streets to a community that welcomes our presence and is happy to engage with us. Our presence is also welcomed by the Police and Local Authorities who recognise the positive contribution Street Pastors are making to the night time scene in our town centres.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact John Rawding on 020 8886 3786, or enfield@streetpastors.org.uk.

If you would like to pray here are some needs:

Vulnerable people in our communities

For more people to volunteer as Street Pastors and Prayer Partners

John

How a vicar's TikTok meant for seven teenagers reached 1.7 million

What began as an amusing way to keep up with the seven teenagers in her congregation is now serious outreach for the Revd Anne Beverley of Christ Church in Wesham, Lancashire.

When the coronavirus pandemic struck, the first lockdown brought with it a need to stay in touch with the teenagers in her congregation, so Revd Anne Beverley filmed on the social media platform, TikTok – but she did not expect what happened next.

In three days, her video on her TikTok account @ChristChurchWesham was seen not just by the seven local teenagers, but by 1.7 million people around the world.



“We just sat at home watching the numbers go up every time we refreshed our phones,” said Revd Beverley, “it was ridiculous.”

Today, five or six videos are posted each week, which range from dances and singing, to short sermons while walking the dog.

The church has more than 66,000 followers and receives around a thousand comments and questions about God each week.



Diary

July and August

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

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

July Sun 4th	10:00am 4:00pm	Communion with Martin Wells Church meeting and afternoon tea
Sun 11th	10:00am	Family Celebration with Revds Martin Legg and David Hamblin
Sun 18th	10:00am	Worship with Lisa Hamblin
Sun 25th	10:00am	Worship with Revd Mark Meatcher
August Sun 1st	10:00am	Communion with Revd Mark Meatcher
Sun 8th	10:00am	Family worship with Christine Hall
Sun 15th	10:00am	Worship with Derek Lindfield
Sun 22nd	10:00am	Worship
Sun 29th	10:00am	Worship with Revd Barrie Thompson

**Next newsletter deadline:
Sunday 15th August**

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

Prayer Diary

JULY 2021

Finally, be strong in the Lord
and in his mighty power.
Put on the full armor of God,
so that you can take your stand
against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:10-11

Thursday 1st

Surgeons

Friday 2nd

Elijah, our sponsored child in
Zambia

Saturday 3rd

Sunday's Worship Leader and the
service tomorrow

Sunday 4th

Give thanks for those who lead
and help with Boys and Girls
brigade

Monday 5th

Melanie

Tuesday 6th

The Message, a charity working
in Enfield and across the UK,

Christian outreach to youth in
secondary schools, local
communities and prisons May17
(NFlame) Aug18(NFlame)

Wednesday 7th

Bertram Road

Thursday 8th

General Practice Doctors

Friday 9th

The work of The Leprosy Mission
(we support them)

Saturday 10th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 11th

Thanks for holidays and the
chance of meeting new people

Monday 12th

Robin (both)

Tuesday 13th

Enfield charity – Beyond
Ourselves, working with children
in Zambia

Wednesday 14th

Blakesware Gardens

Thursday 15th

Nurses

Friday 16th

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

Saturday 17th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 18th

Thanks for carers and those
helping people to live a normal
life

Monday 19th

Stephen

Tuesday 20th

Enfield charity – Pathway,
providing Christian education for
children

Wednesday 21st

Broadfields Avenue

Thursday 22nd

Specialist Doctors

Friday 23rd

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

Saturday 24th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 25th

Give thanks for God's love

Monday 26th

Sue

Tuesday 27th

Enfield charity – Enfield Street
Pastors, out on a Friday and
Saturday night to care for, listen
to and help people

Wednesday 28th

Burleigh Road

Thursday 29th

Junior Doctors

Friday 30th

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

Saturday 31st

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

AUGUST 2021

You are the light of the world.
A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.
In the same way, let your light shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14,16

Sunday 1st

Thanks for our young people
and all children who visit our
church and its buildings

Monday 2nd

Sylvia

Tuesday 3rd

Persecuted church in Iran

Wednesday 4th

Bury Street West

Thursday 5th

Those in gangs and the charities
who seek to educate young
people about the futility of
violence in our streets

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

Thank God for the freedoms we
enjoy to pray and worship and
to participate in public life

Monday 9th

Tom

Tuesday 10th

Persecuted church in Nigeria

Wednesday 11th

Bycullah Avenue

Thursday 12th

Local "Safer Neighbourhoods"
police and PCSOs

Friday 13th

The work of Beyond Ourselves
(we support them)

