

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31: 6

Walking the Way

Living the life of Jesus today

[February Resources Now Available](#)

FUTURE TRAINING FOR YOUR CHURCH

“WELCOME”

Led by Revd Andy Twilley Training Officer for Southern Synod.

January 19, Cobham URC

[Click here for more information](#)

PRESIDING AT SACRAMENTS COURSE

A 2 session course for those seeking authorisation to preside at the sacraments in their church.

January 25 & February 15, 13.30 – 16.00

Cade Road United Church, Ashford.

[Contact Andy Twilley for details](#)



A great resource for visitors at Easter.

[Find out more](#)

MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR

A seminar, delivered by Livability, looking at some general information about mental health, provide an opportunity for the participants to reflect on what mental health issues we encounter, both within church and beyond and also take part in a discussion about practical ways forward for Churches.

**January 27th, Christ Church, Petts Wood,
10:00-14:00**

We are asking for a donation of around £10 towards this workshop. Lunch included. Please email kat@copley.online if you intend to attend.

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TRICKY ISSUES

How should we as parents, grandparents, carers and the Church respond to bad news, including bereavement, world disasters and terrorist attacks. How do we help our children think about these matters?

**January 29, Reigate Park URC—The Park Room,
8.00pm – 9.15pm (coffee from 7.30pm)**

All welcome!

[Click here for more information](#)

TRINITY EPIPHANY LECTURE

"The Gospel Stories of Jesus' Birth" by the Very Revd Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans

The talk and discussion will address the questions: Why is it that only Matthew and Luke supply any information about Jesus' birth, while Mark and John pass over it in silence? Why are Matthew's and Luke's stories so different? Where have these stories come from? How important is the virginal conception of Jesus? Are we dealing with history, myth, or something in between?

January 30, Trinity Church, Sutton

[Click here for more information](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Kent Workplace Mission, which is sponsored by Southern Synod, invites all those involved in any form of chaplaincy to their 2018 conference.

Theme: Mental Health

February 8th, Canterbury , 9:30—16:00

[Click here for more information and
booking details](#)

ECUMENICAL YOUTH AND CHILDREN WORKERS LUNCH

Join youth and children workers and volunteers from churches across London for a time of sharing and discussion over lunch.

**January 30th, Church House, 31 Great Smith
Street, London SW1P 3BN, 11:00 – 14:00**

We'll be joined by Jimmy Dale, the National Youth Evangelism Officer for the Church of England, responsible for promoting and resourcing youth evangelism across the country.

[Click here for more info and to book a free space.](#)

M.A.D. DAY 2018

A day for anyone within your church who wants to "Make a Difference".

Join us to be encouraged, equipped and inspired.

February 3rd 2018, St Andrew's, Canterbury

[For more details, click here.](#)

FUTURE TRAINING FOR YOUR CHURCH

"PASTORAL CARE"

Led by Revd Andy Twilley Training Officer for Southern Synod.

February 16, Cobham URC

[Click here for more information](#)



Synod Office: East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP
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EXPLORING METHODISM

A morning of seminars and discussion.
All are welcome.

February 22, 10.30 – 12.30, Ashford

[Find out more and book your place](#)

DEMENTIA AWARENESS EVENT

Seminars include;

Becoming a Dementia Friend

Dementia and the local Church

Presenters: Rev. and Mrs. Andy Twilley

March 28, Christchurch URC, Tonbridge,

10.00 – 12.30

[Click here for more information](#)

INFLUENTIAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

This workshop is aimed at leaders of Churches, plus leaders in the Corporate, Public Sector, Third Sector and small business. Cost £300.

21st-25th May

[Click here for more information](#)

Run by Keswick ministries.

Please note: A copy of this news sheet can be found and downloaded from the news section of the Synod website:

www.southernsynodurc.org.uk

Boost Conference 2018

IDENTITY AND BELONGING IN CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRY

A day for children's and youth workers, volunteers and church leaders to explore together how we can welcome and allow children and young people to truly belong in our ministries while they are wrestling with some of the most challenging areas of their identity.

6th March 2018, Emmanuel Centre, Westminster

9:15 – 4:15pm

[Click for more info and tickets](#)

A CONFERENCE FOR HEALING AND RENEWAL

Come and learn more about the Power that Heals Broken Relationships. Led by Dr Gwen Rose and Revd Dr Peter Stevenson.

May 18th, Crossway Christian Centre, 9:30-16:00

To book a place contact:

florencegrose@gmail.com

or visit www.spiritualityandhealing.org

Please note: All items for the next issue of "Mission and Vision" need to be sent to [Lauren Kane](#) by 26th January.



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GENERAL DATA PROTECTIONREGULATION (GDPR)

The new General Data Protection Regulations which will come into force in May 2018 . Church House will be publishing advice and materials specifically designed for churches at the end of January 2018. In the meantime they have provided a list of links to a number of excellent resources available online .

The advice and links from Church House can be found [here on the Synod Website](#).

Church in focus

ST ANDREWS URC, DARTFORD

Nine years ago we were an ageing congregation, no children or people lower in age than late 50's. We had been given two independent words of prophecy: 'number of members and adherents of St. Andrew's is to increase significantly – they will probably double. The

mission and community involvement of the church will correspondingly increase. A requirement will thus arise for additional accommodation'

From a visiting preacher we were given a picture of the doors of St. Andrew's wide open and the building was full.

We prayed and we are seeing those prophecies being fulfilled.

Last year we sadly closed our Pilot Company because numbers were too small. We now know that needed to happen as our Sunday Junior Church is growing at such a rate that we need to put all our resources into it. Sometimes you need move from the old into the new. The children are coming with their parents; we now have most ages from nought to ninety two.

The requirement for additional accommodation is now very much our vision for the future; we are running out of space for our Children and Young people.

Rita Brown