



Yorkshire Synod

Briefing

Number 123



1st February 2024

February already!!

It is great to see that this issue of the Briefing has expanded. Quite often I have struggled to fill even a handful of pages, but this issue is looking like Yorkshire Synod's version of the Book of Isaiah..... Having said that, like the Book of Isaiah, the Briefing is full of wonderful things. From the events happening in the next week or two, especially the Quiet Day for Candlemas and Lectionary Planning sessions, to advance notice of things happening in September 2024 such as the Westminster College Course and the Heritage Open Days, the Briefing is here to tell you that there are lots of activities planned over the next few months. In between there's lots going on, we have coffee in Leeds and Forums in the four corners of the county. Not only that, there is the opportunity to explore your own call, and if you head towards the national URC site at [Latest news - United Reformed Church](#) you can see what is happening elsewhere in the denomination and how you can connect with the national activities. Lots to do, probably not enough time to do it all in, but worth while trying for the Kingdom's sake.

As ever I am looking for lots of volunteers to help in the smooth running of the Synod. There are several of our committees in urgent need of new faces. Without the help of individuals from our churches, the well-oiled machine that is Synod will grind to a halt. Currently the Financial Resources Committee and the Property Committee are in desperate need of new people to help guide and manage the Synod's resources so that Synod can effectively support the Christian mission of the churches under its wing. Similarly, the Listed Buildings Advisory Committee is looking for an enthusiastic person to act as secretary so that the advice it can offer to those churches which have been listed is done so in a timely fashion. As with any appeal I make I am happy to talk through the role if you are called to serve and if you feel that you know somebody who may be interested, please let me know in the usual manner – via my e-mail or mobile or through the office in Morley.

Finally, the one thing I lack this time is what has been happening in your churches. Please let me have details of what is happening where you are. Tell me what you plan for 2024 so that I can help spread that news, especially what you are doing on the weeks during Lent and over Easter 2024.

Drop me a line at clerk@urcyorkshire.org.uk and I'll showcase it in the next edition, due out on Thursday 22nd February with a deadline of Wednesday 21st February 2024.

Thank you and God Bless,

Tim Crossley

Synod Clerk

Loving



Quiet day for Candlemas



The URC Spirituality group have organised a **Quiet Day for Candlemas** this coming Saturday, 3rd February. They are drawing together the last of Epiphany, Candlemas and the feast of St Brigid via Zoom, with contributions from Kathryn Price, Lesley Thompson and Mark Argent.

They will be linking the story of the Purification of Mary/presentation of Jesus (Luke 2.22-39) and the legends of the hospitality of St Brigid. People are invited to set aside the day, taking time to pray and reflect between the three sessions:

10.00: Kathryn Price

Introduction, linking the stories of the day, picking up themes of hospitality, hope and faithfulness.

13.00: Lesley Thompson

Stories of hospitality in Sheffield.

16.00: Mark Argent

Drawing together the themes of the day and facilitating an exploration as a group of where we've experienced God in the process of the day — for us together as a group in the sessions earlier in the day, and in prayer and free time between them. Where have the stories of the day intersected with our lives? What is God inviting us to hear? The session and the day will end with prayers led by Kathryn Price.

Please book via the URC Spirituality website: <https://urc-spirituality.org.uk/>

Lay Preachers' and Worship Leader's lectionary planning zoom sessions

The Lay Preachers' and Worship Leaders' Planning Group are pleased to let you know that we are facilitating another of these sessions in February.

You are invited to Explore the lectionary readings together on Thursday 8th February. There will be two identical sessions, the first session being at **10.00am** with a second repeated session at **7.30pm**.

Facilitated by Anne Dale in the morning and Rod Morrison in the evening, this will be a time for participants to look together at the lectionary readings for 18th & 25th February and 3rd & 10th March in preparation for leading worship on those Sundays.

Please register your interest with Rod Morrison rodmorrison1946@btinternet.com by Friday 2nd February, indicating whether you will join in the morning or evening or if you are available for either, so if necessary we can balance the groups so both sessions are viable.