Saturday 14th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 15th

Thanks for the small things
people do to help us

Monday 16th

Tony

Tuesday 17th

Persecuted church in Pakistan

Wednesday 18th

Cecil Avenue

Thursday 19th

Gun and knife crime, for safety

Friday 20th

Elijah, our sponsored child in
Zambia

Saturday 21st

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 22nd

Thanks for Sunshine and rain

Monday 23rd

Vikkie

Tuesday 24th

Persecuted church in Eritrea

Wednesday 25th

Clive Road

Thursday 26th

A reduction in burglaries and
peace for those affected

Friday 27th

Those without clean drinking
water and the charities that seek
to bring clean water and
sanitation to everyone

Saturday 28th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 29th

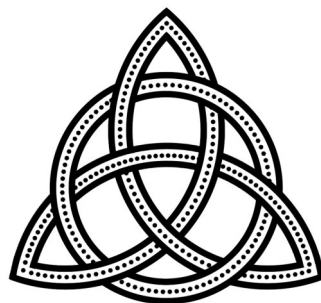
Thanks for our ambulance,
medical services and the air
ambulance helping to save lives

Monday 30th

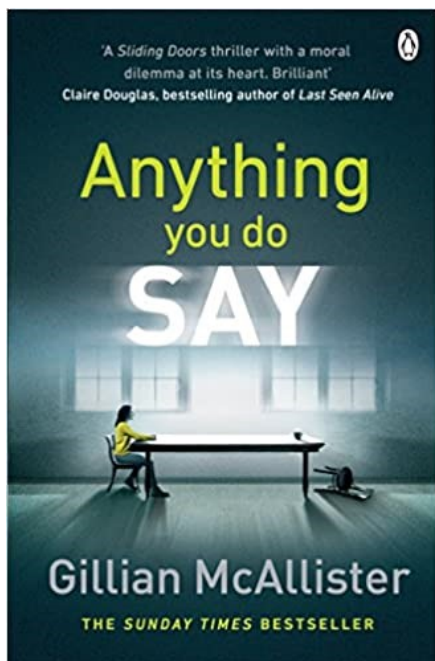
Yvonne

Tuesday 31st

Persecuted church in Yemen



Book Club



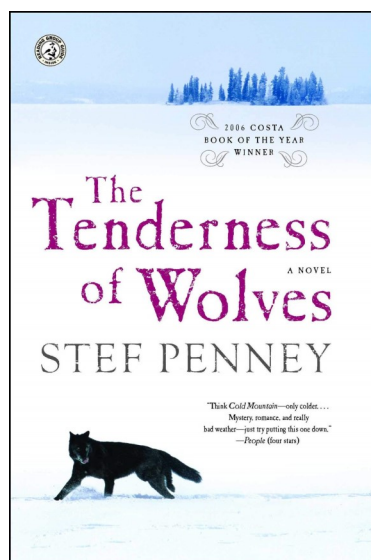
Anything you do say by Gillian McAllister

Well, this did split our group. In fact, only one person finished it! If you remember seeing or reading 'Sliding Doors' way back, this is a bit like that. There are two scenarios to the outcome of a death - one in which you admit you were there and the other, you lie. Which version do you believe, and which path would you take? It starts with a thirty odd year-old woman being molested in a nightclub and then ...

The main character was not liked or believed by two of us, her husband is much more plausible. Grow up was another thought! I think you've guessed, we do not recommend it.

We meet, hopefully, on the church lawn on Monday 5th July having read, The Tenderness of Wolves by Stef Penney.

Yvonne and Sylvia



Bible Study

Our Zoom Bible Study continues over the summer months looking at the theme of “God’s heart for mental health”.

We will be meeting together on Saturday mornings at 9.30 am on the following dates:-

3rd July	Session 2: Cared For
10th July	Session 3: Listened to
31st July	Session 4: Accepted
7th August	Session 5: Understood
21st August	Session 6: Beloved

These studies will stay on Zoom at present. Please let me know if you need the passcode to join us.

Rev Mark Meatcher



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

Interview

How long have you lived in this area?

I've lived in Bush Hill Park, in the same house for a little over 48 years. Before coming to BHP URC I went to Highbury Quadrant church in Stoke Newington where I learnt to play the organ. I'd been playing piano for a while and some people in the church found out I wanted to play the organ too so I was conscripted into playing the hymns on the fifth Sunday of the month in bible class – someone was booked to play for the first four weeks of a month but not the fifth. I was able to practice after bible class most weeks with some tips from another organ player. I later found out there were evening classes available to learn the organ just opposite where I was working at the time. It wasn't long before I ended up playing for bible class every week!

What made you choose our church to come to?

When we moved to Bush Hill Park in November I was still playing organ at Highbury Quadrant and my dad was still the secretary for the church. We both said we'd continue with Highbury Quadrant until the end of the year.

