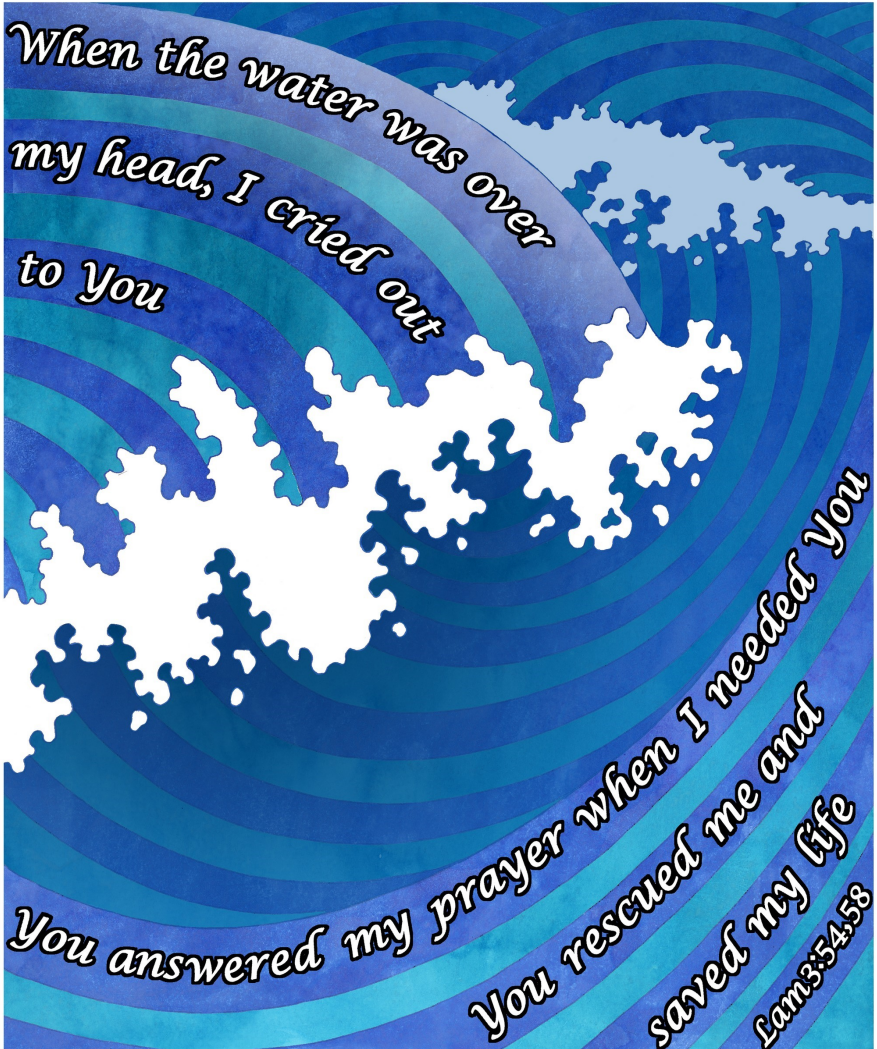




The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

March  
2023



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

[www.bhpurc.org.uk](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk)



# Who to contact

## Serving Elders

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Martin Hamblin (Treasurer)		martin.hamblin@bhpurc.org.uk
Diann Nicolaides	07398 757 720	diann.nicolaides@bhpurc.org.uk
Robin Ward (Secretary)	07962 207 256	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

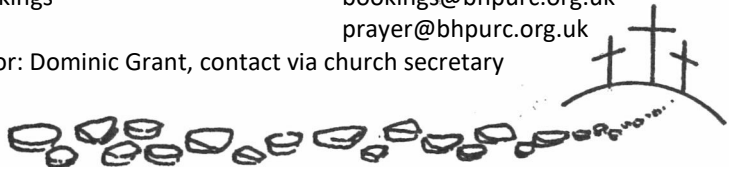
## Youth activities

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

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
Interim moderator: Dominic Grant, contact via church secretary	



*The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly. To receive email notifications please email [newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto: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.*

## 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.*

**Sunday 19 March** sees Mothering Sunday take place, a time to celebrate mothers and motherly figures but also, of course, a difficult time for some.