Both events will be held on Zoom and the link for the sessions will be sent on Monday 5th February to all who register.



WINTER COAT EXCHANGE

Available to anyone
who would like to
donate a coat or needs
one, no questions
asked.



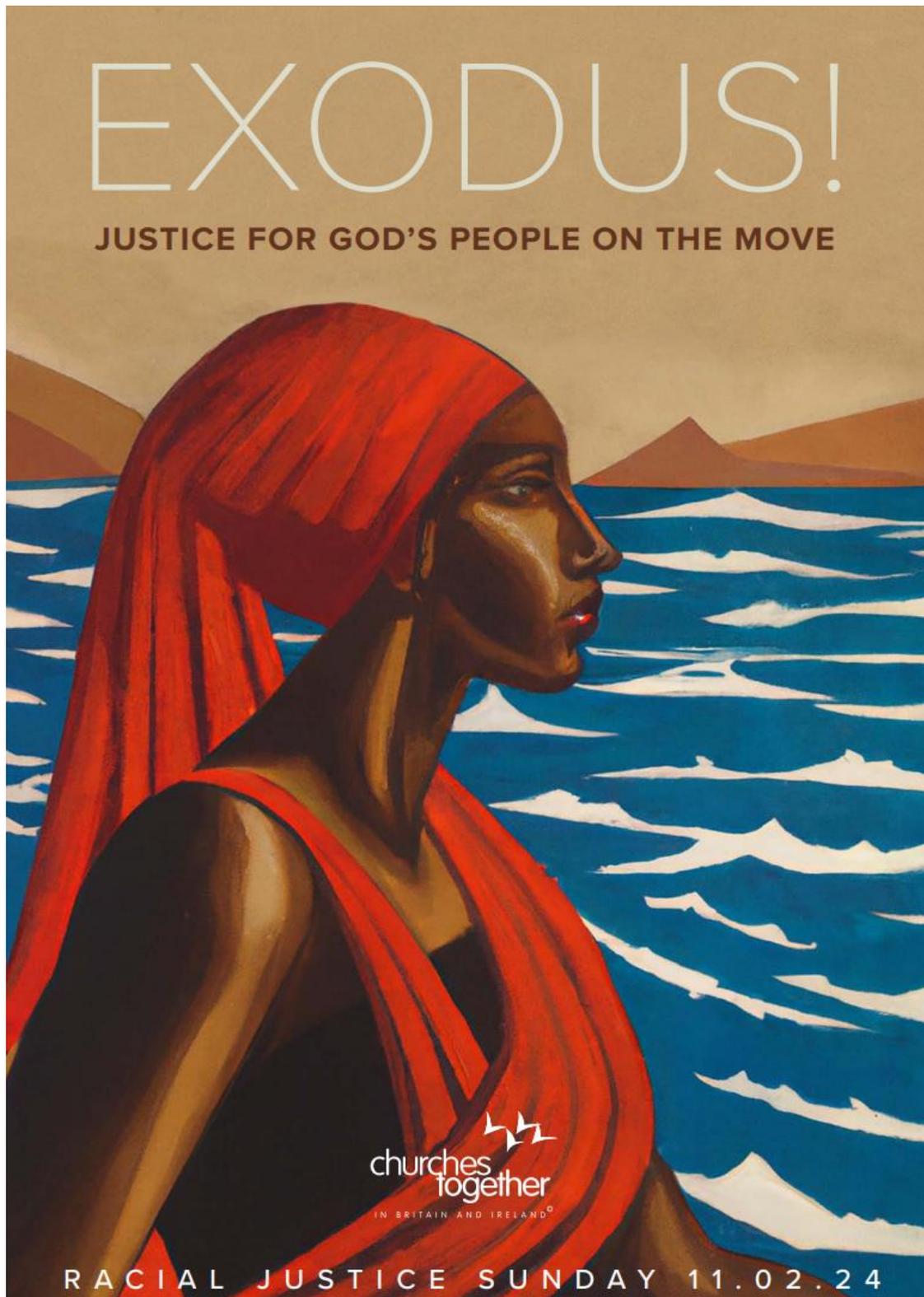
OPEN:
Mondays and
Thursdays, 11am-1pm
Sundays, 12-12:30pm

There is a bell on the
front and back of the
church.



