

# URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

“From him the whole body, joined & held together by every supporting ligament, grows & builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

(Ephesians 4: 16)



## IGNITE

### Welcome, Holy Spirit

*Encountering the person and power of the Holy Spirit*

Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would clothe us with power, equipping us for action as his witnesses. Yet often we settle for less than God intended, and have little first-hand experience of the Spirit's empowering work.

This Ignite explores the Biblical basis for welcoming the Holy Spirit more fully into our lives and churches. Through testimony, teaching and prayer we will make space for a richer understanding and fresh encounters with the third person of the Trinity.

Join us for this faith-inspiring event and discover how much more God can do in you, for you, and through you.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
9:30 am - 5 pm



“The people were so genuine and the teaching so biblical that it has opened my eyes to learning how to co-operate with the Holy Spirit.”



St Andrew's URC  
Watling Street  
Canterbury. CT1 2UA

- » Light refreshments will be provided
- » Please bring a packed lunch
- » Parking is limited

Find out more and book your place:  
[dunamis.org.uk/ignite-events](http://dunamis.org.uk/ignite-events)

Training in

# pastoral care

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August

TIME: 14.00 – 18.30

Two seminars:

Introduction to Pastoral Care  
Listening Skills

VENUE: Christ Church URC,  
High St, Tonbridge TN9 1SG

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

For more details or to book your place, contact Andy Twilley:  
[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)



## Church Leadership Programme

Transforming Leadership from the Inside Out

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

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.

**LAST  
CHANCE**

Deadline for registrations: **EXTENDED.**

To register or for general CLP enquiries contact:

Philippa Linton: Administrator for Education & Learning

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



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

Issue 146

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## Synod Prayer Days

Deployment Missions Outreach  
Concerns Buildings Future  
Congregations Evangelism Age profiles  
Decline

We talk a lot together,  
in Councils, Synod Area  
and Synod meetings

*But do we listen?*

*Do we spend time listening  
to God?*

This is an opportunity to listen to  
God together as Synod (Area)!

EKSA / WKESA	Sat 8 July	Cade Road Ashford
S&SSA	Sat 22 July	Crawley URC
SLSA	Sat 12 Aug	Crossways URC, Elephant & Castle
CSUA	Sat 9 Sep	Emmanuel United Church, Eastbourne

All days start at 10am for 10:30 finishing at 4pm



Announcing the 23-24 Certificate  
in  
Theology & Discipleship for  
Mission

Session Dates  
9 & 23 October  
6 & 20 November  
4 December  
15 & 29 January  
12 & 26 February  
11 March  
29 April  
13 May  
3 & 17 June  
1 July

Join our 23-24 Cohort for the CTDM to participate in

- scholarly readings of Mark's Jesus movement led by the founder of UTU, Rev'd Dr. John Vincent
- sharing of stories in faith journey, evolution, change and discovery
- perspective building through liberation theologians, including Black liberation and Indigenous theologians.
- gain insight from guest speakers who are embedded in mission provide practical insight into what works, how to adapt, and how to flourish as a Kingdom Community.
- Our 15-sessions culminate in student led plans for local mission.

☎ 0114 2709907

🌐 [utusheffield.org.uk](http://utusheffield.org.uk)

✉ [office@utusheffield.org.uk](mailto:office@utusheffield.org.uk)

📍 Urban Theology Union, Victoria Hall Methodist Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2JB

**PLEASE NOTE:** Items for the next issue of “Mission & Vision” need to be sent to **Andy** by **11 August**.

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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## Rural Ministry Course

17-18th Oct 2023

- New to rural?
- Fancy a refresher?
- Come & meet others
- Learn together



Booking & further details:  
<https://tinyurl.com/RMC2023>

£500 full board  
King's Park,  
Northampton

Arthur Rank  
Centre  
CONFIDENT RURAL CHRISTIANS

Booking Now

10-12  
OCTOBER  
2023



## URC - GODLY PLAY 3-DAY ACCREDITED TRAINING COURSE

Basingstoke URC, London Street,  
Hampshire RG21 7NU

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT  
CYDO@URC5.ORG.UK

BOOKING VIA [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3MBNDXD](https://bit.ly/3MBNDXD)



## Whole Life Preaching

A day to be Refreshed & Inspired in your Preaching.

October 28 at St. Paul's URC, Croydon.

**SPEAKER: Steve Rouse**

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 Advocate  
Sue Knight: [localchurchleader@reigateparkchurch.org](mailto:localchurchleader@reigateparkchurch.org)

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## PRESIDING AT A FUNERAL



**17 August 2023**

**10.30 – 13.00**

**Crawley URC**

A training session to explore all aspects of conducting a funeral service, particularly designed for Elders or Lay Preachers who might be called upon to serve in this way.

To express interest in attending, please contact Andy Twilley:

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

## Church in focus **YOU!**

One of the most wonderful facts of being part of the Church, is that none of us are simply a random part with no purpose, but EVERYONE of us has a God given purpose to fulfil. Paul expresses it like this: *“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* (Ephesians 2: 10) No matter our age, or background, irrespective of where we live or the job we do, there is a God given purpose for your life. This truth takes us to the heart of the phrase *“every member ministry”*. Within the tradition of the URC it is a truth we hold dear and yet often fail to understand the liberating and empowering implications of it within local church life. Let's all be asking a simple question: *“what are the ‘good works’ WE have been created to do, & how does that fit within the context of the church I am a part?”* As we answer these questions and step up to the plate to serve, suddenly church starts to become all that God has designed it to be.

*Rev. Andy Twilley  
Training & Development Officer*