This month's letter starts with a task - how many different words can you think of that use the letters of the words '**Mothering Sunday**'?

You might have come up with some of these:

**Hugs:** Many parents can be good at hugs and caring for us when we've felt hurt, sad or rejected. A hug can tell us how much we are loved and accepted, just like God loves and accepts us no matter how we're feeling.

**Naughty:** Many of you will have had times where you've been naughty and told off by a parent! However, good parents will always forgive us. Just like this, Jesus came to teach us that, regardless of what we've done, God always forgives us.



**Doing:** Parents spend a lot of time 'doing' things - washing, cooking, cleaning, shopping, driving and so on. Parenting is an important job and days like Mothering Sunday are an opportunity to recognise and value what they do. Just like this, God is always 'doing' for us and we should recognise and value that too.

**Nurse:** Parents sometimes have to take on a nursing role: think back to times where you might have missed school and needed lots of care! Parents love and care for us just like God cares for us and holds us in his hands.

**Shunned:** Some will have a difficult relationship with their parents, possibly feeling ignored or rejected. In his ministry Jesus mixed with those who felt they did not matter, helping them to know that they were accepted by God and of great value to him. What can we do today to help the marginalised know that they are special to God?

**Hurt:** Parenting is not a pain-free process and life is not pain-free. We can only imagine the suffering that Mary felt as Jesus died on the cross, but as Easter approaches we can remember that through His death and resurrection, Jesus conquered sin and

death and has opened the way to God for us all.

This Mothering Sunday, let's give thanks to God for mothers and motherly figures, and pray for God's comfort with those for whom it is not a happy occasion.

Tom Boorman  
Newsletter Editor,  
Christ Church URC



"Due to our failure to secure a holiday-relief organist, the next hymn will also be sung to the tune, *Chopsticks*."

## Smile Lines

### Breakdown

Yesterday I broke down on the M1. One of those emergency trucks charged me £200 to pull me off. I think it was the abominable towman!

### A Bible quiz - of sorts!

- Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married?  
A. Ruthless
- Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?  
A. German Shepherds.
- Q. Who was the greatest male financier in the Bible?  
A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- Q. What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?  
A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.
- Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?  
A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.
- Q. What's the phone number of the Garden of Eden?  
A. ADAM-8-1-2

# Here is the News

## **The Leprosy Mission**, marking the end of an era

Thank you to all who have given used stamps for TLM over many years.

In the last couple of years the value of used stamps has sharply declined. Following the introduction of bar-coded stamps, their value has further decreases Sadly it has now got to the point where not enough money can be made for this venture.

Unfortunately, the decision has been made to wind down stamps and collectables. The teapot in the lounge will be removed, so please do not put any more in there.

Thank you once again. Over the years this venture has made a lot of money to help people with Leprosy.

Christine Hughes

## **Collection for Turkey and Syria**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Christian Aid emergency appeal in February. We collected £87 during the service and the church rounded it up to send £100 to Christian Aid to help those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

## **World Water Day is 22nd March**

We take clean water for granted. After all, when did you last turn on the tap and expect filthy water to come out? But sadly, bad water is still a daily reality for billions of people. The United Nations wants to help them by ensuring that everyone can access clean water by 2030. It is part of the so-called '2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', and it is an enormous challenge. Meanwhile, this year each one of us can do at least something to help on 22nd March. A donation to Water Aid will help provide safe water to marginalised communities worldwide. Simply go to: [www.wateraid.org/uk](http://www.wateraid.org/uk)

For more details and ideas to help, go to [www.worldwaterday.org](http://www.worldwaterday.org)



## **Take a step to save energy in your home.**

See the list of quick tips below. You might be surprised at how many of these changes you've already made! More tips and fuller detail can be found at <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/>

### **Switch off standby**

You can save around £65 (£30 in NI) a year just by remembering to turn your appliances off standby mode.