Mum went to Bush Hill Park and checked it out, having been recommended by Doreen Bamberger, and said we would like it here so dad and I came when we were finished helping at Highbury Quadrant.

What makes you go to church at all?

I was brought up in the church, my mum and dad always took us and I've just carried on coming! As I got older we could do various activities. Sometimes concerts were put on and I was often lumbered with accompanying someone! I enjoy the friendships you build up with people and they help you if you need it. We all look after each other.

Do you have a favourite hymn? What is it, and why?

I have quite a few favourites. One of them is How deep the Father's

love for us. I like the tune and the words which tells us how deep God's love is even though we don't deserve it. It's hard but lovely to know he still loves us whatever, even putting his son through such a terrible death before raising him to life again.

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.

Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Do you have a favourite Bible passage? What is it, and why?

My favourite bible passage is psalm 150, let everything praise the Lord. It talks about praising Him with the trumpet, lute, harp, tambourine, dance (not that I can dance!), strings, pipes (especially organ pipes!), cymbals, everything really. I like musical things, being able to play music is special, I like to be able to use music to praise God in my way.

Has your faith in God helped you at different times in your life?

Oh yes. Mum's last few weeks and months were tough. When the doctor came to visit he knew it was time for her to go into hospital, he could see that the two of us couldn't cope and that she didn't have long left. That was God's timing, providing the doctor to say I can help, he was releasing us.

Also in 1991 when I was quite ill with an ovarian cyst and had to have a hysterectomy. When they did scans afterwards they saw I would need chemo which was horrible but I was never worried, I just got on with it. God was there keeping me calm.

What would you say to someone who is not a Christian, but would like to know more?

Come along and see what you think of us, there are events and organisations you can join in with. If you've got any trouble you can pray with someone or talk to someone here and they can help. They will understand and help solve the problem.

Christine

Reflected Faith: the spaces between

Most of us have been in situations where we are not in control, and we don't know how to feel or how to react to our situation. We need help.

The most valuable gift you can have at those times – is time itself. Time to be 'listened to'. Really listened to. But it is not easy to find someone who will 'actively listen' to you.

Think of the last time you were in the reverse position with a friend or a colleague, and they were talking to you. How easily do you recall what they actually said? Most of us are so busy getting our replies ready for when the person has finished speaking, that we don't clearly hear their punch line.

With God it is different. We can take everything to Him; all our worries and cares and failures and faults. And He listens.

He doesn't necessarily jump in with an instant, easy solution, but rather He promises to always guide us, if we ask Him, through life's challenges, and He promises to never leave us. He often speaks to us through his written word, the Bible.

This last year, when many of us have been communicating with others by phone or Zoom, we get nervous if it all goes quiet. We feel the need to 'nudge' the other person, to make sure they are still there. Silence is not a natural state for many of us – and yet it is in the quiet we can hear ourselves and God most clearly.

So, when we talk with God, our conversation should not be rushed and one-sided. We need to give space to our silence before Him, to wait and listen for Him to speak to us.

This month:

Next time you worship in church, listen to the silences: the spaces

between the words, the music and the actions. Listen to all the prayers that are spoken.

Look at your surroundings and reflect that they have absorbed thousands of prayers – and holy silence – down the centuries of their existence.

Look out the window and see the vastness of the sky above you – and let your prayers join with those that have gone before you. May the knowledge that you are not alone encourage and strengthen you.

Jo White

Grandad was babysitting when he heard his little grand-daughter muttering the alphabet over in hushed tones. "What are you doing?" he asked her. "I'm praying," she replied. "I can't think of the right words so I just say all the letters. God will put them together for me 'cos He knows what I'm thinking."



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Prayer

When we feel shaken

(Luke 10:42)

Faithful Father,
When we feel shaken by the events of the past; when we don't know quite how to go forward; when our confidence in what we thought we could control is undermined; remind us that one thing is needed – to sit at your feet and listen to You.

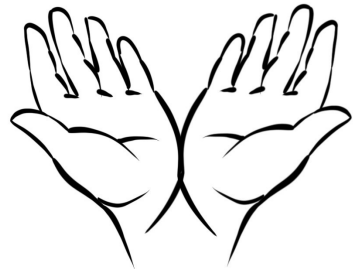
You are our security. You will never fail those who belong to You through faith in Your Son, Jesus.

As we take time to listen to You, Lord, and to meditate on Your Holy Spirit-inspired Word, may we know Your peace – and Your good plans for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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 would like prayer for yourself or family and friends please email prayer@bhpurc.org.uk



Girls' Brigade News

We started back at Girls Brigade after the Easter holiday with eight girls and went straight into looking at an assortment of bible stories ranging from Daniel in the lion's den, feeding the 500 thousand, the lost sheep and the good Samaritan.

