

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

**“He (Jesus) is the blessed and only Sovereign,
the King of kings and Lord of lords. 1 Timothy 6: 15**

URC BUILDINGS FORUM WEBINAR

Our Buildings in Community: Wednesday 24 May 11.30am - 1pm

- meet Roo Stewart, the URC's Programme Officer for Church and Society
 - hear from a range of local church projects about how they are using their Church buildings to be a presence in the neighbourhood
 - share your own experiences of setting up and running community-based activities
- get inspired and encouraged to start something new!

For further information and to register your interest please email: mission@urc.org.uk including your name and email address and which church you belong to or are representing, if appropriate.

Please also save the date for the following online conference on **26th September 2023, 8pm - 9.30pm**, focussing on environmental issues for church buildings and working towards Net Zero.

Information about the Forum can be found at: www.urcbuildingsforum.co.uk.

Word in One Preachers Training Day Speaker: Andy Twilley

May 20
at Horsham URC

This day will revolutionise your understanding of the “Bible’s Big Picture” as well as providing an opportunity to explore and discuss preaching on a range of core themes of Scripture.

Refreshments: 10.00
Seminar starts: 10.30
Depart: 15.30

To book your place
Contact: Sue Knight

localchurchleader@reigateparkchurch.org

The Bible is an amazing book filled with wonderful truths to build our lives on. Yet many people struggle to understand how it all fits together. The seminars on May 20th are designed to transform your view of the “big picture”. As the day unfolds we will see how:

- ◆ there is a cohesive message from Genesis to Revelation, creation to the new heaven & new earth
- ◆ the Bible books relate to the Bible characters
- ◆ it all fits on an historic timeline
- ◆ the messianic line flows from Genesis 3 to the birth of Jesus

What’s more, we will be affirmed and encouraged as we explore some of its core truths and reminded of how its transformational message brings us hope and a genuine sense of peace and belonging.

ALL ARE WELCOME... contact Andy for more details or Sue Knight to book your place.

localchurchleaders@reigateparkchurch.org

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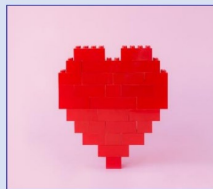
THAMES NORTH and SOUTHERN SYNOD YOUTH RESIDENTIAL

Thursday 1st – Sunday 4th June 2023

Kingswood Grosvenor Hall

Ashford, Kent

Join young people from
Thames North and Southern
Synods for 4 days of **Outdoor
Activities, Bible Stories,
Games, Creative Workshops**
exploring the theme: **LOVE IS...**



Cost: £50 (excluding transport)
Age: 11 – 16 (must be in Year 7)

Please register your interest with your CYDO before
12th May 2023

Southern Synod Tom Hackett
cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk
Thames North Synod Lorraine Downer
cydo@urcthamesnorth.org.uk

Spaces are limited



APPLICATIONS FOR THE JPIT INTERNSHIP ARE NOW OPEN!

Full time, paid opportunity for someone
aged 21-30.

September 2023 - August 2024.

Apply by 22nd May.

Visit JPIT.uk/internship



SPRING INTO STEPWISE

Facilitator Training Sessions

We are offering two opportunities to come and learn more about Stepwise and be enthused and equipped to facilitate Stepwise in your church, community or wider context.

Tues 13 June: 10.00-12.30 Online via Zoom
Wed 28th June: 10.30-13.00 at Church House
86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT

If you are interested in finding out what Stepwise has to offer, what's involved in facilitating Stepwise and how you might go about setting up a group as a facilitator, then please come along to either session. It would be great to see you!

For further details and to register for either session please contact David Salsbury david.salsbury@urc.org.uk or Marion Brown marion.brown@urc.org.uk



Synod Office: East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP
Tel: 020 8688 3730 office@urcsouthern.org.uk

Issue 140

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Southern Synod Youth Representative



- **Represent young people within Southern Synod.**
- **Talk and listen to others, to share their needs.**
- **Become a member of URC Youth Executive, helping to plan Youth Assembly.**
- **Represent young people in the URC across the UK.**
- **Help make the URC accessible to all.**

Could this be you?

Know a young person you might be interested?

**Contact Tom Hackett - cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk for further
info and application details**

2 year term of office until Jan 2025, must be aged 16-25 years for duration of office.

Online Youth Mental Health First Aid

Learn to support young people

- Gain an in-depth understanding of mental health and factors that can affect wellbeing in the youth sector
- Develop practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Feel confident to step in, reassure and support a young person in distress
- Enhance your interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening and learn to champion self-care

For more info and to book, contact:



Children's & Youth Development Officers
Mersey Synod - Steven Mitchell cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk
Southern Synod - Tom Hackett cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk

Visit the MHFA England website at mhfaengland.org
Find us on social media @MHFAEngland

**Fully Funded Spaces
Available**

Register at:

**www.bit.ly/may-mhfa
May 2023 - Evening Course**

18:30-21:30

4 online sessions

Tues 16, Thurs 18

Tues 23, Thurs 25



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I AM MARK

A Daring New Staging of Mark's Gospel
Performed by Stefan Smart

WE ARE **CHRIST CHURCH URC, SEVENOAKS**
YOU ARE **WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US**
ON **FRIDAY 9 JUNE 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

A ROARING SUCCESS AT THE EDINBURGH FRINGE
BOOK ON www.eventbrite.co.uk
CAPACITY **150 SEATS***

*Entry only by ticket(s) booked and paid in advance

Christ Church URC, Littlecourt Road, Sevenoaks,
TN13 2JG – en route to the station and opposite LIDL

PLEASE NOTE: Items for the next issue
of “Mission & Vision” need to be sent
to **Andy** by **12 May**.

A copy of this news sheet can be found
& downloaded from the Synod website
southernsynodurc.org.uk

God

is calling you



Remind Me
@naycrumors



Message



Decline



Accept

Lay Preaching Course 2024

Will you answer the call?

Contact **Andy Twilley** to find out more.

training@urcsouthern.org.uk



Please pray for our ministers and Local
Church Leaders as they attend “The
Gathering” next week... that it will be a
time of rest, refreshment and
renewal.

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Calling all grandparents

Join our free in-person or online gatherings

10 June in Reading
17 June in Newcastle-upon-Tyne
15 and 19 June online

www.bit.ly/glorious-grandparenting
for more details

Glorious grandparenting

Church in focus

The Vale URC Broadstairs and Hardres Street United Church Ramsgate

I find myself in the not unique position of pastoring 2 congregations, one of those being an LEP and the unique challenges that come with it. However, being new to both the URC and Methodist church, I am finding it a purposeful test to my intellect, faith and how “church” happens. The 2 congregations couldn’t be more different in setting, worship style and leadership. Learning to adapt to both settings and challenging new thinking and new ways of doing things, has been a part of my goal while myself settling into a new country and culture (having recently emigrated from South Africa). Part of that journey has also been to try to make ourselves more visible to the community, so that we can be a sacred place for people to turn to if needed and not just a building occupying space, questioning our own concept of “church” in the 21st century and in testing times for all people.

Rev. Ruth Armstrong