### **Draught-proof windows and doors**

Unless your home is very new, you will lose some heat through draughts around doors and windows, gaps around the floor, or through the chimney.

### **Turn off lights**

Turn your lights off when you're not using them or when you leave a room. This will save around £25 a year on your annual energy bills.

### **Careful with your washing**

You can save around £34 a year from your energy bill just by using your washing machine more carefully, like washing on a 30-degree cycle instead of higher temperatures.

### **Avoid the tumble dryer**

Avoid using a tumble dryer for your clothes: dry clothes on racks inside when possible or outside in warmer weather to save £70 a year.

### **Swap your bath for a shower**

Some of us might enjoy a long soak in the bath, but swapping just one bath a week with a 4-minute shower could save you £20 (£19 in NI) a year on your energy bills.

### **Be savvy in the kitchen**

Kettles are one of the most used appliances in the kitchen. But many of us will admit that we at least occasionally boil the kettle with more water than we're going to use.

## Long service awards

Congratulations to Sue and Derek on their long service to the Brigades.

Sue has now been helping the Girls Brigade for 20 years! This was celebrated at the parade service on 12th February.

Thank you for all the hard work you have put in over the years, the girls, other leaders and the church are very grateful.

Derek has been involved with the 2nd Enfield BB since he joined aged eight in 1967. Derek went through the



company as a boy and at 18 he was made a helper then a member of staff in 1978. Since then Derek has volunteered his time each week to help run the 2nd Enfield BB. Later he became officer in charge of the company and is now in charge of the Junior Section.

On 21st February his 44 years of service were marked at the Civic Centre. Thank you for your devotion to our Boys Brigade and church.



## **Prayers for God’s blessing for same-sex couples take step forward after CofE Synod debate**

The Church of England’s General Synod has welcomed proposals which would enable same-sex couples to come to church after a civil marriage or civil partnership to give thanks, dedicate their relationship to God and receive God’s blessing.

Synod members also voted to “lament and repent” of the failure of the Church to welcome LGBTQI+ people and for the harm that LGBTQI+ people have experienced – and continue to experience – in churches.

A motion which details and recognises a series of proposals put forward by the bishops on human identity and marriage was agreed by majorities in the Houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity after a landmark debate over two days in February 2023.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: “It has been a long road to get us to this point”. For the first time, the Church of England will publicly, unreservedly and joyfully welcome same-sex couples in church.

The Church continues to have deep differences on these questions which go to the heart of our human identity. “We hope that today’s thoughtful, prayerful debate marks a new beginning for the Church as we seek a way forward, listening to each other and most of all to God. Above all we continue to pray, as Jesus Himself prayed, for the unity of His church and that we would love one another.”

The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, who led the debate and chairs the group which oversaw the development of the proposals, said: “This is a moment of hope for the Church.

“I know that what we have proposed as a way forward does not go nearly far enough for many but too far for others.

“It is my prayer that what has been agreed today will represent a step forward for all of us within the Church – including LGBTQI+ people – as we remain committed to walking together.

# Update from Al Shuroq school for the blind

## The Special Education Class

The special education class or the multiple disabilities class is one of the programs that fall within the framework of the rehabilitation services provided to children with visual impairments, which aims to help them develop their abilities in terms of various life skills. any integrated rehabilitation services are given to this class, like occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy sessions and self-awareness sessions, in a form of a plan that takes into account the child's privacy and ability.



## Sensory Room

In a sensory room, children gain access to appropriate sensory stimulation and their bodies learn how to respond appropriately to the stimulation. Children also improve their auditory and tactile processing, as well as their fine and gross motor skills. So, Al Shorouq enhanced the role of its sensory room in self-regulating its students'



behaviour and improving focus by providing new sensory pieces of equipment on a grant from UPA.

### **"Run for Freedom"**

A group of Al Shuruq students participated in the Palestine

International Marathon; the most prominent sports race, under the slogan "Run for Freedom", at the initiative of the Star of Bethlehem Lions Club, through which the students were able to express their determination to participate in community activities that aim for justice and serve the noble humanitarian goal. The students attended the activities presented by the local community institutions in a unified marathon atmosphere in the square of the Church of the Nativity.

Ed: Many other items were mentioned, look for the full update in the church lounge.



## Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador

Oscar Romero was a bit of a modern Thomas Becket – loyal to the authorities until he was given great responsibility for the Church. Then, like Becket, there was trouble. In Romero's case, it all began when he was born Ciudad Barrios in El Salvador back in 1917. Devout from a young age, he was ordained in 1942, and became a parish priest in the diocese of San Miguel.

For 25 years Romero worked hard in his parish, where he was a traditional priest, very conservative, ascetic, and devoted to the Virgin Mary. In 1967 he was appointed Secretary to the Episcopal Conference of El Salvador. He was elevated to be Bishop of San Salvador and then Bishop of Santiago de Maria. An admirer of the conservative Opus Dei movement, Romero firmly opposed any liberation theology.

Then in 1977 Oscar Romero was appointed Archbishop of San Salvador. The Salvadorian government saw him as a safe pair of hands for the job. But they were in for a shock. For Romero's new responsibilities made him look afresh at the relationship between Church and State in El Salvador. He did not like what he saw. Romero saw that social unrest and poverty were the direct result of government repression, and even worse, that the Church played its part in the on-going violence of Salvadorian society. After the murder of several outspoken priests and then the expulsion of several allegedly Marxist Jesuits, Romero felt compelled to speak out.

The right-wing Latin American governments were well used to priests who worked with the poor speaking out against them. But this was the first time that an Archbishop had raised his voice, and they were furious.

But Romero became a champion of liberation theology. He condemned government violence and championed the right of the poor to economic and social justice. He even wrote a pastoral letter from the Salvadorian bishops, supporting proportionate counter-violence towards the oppressive right-wing regime. When, nonetheless, he also still tried to act as a mediator between the rival groups, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

For several years Romero received death threats from both left- and right-wing paramilitary groups. Then, while celebrating Mass, he was shot through the heart by a government assassin. It was 24th March 1980, and 40 more people died in the gunfire and explosions at his funeral. The Church worldwide mourned for him.

# Diary

## March

See also **Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities**

The full diary with regular activities is also online at  
[www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar)

Sun 5th	10.30am	Communion with Laura Marlow
Tue 7th	7.30pm	Lent study at Lisa's house
Sun 12th	10.30am 11.45am	Parade with Lynda Cook <b>Church meeting</b> including the election of Elders (Lynda Cook) to serve for 3 years from January 2023
Tue 14th	7.30pm	Lent study at Lisa's house
Sun 19th	10.30am	Worship and baptism with Chris Hall
Tue 21st	7.30pm	Lent study at Lynda's house
Sun 26th	11.15am	Service at Christ Church - Boys' Brigade Enfield Battalion Parade Service led by Revd Martin Legg
Tue 28th	7.30pm	Lent study at Lynda's house

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Next newsletter deadline:  
**Sunday 12th March**

All material for inclusion should be emailed to  
[newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk)

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# Prayer Diary

MARCH 2023

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;  
he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.

Psalm 116:1-2

## **Wednesday 1st**

Main Avenue

## **Thursday 2nd**

For less human impact on nature, particularly deforestation

## **Friday 3rd**

The work of Christian Aid (we support them)

## **Saturday 4th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

## **Sunday 5th**

Give thanks for the stewards, those who project our services and everyone who helps our services happen week by week

## **Monday 6th**

Arthur

## **Tuesday 7th**

Opportunities to share our faith

## **Wednesday 8th**

Melbourne Way

## **Thursday 9th**

For better air quality in UK cities and worldwide

## **Friday 10th**

Children in Zambia, particularly those who are helped by Beyond Ourselves who we support as a church