To start the girls were very withdrawn, but gradually, over time, they began to relax and now they are nearly back to their old self's.

Since half term Tilly has bought a friend with her, so we now have 9 girls, and we are going to be looking at some of the women in the bible, starting with Ruth.

Of course, we start with a few energetic games and finish with craft. This week we have been making bird feeders using lard and bird food.

Lynda



Boys' Brigade News

In true British weather style, a week where we had planned to go over to Bush Hill Park it was pouring down with rain, in a last minute change of plan we headed over to Finchley because as the saying goes "bowling never strikes twice in the same place" which turned out to be true. For some of the boys bowling was right up their alley but others might need to do a bit more practice in their spare time. Everyone enjoyed a fun-filled round of bowling although a couple did find it a bit challenging and put up the side barriers.

Following the bank holiday Monday, we headed over to Whitewebbs where the boys competed in a series of challenges. With strict conditions set on each challenge, the three teams competed closely. One of the challenges involved a rope swing whilst in another intricate game, the boys had to cross a stream on a slackline course. They had to go between trees over the stream and back around to the beginning. Surprisingly no one managed to fall in. But arguably more surprisingly three boys managed to fall while crossing over a solid log.

This happened in the third challenge, where like a watermelon in the summer, teams were split in half, on one side of the stream were two pictures and two slightly edited pictures were on the other side of the stream. The two halves of the teams had to communicate across the stream to find the 20 differences across the four pictures. For this one team managed 7 out of 20 another managed 16 whilst the winning team found 18 of the 20 differences! In the fourth

game the teams had to get bouncy balls to land in a series of distanced sections. Each challenge was timed giving the teams 8 minutes of game and many wrote their names in the wall of game. The Whitewebbs challenge night is somewhat of an immutable staple of the 2nd Enfield BB summer season session and whilst some of the games may change over time, one thing for sure is that it's a Monday night looked forward to by all.

For the coming weeks, in the balance, there will be an orienteering night and trip over to Jump In trampoline park and white-water rafting before the annual game of pirates and hopefully the 2021 camp meeting. This would precede paddle boarding and a final game of Danish rounders with a BBQ which could include burgers, hot dogs and maybe even a side of halloumi or chilli. Providing camp can go ahead; the theme could be anything from film and television characters to gnomes and traffic cones. Everyone is in eager anticipation to know.

Speaking of things that are eagerly anticipated, at the time of writing we are still awaiting government updates on whether we will be able to go to camp this year. With each week excitement at the possibility of camp grows faster than a watermelon in warm sunny conditions and the days fly by quicker than a hovercraft.

Hopefully I will be able to update you in a couple months with a review of the end of the summer and camp to top off the BB year!

Joseph

Wordsearch

Doubting Thomas

If you have ever doubted aspects of your Christian faith, St Thomas is the saint for you. His feast day is on 3rd July.

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, was deeply devoted, but also very honest whenever he got confused. When Jesus spoke of going to his Father (John 14), Thomas was not afraid to ask Him where His Father was. As for the Resurrection, that really baffled Thomas. He demanded to see the risen Jesus for himself - and touch the wounds in His hands and feet. When Jesus appeared, Thomas' immediate response was one of worship: "My Lord and my God" (John 20).

Thus, Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of us down the centuries who also sometimes doubt Jesus. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, we can find support for our own faith in Him.

thomas	Saint
doubt	Faith
feast	Honest
confused	Father
afraid	Where
resurrection	
demanded	
baffled	
risen	See
support	Touch
wounds	Hands
feet	Response
worship	lord
my	god

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

Other local church activities

Please note that current circumstances mean that regular activities may not be taking place as they normally would. Please contact the relevant church to check on the current status of an activity.

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)	BHP Methodist
Tues	10am	Tots and Toys	Gospel Hall
	10.30am	United Prayer (1st and 3rd of the month)	Winchmore Hill Baptist
	1.30pm	Open House (Coffee and Chat)	Living Room
Wed	9.45am	Bible Study (Fortnightly)	Lancaster Road
	10am	Prayer (Fortnightly, alternates with above)	Lancaster Road
	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship (Talks from a variety of speakers, see Margaret Barbour for detail)	BHP Methodist
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 (1st and 3rd 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)

Wednesday 9.30am Baby & Toddler Group
 6.30pm Girls' Brigade

Thursday 7.30pm Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)

Friday 10.00am Baby & Toddler Group
 6.00pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

Sunday 9.30am Prayers (3rd Sunday)
 10.00am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)

Some activities are happening this month, please check the church website to confirm if the activity you want to go to is going ahead.
www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar

