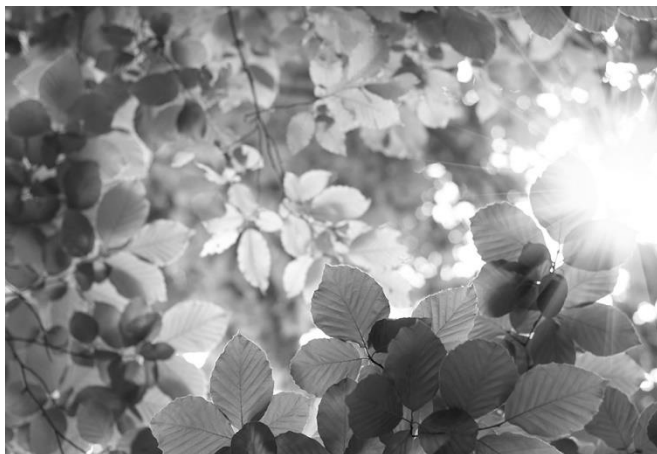




FOREST GROUP
of the United Reformed Church
www.forestgroupurc.co.uk



NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019

Find us on Facebook



MINISTER

Rev Ulrike Bell
Tel: 020 8505 5542 Ulrike.bell@btinternet.com

OUR CHURCHES

Chingford URC

Buxton Road, Chingford, E4 7DP

St James' URC

Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, IG9 5NG

Woodford Green URC

High Elms, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 0UP

Newsletter Editor: Rev June Colley

Email: rev@jcolley.plus.com

**MATERIAL FOR THE DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER
NEEDS TO BE WITH THE EDITOR BY SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER**

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PASTORAL LETTER

Dear friends,



It's that time of the year again....

There are lots of different ways to think about Halloween.

When it comes to Halloween there are so many ways we can respond, from shutting the curtains and pretending we're not home, to opening wide our front doors and taking our kids out into our neighbourhoods.

What was your approach this year?

I know people who would never open the door this night. Better go out, not be home at all, or sit in the dark – don't let anyone know you're there!

I know others who out of Christian conviction say: “We don’t celebrate Halloween.” (I then answer: I don’t “celebrate” it either, but it’s a fact of life around here, and I don’t see why Christians should be scared of it.)

So why are some Christians scared? They say: Halloween is a form of devil worship. Celebrating the powers of dark.

Then I say: We could take this as an opportunity to truly celebrate that Jesus, our risen Lord, is the one who lights up that darkness. Carve out a friendly looking pumpkin, like Jesus carves us out and gets rid of all the mucky bits, and put a cross candle inside to light us up from inside. Some churches celebrate this as a night of light. (The church in the forest at High Beech does. I want to go and have a look this year.)

Others say: Halloween really ought to be about “All Hallows Eve” – the evening before All Saints Day, where we remember all those who have died. It should be a sombre evening, if at all, with worship of remembrance of loved ones the next day. Instead, they do all this spooky stuff, ghosts, zombies, and go out to frighten!

Then I say: I don’t like that frightening bit either, or awful “tricks”, and liturgically, as a good Lutheran, I agree fully with the All Hallows Eve bit and November 1st as memorial. But, if we choose to abstain from the festivities, perhaps we lose the opportunity to explain Halloween's origins, or to talk about our own confidence in the face of evil forces through the death of Jesus. The commercialisation of Christmas and Easter has not stopped the church from celebrating their underlying message. Just as we can explain the birth of Jesus at Christmas, his resurrection at Easter,

could we not take the opportunity of Halloween to explain Christ's victory?

I found this quote of CS Lewis: "There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them."

Our gospel offers more than the forgiveness of sins; it also includes liberation from the power of evil, death and the devil, and Halloween could be the best time to communicate this.

You will guess by now how the Bell family goes about Halloween: We're part of it, someone on door duty (usually Stephen) and the others going around the neighbourhood. It's, shockingly, the only opportunity during the year to meet the neighbours (those with pumpkins outside, that is): knock on the doors, have a friendly chat, also chat with those on the streets – a great opportunity to meet your neighbourhood and be jolly. Admire funny costumes. Make connections. Show the cross around your neck.