## **Saturday 11th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

## **Sunday 12th**

Give thanks for family and friends

## **Monday 13th**

Caroline

## **Tuesday 14th**

The courage to invite someone to church

## **Wednesday 15th**

Millais Road

## **Thursday 16th**

For eating habits to change and be more sustainable

## **Friday 17th**

Crime reduction initiatives

## **Saturday 18th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

## **Sunday 19th**

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

## **Monday 20th**

Charlotte

## **Tuesday 21st**

That we will be effective in telling the Jesus story and giving people ways to find out more and to respond

## **Wednesday 22nd**

Percival Road

## **Thursday 23rd**

For resources to be used wisely and not wasted or used unnecessarily

## **Friday 24th**

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

## **Saturday 25th**

Today's Worship Leader and the service today

## **Sunday 26th**

Be joyful in hope and faithful in prayer giving thanks to God for his blessings

## **Monday 27th**

Christine (both)

## **Tuesday 28th**

New believers to grow in their faith

## **Wednesday 29th**

Poynter Road

## **Thursday 30th**

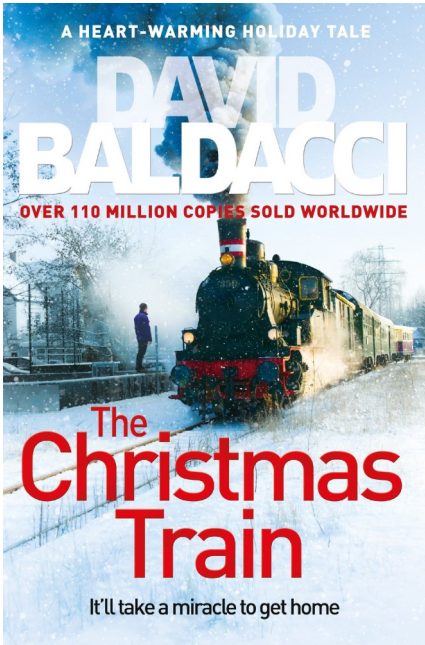
For a reversal of global warming

## **Friday 31st**

For those who are fearful in their own home



## Book Club



### The Christmas Train by David Baldacci

Just before the holiday season Journalist Tom Langdon plans to meet up with his then girlfriend to go skiing. Not being able to fly for reasons which later become clear he decides to travel by Amtrak from Washington DC to Chicago and then onto the west coast by the famous Southwest Chief.

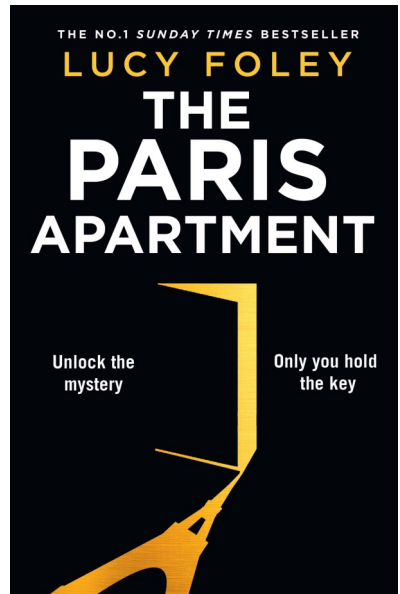
We learn so much through the interesting characters he encounters from the regular lonely passengers who travel this way every Christmas, to the retired

priest and the famous film director and his crew. The rail staff are amusing, dedicated and fascinate him with their stories. A distant relative of Mark Twain, can Tom weave a novel out of this adventure and the stories he's heard? He certainly tries.

We all enjoyed this well written novel and its setting is certainly borne out by the current weather pattern in the USA!

We next meet on 6 March having read The Paris apartment by Lucy Foley

Yvonne





Bula (hello!) from Fiji!

Acknowledging the cost-of-living crisis in the UK, the cost-of-living problem in many Pacific Islands is more chronic than acute. During our ten months here as Partners in Mission through the Council for World Mission at the Pacific Theological College, my role as the Director of the Centre for Gender and Social Justice has made the difficulties that women in particular face very obvious.