Stainbeck Church
Stainbeck Road, Leeds,
LS7 2PP

<https://stainbeckurc.org.uk/>



Just a quick reminder that Racial Justice Sunday (11th Feb) is just around the corner.

Please take time to make your local church aware of the Racial Justice Sunday date, resources and encourage them to share the details with their Worship Leaders. Full details can be found on the Churches Together website at [Racial Justice Sunday 2024 \(ctbi.org.uk\)](https://ctbi.org.uk) with the order of service at <https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Racial-Justice-Sunday-2024-accessible-text-version.docx>

Please note that if services for the 11th Feb are already planned, the resources can be used for any available Sunday.

Inviting



Holiday Forum in a Day - Saturday 24th February 2024

Save the date! Join us on Zoom next February 24th for [HF in a Day](#) and have a taste of what to expect at next year's summer conference.

The Holiday Forum team will be joined by **Rev Fiona Bennett** who leads our theme and **Rev Kuraone Mutimwii**, our worship leader. They'll give us a flavour of their sessions to whet your appetite and there'll be other things to get stuck in to throughout the morning and later in the evening (full timetable TBC).



The day will run in two parts: from 9.30am-12.30pm and then from 7.30pm-9.30pm (with the option to join from 6.30pm to meet and share dinner

virtually). Feel free to drop in as you like throughout the day using this zoom link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85672315058>, Meeting ID: 856 7231 5058.

Don't forget, places for the summer conference (Sunday 18th to Friday 23rd August 2024 at The Hayes & online) are limited to just 100 this year and lots have been filled already, so [book early](#) to avoid disappointment!

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for an inspiring walk through the New Testament



WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

"Relax and enjoy the journey as an experienced guide encourages you to see God's Word through the 'Big Picture'. Our FUN and MEMORABLE sessions will help you learn with such CLARITY you'll be able to retell the whole STORYLINE to a friend. We will also do our best to INSPIRE and EQUIP you to keep digging deeper."

One event over two days

Friday 12th April 2024 7 - 9.15pm **AND** Saturday 13th April 2024 9.30am - 1pm
at Bilton Grange URC, Harrogate

For further details and to book please contact Caroline Butler (Knaresborough URC)
Tel: 07904 509802 Email: butler.caroline@outlook.com



**What is God
asking of
YOU?**



Ministry Enquirers' Event

to help you think about God's call to Stepwise, Worship Leading, Lay Preaching, Lay Pioneering, Ministry with children and young people, the Ministry of Word and Sacraments or Church Related Community Work.

Enquirers' Event

Saturday 17th February 2024

9.30am – 1pm online

Register with ministries@urc.org.uk

to receive Zoom details

TURIN SHROUD EXHIBITION COMES TO THE BRIDGE CHURCH

An exhibition around one of the most famous religious artefacts in history is coming to the Bridge Church

Shroud of Turin Exhibition

Including a full sized replica of the world famous Shroud of Turin

**16th February
to 1st March 2024
10:00am to 4:00pm
(Excluding Sunday)**

**Admission Free
Discretionary donation
if desired**

**Refreshments
available**



The Bridge Church
THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH IN OTLEY

Bridge Street, Otley, LS21 1RW

©1978 Barrie M. Schwartz Collection, STERA, Inc.

Visitors to the Bridge Church, Otley, will be able to see a full-sized replica of the world-famous Shroud of Turin as part of a fascinating exhibition which will be on display in the sanctuary from Friday 16th February to Friday 1st March.