I feel like maybe next year, we could have a church party somewhere. "Treats" only! :)

Yours in Christ,

Ulrike

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

All services commence at 10:30am unless otherwise stated.

Chingford

- 3 Nov Holy Communion – Revd John Steele (*monthly collection for 1% of Salary appeal for Bangladesh Projects and Global Justice*)
- 10 Nov Remembrance Sunday All Age Worship – Grace Smith
- 17 Nov Church Anniversary and Review of Holy Habits – Revd Ulrike Bell
- 24 Nov Kevin and Helen Haigh
- 1 Dec Holy Communion – Revd Kevin Swaine (*monthly collection to be decided*)

St. James', Buckhurst Hill

- 3 Nov Holy Communion – Revd Ulrike Bell (*sacramental offertory for Combat Stress*)
- 10 Nov Remembrance Sunday Parade Service – Revd Ulrike Bell
- 17 Nov Revd Claire Wilson
- 24 Nov Trevor Cottrell (*Church meeting follows this service*)
- 1 Dec Holy Communion – Revd June Colley (*Sacramental offertory for Ubuntu Unleashed*)

Woodford Green

- 3 Nov Holy Communion – Revd June Colley
- 10 Nov Remembrance Sunday – Revd June Colley
- 17 Nov Revd Kevin Swaine
- 24 Nov All age service – Revd Ulrike Bell
- 1 Dec Holy Communion – Revd Ulrike Bell

FOREST GROUP COFFEE MORNING



10.30 am in the Woodford Manse on
Tuesday 5th November

Discussion topic:
'Holy Habits – How far
have we come?

CHURCH EVENTS

November

- Friday 1 **Chingford** 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
(Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00)
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space in Church Room
- Sunday 3 **Forest Group Council** 2.00pm at Woodford Green
- Monday 4 **St. James'** 2.00-3.00pm Craft/Prayer Group in the church room
Woodford Green 2.30pm Jubilee Club
- Tuesday 5 **Forest Group** 10.30am Coffee morning at the manse
Chingford 1.30-3.00pm Drop in Club for babies, toddlers and their carers
Woodford Grn 8.00pm Elders meeting at the manse
- Thursday 7 **St. James'** 7.30pm Elders Meeting in church room
- Friday 8 **Chingford** 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
(Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00)
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space
- Tuesday 12 **Chingford** 1.30-3.00pm Drop in Club for babies, toddlers and their carers
- Friday 15 **Chingford** 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
(Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00)
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space
- Monday 18 **Woodford Green** 1.30pm Piano Recital
Woodford Green 2.30pm Jubilee Club: North to Alaska: Part 2 – 'The Gold Rush' with June Colley
- Tuesday 19 **Chingford** 1.30-3.00pm Drop in Club for babies, toddlers and their carers

- Thursday 21 **Chingford** 8.00pm Elders Meeting in the hall
- Friday 22 **Chingford** 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
(Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00)
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space
- Tuesday 26 **Forest Group Advent Study Group** 10.30am
at St. James', Buckhurst Hill
- Wednesday 27 **Chingford** 12 noon Christmas Lunch Club
(pre-booked tickets only)
- Friday 29 **Chingford** Service at The Spinney led by
Revd Ulrike Bell
Chingford 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
(Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00)
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space

December

- Monday 2 **Woodford Green** 2.30pm Jubilee Club: Margaret
Brown
- Tuesday 3 **Forest Group Advent Study Group** 10.30am
at St. James', Buckhurst Hill
Chingford 1.30-3.00pm Drop in Club for babies,
toddlers and their carers
Woodford Green 8.00pm Elders Meeting
- Thursday 5 **Woodford Green** 9.00am The Christmas Experience
for local primary school
- Friday 6 **Chingford** 9.30-12noon Coffee and Chat
Prayers and Bible Study 10.30-11.00
St. James' 1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space
- Saturday 7 **Chingford** 9.30am Christmas Fair

HOLY HABITS GROUPS

We have now completed the first five of our Holy Habits and we will begin again in the New Year with the second half of the programme. Some groups will choose to meet (my group will meet to continue our discussions at 10.00am on the 12th November), but others may take a break. Please check with your Facilitator or Host to see whether your group will meet during November and December.

The Forest Group Advent Study sessions will take place on Tuesday mornings at 10.30 from 26th November in the Prayer Room at St. James' and everybody is welcome there.

LUNCHTIME PIANO RECITAL AT WOODFORD GREEN URC

Monday 18th November at 1.30pm



Sally Wigan will play pieces by Bach, Debussy, Liszt and Gershwin. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Future recitals are planned for 16th December and 20th January. Please come and bring your friends.



**Chingford
United Reformed
Church**



CHRISTMAS



FAIR

**Saturday
7 Dec**



**Buxton Road
E4 7DP**

**enjoy a
Full English Breakfast
Serving from
9.30 am**

**With other stalls & attractions
Admission £1 including
Raffle Ticket**



EXTERNAL EVENTS

Westminster College, Cambridge

Living With Dementia - Pastoral and Theological Responses

2nd November

To book a place email: admin@westminster.cam.ac.uk

or Tel: 01223 330632

Cockfosters Centre for Spirituality, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood N144HE

Praying without words

with Kathryn Turner

16th November 10.00am - 4.00pm

To book a place email: cockfosters@rcdow.org.uk

or telephone: 020 84496648

Thames North Learning Programme

Aspiring to More – Pastoral Worship Leading for Lay Preachers

Wednesdays 7.00-9.00pm - November 20th, December 4th,

January 8th and 22nd, February 5th and a Study Day on

Saturday 15th February 10.00am-4.00pm

at High Cross URC, Tottenham

For further details contact: training@thamesnorthurc.org.uk

ARTICLES

REFLECTION:

Talking with Nicodemus

Nicodemus was a high-ranking Pharisee who recognized Jesus as someone special, and wanted to understand more. Immediately, Jesus dives straight in and tells him that he must be born again. Nicodemus then asks for clarification, and Jesus then explains that he is talking about spiritual birth. He says that no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. The water symbolizes cleansing from sin, and the Spirit (or breath of God) gives life. He then points out that you can't see the wind, but you can see the effects of the wind, and similarly, you can't see the Spirit, but you can see the effects of the Spirit. (John 3:1-8)

In the early church, they quickly realized that becoming a Christian and receiving the Holy Spirit were inextricably linked. For example, evidence of the Spirit's power in the Gentiles in Cornelius's house convinced Peter that the Gospel really was for Gentiles as well as Jews. (Acts 10:46-48)

A baby does not get any choice about being born, and is helpless. In a similar way, we do not really decide to become Christians, it is an act of God (John 1:12-13). Does belief come first or rebirth? Do we come to the decision to put our faith in Jesus, or has God led us to that point? Jesus said "No-one comes to me unless the Father who sent me draws him" (John 6:44)

So, God has done everything for us, and none of it is our doing. If we choose to believe in Him, it is because He chose us. Kevin Haigh

EAST LONDON THREE FAITHS FORUM

The Three Faiths Forum meeting on Thursday 10th October was held at Al- Madina Mosque, which is near Barking Station. The topic for the evening was *Welcoming the Stranger* and the speakers were Rabbi Lisa Barratt from Southwest Essex & Settlement Reform Synagogue, Allama Sadiq Quershi, an Imam and Revd. Tom Britt, from Wanstead Parish Church.

Rabbi Lisa Barratt spoke first, telling us that *Welcoming Strangers* is mentioned thirty-six times in the Hebrew Scriptures. The most famous instance is of Abraham welcoming three strangers to his tent at Mamre. They turned out to be angels, bringing a message from God. Abraham made an effort to welcome them, washing their feet and providing food. Today, Jewish people welcome strangers at their table at Passover and during the Festival of Booths/Sukkot, when strangers are welcomed into the home. Weekly, at the Shabbat meal on Friday evening, strangers are also welcome. She finished by saying that peace for all will come and we are all created in God's image.