With limited access to IT (cost barriers), families need to prioritise who can use the resources available to them. Those studying the Pacific Theological College (PTC) main programmes at degree level and above usually have

the first call on any IT equipment. Yet with its 'Whole of Life' approach to learning, PTC is committed to education for all, including the spouses of those studying on the College's main programmes. This education is often provided through the Centre for Gender and Social Justice. Although mostly delivered face-to-face, course materials and assessments would ideally be accessed online, which is tricky for those without appropriate IT.

To address this on a small scale, I have started a Go Fund Me page, which I hope will enable you to help if you can.

<https://gofund.me/4ce62e27>



Vinaka vakalevu (thank you very much!)  
Melanie (and Mark)

## Pastoral Search Report

The following is our confidential report on the present candidates for the role of our next minister. It does not make for happy reading.

**Adam:** Good man, but problems with his wife. Also, one reference told of how his wife and he enjoy walking nude in the woods.

**Noah:** Former pastorate of 120 years, with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.

**Abraham:** Though the references reported wife-swapping, the facts seem to show he never slept with another man's wife, but did offer to share his own wife with another man.

**Joseph:** A big thinker, but probably a braggart; believes in dream-interpreting, and has a prison record.

**Moses:** A modest and meek man, but poor communicator, even stuttering at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly. Some say he left an earlier position over a murder charge.

**David:** The most promising leader of all, until we discovered the affair he had with his neighbor's wife.

**Solomon:** Great preacher, but our parsonage would never hold all those wives.

**Elijah:** Prone to depression - collapses under pressure.

**Elisha:** Reported to have lived with a single widow while at his former church.

**Hosea:** A tender and loving pastor, but our people could never handle his wife's occupation.

**Jeremiah:** Emotionally unstable, alarmist, negative, always lamenting things, and reported to have taken a long trip to bury his underwear on the bank of foreign river.

**Isaiah:** On the fringe? Claims to have seen angels in church. Has trouble with his language.

**Jonah:** Refused God's call into ministry until he was forced to obey by getting swallowed up by a great fish. He told us the fish later spit him out on the shore near here. We hung up.

**Amos:** Too backward and unpolished. With some seminary training he might have promise, but has a hang-up against wealthy people. Might fit in better in a poor congregation.

**Peter:** Too blue collar. Has a bad temper - even has been known to curse. Had a big run-in with Paul in Antioch. Aggressive, and a loose canon.

**Paul:** Powerful CEO type leader and fascinating preacher. However, short on tact, unforgiving with younger ministers, harsh and has been known to preach all night.

**Timothy:** Too young.

**Jesus:** Has had popular times, but once when his church grew to 5000 he managed to offend them all and this church dwindled down to twelve people. Seldom stays in one place very long. And, of course, he's single.

**Judas:** His references are solid. A steady plodder. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money. We're inviting him to preach this Sunday. Possibilities there.

## A bucket of tadpoles: Springtime, curiosity, and the Theology of Science

When I was nearly three, I knocked a bucket of tadpoles all over the patio. Those unfortunate creatures must have been collected to educate my brother and I on where frogs came from, but a toddler can't just stand by and watch. Can I see up close? Or maybe I was 'helpfully' moving it to another place. I just remember doing something I shouldn't have done, and tadpoles on the ground. I was sad that I wouldn't get to see those creatures grow up.



I might have been great at destroying things when I was a child (my family would probably say I still am), but I absolutely love watching living things up close. The more I learn, the more my sense of wonder grows. For a tadpole to become a frog, large sections of its gut, salivary glands and muscles must die, as well as the gills. The cells in those tissues are programmed to curl up and disintegrate, and are swallowed up by a specialised kind of white blood cell. Legs grow from small sacs of cells on the tadpole's body, and one of my textbooks says that 'The nervous system is also remodelled' – which I suspect is a bit of an understatement.

