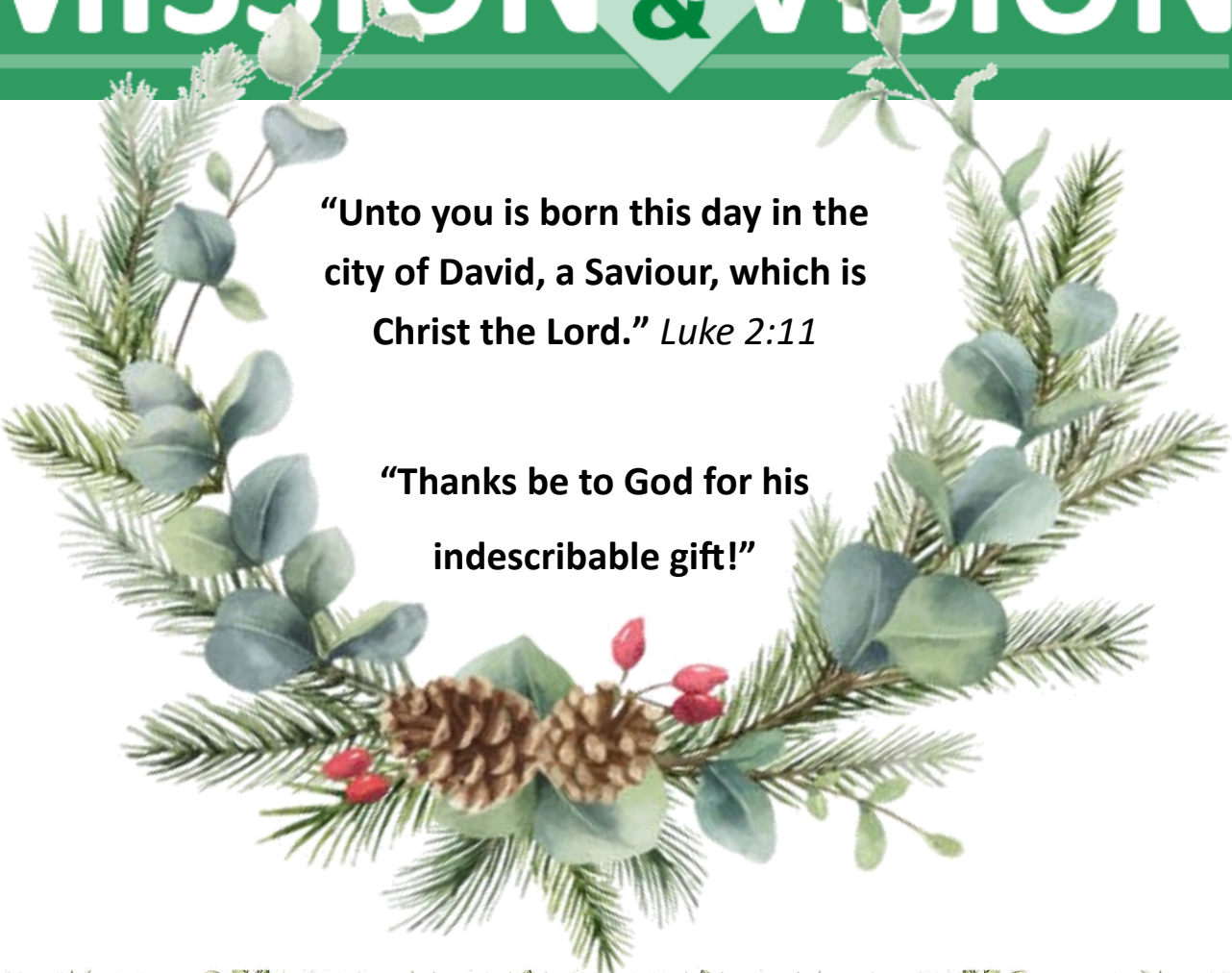



URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION



“Unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” *Luke 2:11*

“Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!”



On behalf of all Synod staff, we wish you a very happy Christmas, praying that you will know the joy, hope and peace of Christ as you celebrate the wonder of His love.

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

VC Training

3rd January 2024

10.30 – 13.00

Caterham URC

Contact Andy Twilley


training@urcsouthern.org.uk

2024

VISIONARY COMPANIONS

This role is a core part of the new Synod deployment policy process for churches entering pastoral vacancy. It requires a unique set of gifts and skills which will enable a church to go on a journey to explore their vision and strategy for the future. VC's need to be Visionary, innovative and able to think outside traditional boxes... is this you? If so, come and find out more on January 3rd.


URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION




**Story
Story
Story** *What will you discover?*

**URC
= YOUTH ASSEMBLY =
= 2024 =**

26 to 28 January 2024
Whitemoor Lakes, Alrewas, Staffs

#URCYA24  urcyouth

For all young people with a connection to the United Reformed Church including:



**A WEEKEND TO HAVE YOUR SAY,
MAKE FRIENDS AND FIND FELLOWSHIP:**

- **Youth Decides** – discussions on issues that matter to us – leading to action and engaging the wider church
- **Workshops** – craft, drama, Bible studies, opportunities to grow your skills and thinking
- **Worship** – led by Youth Assembly band plus prayer room, late night communion
- **Entertainment** – campfire, karaoke, games and more

Fully funded places provided for young people from Southern Synod.
Year 10 students in England & Wales and S3 students in Scotland up to 25 years (inclusive)
Creche available for children 0-5 years old.

Book your place through
cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk
before 2 January 2024
or contact children.youth@urc.org.uk if not in Southern Synod.

If you or your group need a leader to accompany you, please get in touch with the Children's & Youth Work Office using the following details:

Children's & Youth Work Office,
United Reformed Church,
86 Tavistock Place, London
WC1H 9RT

 020 7916 8683
 children.youth@urc.org.uk

Find out more about Youth Assembly at bit.ly/Youth-Assembly

PLEASE NOTE: Items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to **Andy** by **29 December**. A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website southernsynodurc.org.uk

URC Training

Nurturing resilience

Following on from the sessions earlier in 2023, Children's and Youth Work and Education and Learning offer another opportunity to come along to four new sessions, looking at resilience.

10 January 2024:
Compassionate Welcome

17 January 2024:
Inclusive and Expansive Language

24 January 2024:
Understanding Wellbeing

31 January 2024:
Spiritual Care

Session leaders:
The Revd Dr Alex Clare-Young
The Revd Dr Adam Scott

For more information and to sign up:
www.bit.ly/Resilience4churches




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

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

Interested in attending the
sacraments course?



February 2nd: 10.30 – 13.00

March 21st: 10.30 – 13.00

Trinity Church Willingdon

Contact Andy Twilley to find out more or to register:

training@urcsouthern.org.uk



Prayer and the Holy Spirit

Growing in prayer with the help of the Holy Spirit

Do you ever long to develop in your life of prayer? Would you like to discover how the Holy Spirit can make a difference and take you deeper into that great adventure of prayer?

Why settle for less when Jesus promises more?

Through testimony, teaching and practice, this Ignite explores some of the basic ingredients of prayer and looks at:

- ◆ What it means to ask in the name of Jesus
- ◆ How vision and prayer shape the future
- ◆ Intercession that is led by the Holy Spirit

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

Saturday 27th January 2024

9:30 am – 5 pm



*"The teaching, prayer,
worship and practical application has
transformed my personal spiritual walk."*

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



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

Find out more and book your free place:

dunamis.org.uk/ignite-events

PRESIDING AT A FUNERAL

19 March 2024

14.00 – 16.00

St. Johns, Orpington

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



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

Tel: 020 8688 3730 office@urcsouthern.org.uk

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

REGISTER NOW

CALLED TO PREACH?

The Lay Preachers
Training Course

Starting
24th January 2024
6.30 – 9.00pm
at
Crawley URC

Is God calling **YOU**?
Contact Andy for details

training@urcsouthern.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE

A NEW BIRTH

Almost before Christmas is over there will be a Synod new birth with the happy arrival of the Kent & East Sussex Synod Area (KESSA). In your new diary, mark the date of Saturday 3rd February for a Celebration Launch at Maidstone URC from 11am to 3pm. All are welcome to join the celebration and hear some challenging speakers!

Church in **FOCUS** St. ANDREW'S DARTFORD

St. Andrew's has been blessed over many years with Ministers of Word and Sacrament. In 2006 we were amongst the first of the churches to be affected by deployment. Was this the end of the road for us? No it definitely was not, it was the start of a new exciting journey. Southern Synod's foresight to recognise the value of training and supporting Lay Ministry has allowed us to continue to be a strong growing URC presence in Dartford. I am the second Local Church Leader to be identified and called from within our own fellowship and it is a privilege to work alongside the Elders and congregation. Local Church Leadership is tailor made for the needs of the local church, my role is that of soul charge, some LCL's work alongside ministers or have a project associated with the local church. As Ministers have wider pastorates along with Area/Synod responsibilities, the need for this ministry is growing.

Rita Brown
Local Church Leader

EDITOR'S NOTE: why not check out the church's web site to see some of the exciting things taking place at St. Andrew's. <https://www.standrewsunitedreformedchurchdartford.com/>