Imam Qureshi spoke next. He spoke of Abraham and Moses being strangers in their times of wandering and of the prophet Mohammed who was an orphan. He too welcomed strangers, showing love, peace and moral support to them. He mentioned three things to remember from the Prophet Mohammed's teaching: spread peace, unite people and pray for them.

Revd. Tom Britt spoke next. He reminded us that strangers could be homeless people here and abroad, refugees and people suffering whom we never see. He also mentioned Abraham's story as a good example of welcoming strangers. He referred to the book of

Leviticus, where the Jewish people were advised to treat aliens as equals and in Deuteronomy chapter ten, it mentions God's love as being impartial. The people that Jesus spoke to would have known these texts. Jesus, as a baby, was himself a refugee in a defenceless position. Jesus teaches mercy and compassion. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus teaches us to help people in need, regardless of their origins or race. The Samaritan in that parable put himself at risk, in an uncomfortable position. Jesus himself received hospitality, eating with tax collectors and sinners. In the Book of Hebrews Christians are advised to show hospitality to strangers as we could be entertaining angels unawares.

A question and answer time followed, with all three religious leaders agreeing that we should be welcoming to strangers regardless of their origins, not just in this country but overseas. Actions speak louder than words, and we as people of faith should have the same aim- to welcome people in need wherever they are.

The meeting ended with a sharing of delicious refreshments provided by our hosts, at the mosque, a time when we could talk informally with people of other faiths, realising how much we have in common, despite our differences.

The next meeting of the Forum will be an *End of Year Celebration* at a church in South Woodford, on Thursday 19th December.

Isabel Bala

MOVING STORIES

In September, 22 members of the URC travelled to IOPT on an educational trip. These included representatives from each Synod, youth, the Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority group, Church House staff, including Communications, Interfaith and *Commitment for Life*.

The group's task is to share what we saw, and to share the stories of the people we met. We were struck by many injustices, One was the fact that we as UK (and one American!) citizens had more right to movement than Palestinians.

Revd Dr Munther Isaac is an indigenous Palestinian Christian. He spoke about the unfair restrictions to movement placed upon him. "There is," he said, "one set of laws governing Palestinians living in the West Bank, another for Palestinians living in Israel and a third set of laws governing Israeli citizens." Munther had been invited to speak in the US. He was forced to travel via Jordan. He was not allowed into Israel to get to Ben Gurion airport.

The roadsign show-cases these differences. Israelis are forbidden from entering Zone A under PA control. This ensures that Israelis and West Bank Palestinians cannot meet, drink coffee, fall in love or go to school together. "Imagine you in the UK were living under this kind of occupation," asked Munther. "What would you do?"

This new Apartheid is particularly noticeable in the fact that some roads are built by Israel for the exclusive use of settlers. The picture below shows a road cutting through Palestinian territory. It connects an Israeli settlement, on the far left, to Jerusalem. Both the road and settlement are illegal under International Law.



The trip was incredibly moving, and we hope to share more of these stories. If you would like one of the participants to speak at your church about her or his experiences, please contact Church House, who will try to organise that for you.



Picture by Hannah Jones

THAMES NORTH SYNOD

Saturday 19th October 2019

The Synod was held at Fairford Leys Church, in the Chiltern Local Area Group, which comprises fourteen churches, five of which are LEPs. Fairford Leys Church was built in 2002 and looks very modern and spacious. After being welcomed by Revd. Dr. Andrew Prasad, we proceeded to the business part of the meeting.

The Minutes of the previous Synod were accepted. Four ministers had joined Thames North Synod and a special welcome was given to Revd Yufen Chen, from the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. She ministers to Mandarin and Taiwanese speaking students and others, at Lumen URC in Regents Square in London. Lorraine Downer, from High Cross URC, was commissioned as Children's Youth and Development Officer.

The Synod Clerk then went over the procedure for selecting a **new Synod Moderator**, as Andrew Prasad will be retiring in February 2021. Those who have been shortlisted for the post will be told in June 2020 and Andrew's successor will be announced at General Assembly in July 2020.

