

# URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

*"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD" Psalm 31: 24*

**July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**10.30 – 12.30**  
**Caterham URC**

**LICC LEARNING HUB**

**BOOK  
NOW**

## **LICC LEARNING HUB: Vision Day**

**July 31st: 10.00—12.30**

A learning hub is a series of eight workshops over a period of 2 years which takes a group of 10 churches on a journey exploring how to rediscover the reality on being missional, disciple making communities.

The New Testament sees "Whole-life discipleship" as being at the heart of the Christian life yet all too often churches have lost sight of this core aspect of who they are called to be.

Join us on July 31 to be enthused & find out more.

Registration to attend is VITAL in view of restricted numbers.

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**BOOK  
NOW**

## *Greening Your Church*

A half-day workshop to help you show God's love for Creation  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 10.00 – 12.30, by Zoom

- Be inspired by what the Bible says about Creation
- Explore practical ideas you can try out
- Discover the Eco-Church resource and the difference it can make to your church's mission and discipleship
- Take away a tool kit of resources

Led by Alex Mabbs, special category minister at Brighthelm United Reformed Church and Southern Synod's 'Green Apostle'

To book places for you and others from your church, contact  
Andy Twilley: [training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

**PLEASE NOTE:** All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to

[Opune](#) by 30 April.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website [southernsynodurc.org.uk](http://southernsynodurc.org.uk)



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## WE'RE HIRING

### URC Youth Intern

Developing communications in  
partnership with the URC Youth Executive  
<https://bit.ly/3wedMHk>

8-30 hours per month  
£10.85 p/h  
12 month fixed-term contract  
Flexible home-working



### Church Leadership Programme

Transforming leadership from the inside out

Strengthening personal qualities, insights, and skills for effective Christian leadership

2021 to 2022

#### The Programme

The Church Leadership Programme (CLP) is a comprehensive programme to refresh experienced lay and ordained leaders in authentic leadership, helping church leaders to develop external skills from their core sense of being. A mix of physical and virtual learning, the course threads from September to June every academic year.

#### Dates

The first residential will take place September 17-19 2021 at Hinsley Hall, Leeds

#### To find out more?

CONTACT: Philippa Linton: Administrator (Education & Learning)

Email: [philippa.linton@urc.org.uk](mailto:philippa.linton@urc.org.uk)

Direct number: 07801 993222

### Wilderness 2021



Wilderness 2021 is a virtual retreat day for young people aged 12+ brought to you by Crossfire.

Saturday 22nd May 2021 will feature a day of digital content to help explore faith by looking at the account of Jesus in the wilderness. Content will be delivered online including guided prayer, meditation, craft and worship.

Book before 12th May to receive your box of resources (£3.95 P&P)

For more information and booking visit:  
[www.crossfire.org.uk](http://www.crossfire.org.uk)



### ROOTS at home

Explore the Bible | Love God | Grow in faith

Free trial  
for households!

#### New: ROOTS at home

#### Free trial for households

ROOTS at home is a brand new, weekly resource for households of all shapes and sizes, helping them to:

- explore a different Bible passage each week
- discover God's love for the world
- grow and flourish as they live out their faith.

FIND OUT MORE

As an introductory offer, this fantastic resource is free until the end of June 2021!

[Sign up to free ROOTS at home weekly emails](#)

## PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

Interested in attending the  
sacraments course?

Contact Andy Twilley  
to find out more or to  
register:

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)



## Whole Life Preaching

A day to be Refreshed & Inspired in your Preaching.

June 12 at Horsham URC

SPEAKER: Andy Twilley

Refreshments from 10.00 Starts: 10.30 Depart: 15.30

The day will include time for delegates to share ideas of  
books or resources they have found helpful.

Soup will be provided at lunchtime.

All are welcome!

To book your place contact  
Synod Lay Preaching Commissioner  
Sue Knight: [knight52@sky.com](mailto:knight52@sky.com)



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## GETTING THE MOST FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

URC Children's & Youth Work and Education & Learning invite you to a series of free, online workshops to improve communication skills.

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

## EXPLORING MENTAL HEALTH from a Psychological, Sociological & Theological perspective

Four seminars presented by Andy Twilley

At OXTED URC

13.30—16.00

May 4, June 1, June 29, July 27

To book your place:

Contact Andy

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)



## URC BLACK HISTORY MONTHLY



THIRD MONDAYS 7.30-8.30PM ON ZOOM

## BLACK VOICES SPEAK OUT

**Black History Monthly:**  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 7.30-8.30pm

*We'll be looking together at a selection of poems by black authors from the time of slavery to the present day, from the UK, the Caribbean and the Americas, with the help of our own black poet, Karen Campbell.*

*Poignant, challenging, inspiring, humorous...*

*A document giving the texts of some poems and weblinks to others will be available on the URC website*

[CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

## Church in focus

CHRIST CHURCH, SEVENOAKS & THE BAY, BIRCHINGTON

While languishing in Babylonian captivity the Jewish people were cut off from temple worship. So they began to meet in small groups (synagogues) to pray together & study their scriptures. A new type of spirituality was being developed that was to shape the worship of a future Christian church. In this age of COVID a good proportion of our two local congregations now meet together in zoom bible studies, prayer groups and online services. Of course some of the elderly struggle with the demands of internet technology. We also know that talking to each other on a laptop is less rewarding than sharing the physical presence of our friends. Nevertheless we, with many others, are discovering new ways of expressing our spirituality & growing in the faith that is helping some to participate actively who would normally have been more passive in their public worship. Perhaps something is taking place in our communities that will forever change the possibilities of Christian worship for good.

*Rev Alan Spence*