This knowledge removes a little of the mystery of how a tadpole turns into a frog, but there is plenty more to discover. These few details also reveal the cleverness of the process. Metamorphosis is surprisingly common in the animal kingdom. How is that an efficient way to grow up, or is efficiency not the most important thing for an animal?

Scientists are essentially grown-ups who are still very much in touch with their inner two-year-old self. They refuse to stop asking questions, even when finding an answer becomes decidedly more awkward than opening a textbook.

Many scientists are people of faith, and this also drives their questioning. They believe that God created a world that was very good, that the purpose of all Creation is to praise Him, we are made in Gods image, and that we are tasked with looking after Creation. So Christians, of all people, should be enjoying and investigating our surroundings. These are the bones of a Theology of Science which serves some of us very well, and keeps us looking into things like buckets of frogs – that is, until a two-year-old comes and knocks them over.

Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz



## **Quotes, with mothers day in mind...**

The oldest of all societies, and the only natural one, is the family. – Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Love is blind. Your mother started loving you before she ever saw your face. – Anon

The moment a child is born, the mother is also born. She never existed before. The woman existed but the mother, never. The mother is absolutely new. – Anon

## Head for the wilderness

*'And he said, 'Which way shall we go up?' And he answered, 'The way through the wilderness...' 2 Kings 3:8*

The only way into the Promised Land is through the wilderness. One Bible scholar has called it 'God's killing field'. He says: 'That's where the things that cause us to stumble in our walk with God are permitted to die; where God 'weeds out' those who want only a momentary, superficial relationship with Him, from those who want their lives really to count.'

If your life is a wilderness at present, take heart: God is there with you the whole time. It's where you learn to stand and to cast all your cares on Him (1 Peter 5:7). Sometimes God will lead you there abruptly, especially if He's been trying to get your attention. He may want to talk to you about the call He's placed on your life, but you haven't had time to listen. Now you find yourself in the wilderness, and you realise that God is the only one who can get you through this.

Here, He permits you to be stripped of pride, so that you can be clothed with humility; stripped of self-sufficiency, so that you can be brought to the place of total dependence on Him. If you're there today, don't think that God's punishing you or that He's forsaken you. No, He's simply allowing some things in your life to die, so that other things can be born and grow into life and fruitfulness.

You'll get through this and by God's grace you'll reach your destiny. *The truth is – there is no other way to the Promised Land other than through the wilderness.*



# Prayer

## Prayer for the earthquake victims

Heavenly Father,

We look on with desperation at the events unfolding in Turkey and Syria and turn our faces towards you, our sovereign Lord.

Your profound and powerful love brings hope, even in the midst of the most devastating circumstances.

While we feel distant and helpless, we know that you are present and able to bring transformation.

Draw near, Father God.

Draw near to those who are grieving.

Draw near to those who are working tirelessly to provide essential aid.

Draw near to Jesus followers who are beacons of your love in the darkness.

Draw near to those in critical roles providing co-ordination, logistical support, and life-saving medical treatment.

Draw near to all those who need to know that you are with them.

We choose to trust in your unfailing love.

Amen

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](mailto:newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk).

If you would like prayer for yourself or family and friends please email [prayer@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto:prayer@bhpurc.org.uk)

## Boys' Brigade News

Channelling their inner designer, the Company Section boys have been stamping their style on their own t-shirts and baseball caps. First they drew their designs out onto blueprints of a t-shirt and a baseball cap, then drawing the outlines onto the items of clothing before finishing them off by adding a splash of colour. Speaking of drawing, I found out why farmers are so good at drawing perfect circles, it's because they're Pro-tractors!

Once they had designed their t-shirts and baseball caps the final week of the half term they did a few science experiments to varying success. One showed the density of water by adding varying amounts of sugar to water. Four different cups had four different levels of sugar in them and each cup had a different colour food colouring. The experiment showed the colour separation when all four were carefully transferred to an empty cup. The colour with the most sugar going to the bottom as it's most dense and the least amount at the top. In theory this would create four different coloured layers of water. Another involved a can of carbonated soft drink which has been shaken up and by rotating and flicking the sides of the can after a few times opening the can wouldn't result in an explosion of soft drink everywhere.