Nigel Udin, Moderator of General Assembly, gave an address in which he praised the URC's Children's and Youth Work, which is also commended by other churches. He said we should be a 'listening people'. The church's task is to help the world see what God offers in Jesus Christ. We must continue to press for justice and be instruments of reconciliation in our world. Although some churches are shrinking in Britain, God is faithful and will work through us. We

mustn't change *with* the times but *for* the times. We must be a church which is engaging with the world and constantly changing.

The **Synod Accounts**, which show an increase in funds, due mainly to the closing and sale of Queen's Park church, were approved by Synod. Synod agreed to follow the resolution from Mission Council that the URC should not invest in companies whose total turnover is more than 10% derived from the extraction of fossil fuels and /or the supply of fossil fuels.

Rachel Williams reported on her recent **educational visit to Israel / Palestine**. We saw slides depicting scenes of settlements built illegally on Palestinian territory, young Israeli soldiers carrying guns at check-points and horrifying signs saying, DANGER and FIRING AREAS! Encroachment onto olive tree plantations meant Palestinians are losing the means to earn a living. It is a complex situation and prayers for reconciliation are needed. Rachel is keen to visit URCs to talk about her visit.

A letter had been received from John Proctor, General Secretary of the URC, about the management of General Assembly. His proposals are that should meet annually and only one moderator should be elected for a year. That person could be a minister, a CRCW or an elder. He also proposed that *Mission Council's* name should be changed to *Assembly Executive*. Synod agreed to these proposals.

James Fields, from the Pastoral Committee spoke about bullying being a reality in our churches, which is never acceptable and should be dealt with.

After a welcome break for lunch, Anne Sardeson, the Synod Training Officer then told us about ***Stepwise***, a programme for Christian

Discipleship for all of us. It can be accessed on the Internet and shows how God is present in our everyday lives. By following the course we learn how to follow in the steps of Jesus, learning from each other. We were then asked to discuss this question at our tables: *Where have I seen God this week?* At my table some of us talked about seeing God in the beauty of creation, in help given to us by other people and in stillness. Anne told us a new *Stepwise* group would soon be starting in Enfield and on 22nd January, and a day for mentors will be held at the Synod Office in Bayswater.

A TLS Lite course for potential lay preachers will also be set up. Three accredited Lay Preachers were then asked to come forward and were congratulated. Sadly, Joan Manning, known to us in The Forest Group, was unable to be present to receive her congratulations.

There was an update on the Adeyfield project, due to be completed in November after sixteen years. There had been a £2m shortfall in the cost of the project so a loan had been obtained from Synod. The building project at Christ Church, Newham is awaiting planning approval, with tenders going out for the work. So far, Christ Church has received a grant from the Synod, but as costs have risen, a loan of £940,000 is now needed from Synod, if work is to start in April 2020. Resources Committee will look into this and Synod approved.

The Synod budget was then put forward, with a possible deficit envisaged. This was accepted by Synod.

Terry Hinks led us in Closing Worship before the Synod finished at 4:05 pm. It will **next meet on Saturday 21st March 2020 at Western Road URC, in Romford**, hosted by Heath and Havering Local Area Group.

Isabel Bala

CHINGFORD NEWS

27th Chingford Scout Group

Unfortunately we had to close the Beaver Colony during October. The Leaders could not continue due to other commitments. We hope to relaunch the Beavers at the Church on a Tuesday night between 6pm and 7pm, but can only do this if we can find a leader.

So far this term the Cub programme has included fire drill, tent pitching, hike round Gilwell to look at Scout heritage, healthy eating, International badge involving a link with Cubs in the USA, sixers leading the meeting, investiture of 4 Beavers as Cubs, and a quiz and games night. Two prospective leaders from another pack are doing their training with us. Cub Leader Caroline Pantling and section assistant Paul Melvin have received 5-year leader service awards. Service awards have also been awarded to Assistant GSL Andrew Smith (10 years) and Treasurer Julian Fereira (15 years). Congratulations and thanks to all.

We have six Scouts at the moment so we can take more, but we also need more help with leadership. So far this term the Scout programme has included games night, knots, night hike (in heavy rain!), photography, day trip up London, pumpkin art.

Petchy Young Persons Achievement Award Sebastian Roney

Congratulations to Sebastian on gaining this award. Here is an extract from the citation:

“Sebastian Roney has an exemplary record in the 27th Chingford Scout Group gaining the Chief Scout’s Award and a high level of activity badges in both the Beavers and the Cubs. He was a patrol

leader in the Scout Troop and gained 44 Activity badges in the Troop, a record number shared with another Scout. In April he completed an Expedition Challenge completing all the Challenge badges he needed to gain the Chief Scout's Gold Award. He has been selected to attend a European Jamboree Camp in Poland next year. He has always been a dedicated and enthusiastic member of the Scout Group and has contributed much to the Troop as a patrol leader with his ideas and communication skills, and is a fine example to the other Scouts"

The Scout Group has received a £250 Petchy Grant, and Sebastian is invited to come up with ideas on how it should be spent.

Malcolm Smith, Group Scout Leader

A NOTE FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

The end of October was the deadline for Nominations, which included 4 vacancies for Elders, 1 vacancy for a Forest Group Council rep and 1 vacancy for an Assistant Church Secretary. If our church is to maintain its independence we need to strengthen our team handling secretarial, administrative and financial roles. I will be approaching church members who have received nominations for these positions.

The end of October was also the deadline for any Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes and orders for Reform Magazine next year.

During November our main charity collection will continue be the 1% Appeal, when members of the United Reformed Church are encouraged to give 1% of their income to charitable projects

supported by the URC. Our Church supports projects in Bangladesh and a small part of the money goes to the Global Justice organisation.

Malcolm Smith, Church Secretary

WOODFORD GREEN NEWS

CATTLE IN THE FOREST

In my spare time, I volunteer as a Warden in Epping Forest. I do this not only because I enjoy it but also that I have a strong sense that we, as a community, have stewardship of this great asset and so we all need to help to take care of it.

The jobs are many and varied and include patrolling, checking Public Rights Of Way and talking to the public. Surprisingly though, one of the jobs that I have found to enjoy the most is helping with the forest's conservation herd of English Longhorn Cattle. There are over two hundred of these animals currently spread over several sites in the north of the forest. Occasionally they need to be moved to fresh pastures and this is where the extra hands provided the Volunteer Wardens are especially useful.

One of the cattle moves this summer developed into what I now refer to as the "Battle of Copped Hall". It took place when a team of four Wardens went to help the permanent staff to relocate 102 animals from Copped Hall Deer Park. It was planned to be just a simple move to new grazing pastures about a mile away. But you know what they say about what happens when a plan meets reality!

All started well with the cattle being enticed up the track with the lure of their favourite food. But when they reached the open ground next to Copped Hall, it all started to go horribly wrong!



It was explained to me later that the first instinct of cattle when finding themselves on unknown ground is to turn around and go back to a place that they know. So, as we were trying to make them go up the hill and turn to the right, they started to go to the left instead and head back the way they had come.

This resulted in a stand-off between we humans and the cattle who refused all our efforts to make them move forward. Then, their second instinct kicked in – Run! Did you know that cattle can run at up to 30 mph? The sight of many half-ton animals running towards you from a short distance certainly helps to focus your priorities!

The Herdsman, however, did a magnificent job in heading them off. Using a truck to get around the large field, he managed to coax the cattle to move in the right direction. We non-professional Wardens just did our best to keep up. The outcome, however, was never in doubt and the cattle were soon happily ensconced in their new pasture. The Wardens still have a lot to learn from the Herdsmen but we enjoy the work and might be a little more useful to them in the future.

Paul Corney

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

We had our annual Harvest service on 13th October when we were joined by members of the Pilots group and their families.

This year we began early at 9.30am with a breakfast of bacon butties or croissants and marmalade, with lots of tea, coffee and juice. We all agreed that this was a great way to start the day.



The church looked splendid with beautiful flower arrangements and a display of vegetables and fruit, together with shoeboxes filled and ready to be dispatched to Eastern European families. The Pilots had prepared a story about a young man who was helped by a Food Bank, when he became homeless because of his family circumstances.