The younger of the Seniors have been continuing working on their courtroom drama loosely based on the fairy tale of Jack and the Beanstalk, which will be performed at this year's company supper as part of the entertainment.

We have also been continuing drill practice in anticipation of



this year's competition with the aim of entering the squad drill, single line drill and colour party competitions. How did the marching band fix a broken instrument? With a tuba glue. The aptly named month of March is home to the London Band & Drill Competition and will be completed by Companies from across the capital, updates to follow in next month's edition.

We are sort of, roundabout, the midway point of the year with much more still to come before we conclude with camp, back on the Isle of Wight!

As we head into a new half term we have upcoming trips including the company section weekend away and an afternoon at the London Dungeons in the near future, but that's where I'll leave it for now, lots more to come next month!

Joseph

### **The real secret to skimming a stone**

Our parents taught us that when you want to skim a stone, use only ones that are circular, flat, smooth, and of medium weight. But now scientists have discovered that this is not true. It seems that you do NOT need a perfect stone, in order to skim it successfully. In fact, even stones that are heavy, knobby and a bit potato-like can be made to bounce across the water.

The research shows that while a flat stone is best for several short, neat skips, a larger rock can skim with fewer – but bigger – leaps. According to Dr Ryan Palmer, a research associate at the University of Bristol, “the heavier a projectile is and the more curved it is, the deeper and longer the skimming interaction. That means you can get really exciting skims known as ‘superelastic’ bounces.

“Essentially, you throw it in at one height and it has a monstrous leap out of the water – which is both surprising and unexpected.”

# Wordsearch

## St Patrick's Day Mothering Sunday Annunciation Lent

Leeks for St David's day, daffodils for the rest of the month: March brings us Spring. St Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland, is remembered with parades. Mothering Sunday and Mother's Day are celebrated with more daffodils and Sunday lunch 'out'. March brings us the Annunciation, when the angel first appeared to Mary to tell her of her coming pregnancy. March is the month of Lent, of prayer and preparation for Easter.

leeks	daffodils	spring	patrick	day
mum	mother	preparation	ireland	wales
sunday	lunch	pregnancy	angel	prayer
parades	mary	magnificat	fasting	lent

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

## Other local church activities

### Weekly

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mon	10am	Ladies Bible Study	Living Room
	7.30pm	English Conversation Club	Living Room
Tues	9.15am	Tots and Toys	Gospel Hall
	10.45am	Bumps and Babies	Gospel Hall
Wed	9.45am	Bible Study (Fortnightly)	Lancaster Road
	10am	Prayer (Fortnightly, alternates with above)	Lancaster Road
	2pm	Wednesday Fellowship (alternates between general chat and talks from various speakers)	BHP Methodist
Fri	10am	Shoppers Coffee Morning	Lancaster Road



Other activities take place monthly or fortnightly. See the following websites for details:

Lancaster Road - [www.lancaster-road-urc.org.uk](http://www.lancaster-road-urc.org.uk)

Christ Church - [ccurc.org.uk](http://ccurc.org.uk)

BHP Methodist - [www.bhpmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bhpmethodist.org.uk)

BHP Community Church (Living Room and Gospel Hall) -  
[www.bhpcc.org.uk](http://www.bhpcc.org.uk)

# Weekly Activities

**Monday** 6.15pm Boys' Brigade Junior Section  
7.30pm Boys' Brigade Company Section  
10.30am Book Club (Once a month, see inside for date)

**Wednesday** 10:00am Toddler Group  
6.30pm Girls' Brigade

**Thursday** 10.45am Friends Group (2nd & 4th Thursday)

**Friday** 6.00pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

**Sunday** 10.30am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)

Please check the church website to confirm if the activity you want to go to is going ahead. [www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar)