DIRECTORY

CHINGFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Buxton Road, Chingford, E4 7DP

www.chingfordurc.org.uk

CHURCH OFFICE		Tel: 8529 8888
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		chingford.urc@btconnect.com
TREASURER	Eileen Wallace	Tel: 8524 2270
NEWSLETTER		
CONTACT	Pat Morris	Tel: 8529 6776

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month	
		Junior Family Church (from age 3) and Questers	Tel: 8524 2491
Tuesday	1.30–3.00 pm	Club for Under 5s and Carers (Term time only)	Tel: 8529 0071
	7.00–8.30 pm	27 th Chingford Cubs	Tel: 8524 2491
	7.00–8.30 pm	27 th Chingford Scouts	Tel: 8524 2491
Wednesday	12 noon	Lunch Club: £4.50 meal (last in month)	Tel: 8529 0441
Thursday	5.45–7.15 pm	5 th Chingford Brownies	Tel: 8529 1475
	7.30–9.00 pm	5 th Chingford Guides	Tel: 8529 4420
Friday	9.30–12 noon	Coffee and Chat	Tel: 8529 0441
	10.30–11.00 am	Prayer Group	Tel: 8524 2491

ST. JAMES' UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5NG

www.stjamesurc.org.uk

SECRETARY AND NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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HALL MANAGER

Gerald Lee Tel: 8505 0300

geraldelee@ymail.com

Hall bookings: bookstjames@outlook.com

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday	10.30 am Morning Worship (with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month)	
Monday	2.00-3.30pm Craft/Prayer Group on the first Monday each month	
	5.30 pm 2 nd Buckhurst Hill Brownies	8508 7546
	7.00 pm 2 nd Buckhurst Hill Guides	8508 3480
Wednesday	7.00 pm Sing Emmanuel Choir	
Thursday	6.00-7.00 pm 28 th Epping Forest Beavers	07960309175
	6.30-8.00 pm 28 th Epping Forest Cubs	8504 5270
	7.30-9.00 pm 28 th Epping Forest Scouts	07896031718
Friday	1.00-2.00pm Prayer Space in the church room	

**WOODFORD GREEN
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**
High Elms, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0UP

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TREASURER

Paul Corney

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NEWSLETTER CONTACT

Revd June Colley

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rev@jcolley.plus.com

REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship and Junior Church (with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month)
Monday	2.30pm	Jubilee Club (alternate weeks – see calendar for details)
Tuesday	6.00-7.30pm	14 th Woodford Brownie Pack (aged 7-10)
Thursday	7.00-9.00pm	14 th Woodford Guide Company (age 10-14)
Friday	9.00-10.30am	Play Café for toddlers and babies with their parents and carers
	6.00-7.30pm	PILOTS (a non-uniformed Christian group for children aged 4-11 years)

RAY LODGE SITE

Ray Lodge Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 7NX

Enquiries to Church Secretary at Woodford Green URC.

Caretaker

Mr. Peter Pitt

07940 725344

REGULAR EVENTS

Tuesday 6.00 – 7.00 pm 7th Woodford Rainbow Unit
(age 5 – 7)

Wednesday 6.15 – 7.45 pm 16th Woodford Brownie Pack
(age 7 – 10)

The premises are also used by the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Saturdays for Sabbath Worship and Wednesday evenings for Prayer Meetings, and by Faith Ministries (UK Churches) on Sunday mornings.

FINALLY

The Smile

*Today I felt a little sad
While walking down the street
Until I caught a lovely smile
From a friend I chanced to meet.
It made me feel much better
And I thought I'd pass it on
So I gave it to a lady
Who appeared a bit forlorn.
The lady was a stranger
But she took it gratefully
She wore it for a little while
Then gave it back to me.
And when I had it back again
I kept my smile in place
And passed it on to everyone
Who wore a solemn face.
And as I wandered home again
I really felt quite glad
That just by smiling now and then
I was no longer sad.*

(Contributed by Sheila Tanner, St. James')