The actual Shroud is housed in the cathedral in the Italian city of Turin and is a length of linen cloth that bears a faint image of the front and back of a man. It has been venerated for centuries, especially by members of the Catholic Church, as the actual burial shroud used to wrap the body of Jesus of Nazareth after his crucifixion, and upon which his bodily image is miraculously imprinted.

As well as a full-

sized replica of the Shroud of Turin, the exhibition will also feature other fascinating displays and detailed information boards, which cover evidence revealed by historical and scientific research, explaining how the Shroud's image and bloodstains align with Gospel accounts.

Minister at the Bridge Church, Rev Jason McCullagh, said 'we are thrilled to be hosting this incredible exhibition in the Bridge Church, and we hope that it will be visited by many people over the fortnight. For more information of other activities at the Bridge Church, please visit [Otley Bridge Church](#).

Sharing



February is the month to find out more about Godly Play in Yorkshire!

Godly Play is a unique approach to storytelling in a way that nurtures spirituality and creativity, and allows children to be curious about scripture and the stories of Jesus.

With two up and coming events across the synod, you are spoilt for choice!

Susie Steel presents a:

Godlyplay Training Day

10-3pm Sat 10th Feb 2024

Toll Gavel United Church, Beverley

£15 per person

Book your place by email

tqchildrenfamilywork@gmail.com

WWW.GODLYPLAY.UK



Join Susie Steel at Toll Gavel in Beverley on **Saturday 10th February** to learn some of the

Godly Play techniques.

The day is from 10am-3pm and costs £15 per person. For booking and any questions, contact tqchildrenfamilywork@gmail.com

Richard Knott will be with us on **Saturday 24th February** at Somerset House for an opportunity for you to experience Godly Play for yourself. More details of this event below and flier attached.

The day (24/02/2024) will allow you to participate in 2 complete Godly Play sessions, each exploring a different story genre. There will be opportunity to discuss key elements of the Godly Play approach and childhood spirituality.

This is a free event and open to anyone. It is especially designed for those who have little or no previous experience of Godly Play. This opportunity is suitable for children's leaders, youth leaders, teachers, ministers, chaplains or anyone interested in childhood spirituality.

Hot drinks and lunch provided. You may like to bring a cushion to sit on, as wherever possible we like to sit on the floor for Godly Play.

If you have any questions, please get in touch. Places are limited. Please contact Megan to confirm your attendance. Megancyp@urcyorkshire.org.uk / 07522 220213

AN INTRODUCTION TO
**GODLY
PLAY**

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY
10.30-3.30
SOMERSET HOUSE. LS27 9EP

TO BOOK: MEGANCYP@URCYORKSHIRE.ORG.UK

The United Reformed Church Yorkshire



On Sunday 18th February all young adults are invited to come together for a time of scripture study, prayer and friendship. We will meet at 200 Degrees Coffee Shop on Bond Street in Leeds in their private meeting room.



For some time now, the young adults across the Yorkshire Synod have been meeting each month, in different locations, to share and to be together. All of those who gather are either not regularly attending a local church, or they are the only one in their age bracket attending the church. So being together is important.

At the Sabbath Gathering, Rev. Jason McCullagh, will lead the reading, study and prayer through scripture. We are excited to see what God will reveal in our thinking and discussions together. If you are aged 17+ (there is no upper age limit to the Young Adult events, please come along if you feel this is the place for you) and interested in meeting with others, please get in touch. To confirm your place with Megan, call 07822 220213 or e-mail megancyp@urcyorkshire.org.uk



Westminster College Cambridge

A resource centre for learning

Supporting Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders 2024

“Living in Praise”

Friday 6th - Sunday 8th September

Arrivals from 4pm (course start 6pm) - 2pm departures

Our 2024 Supporting Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders residential will be using the Year C Lectionary to help us reflect on what we have to share with our churches that will engage with peoples' lives, our local communities and address some of the big issues the world is facing. By using the lectionary Year C we hope to offer you insights and resources that will help your worship leading throughout the coming year.

As ever this popular event will include input from college staff and others. There will be time for discussion, reflection and worship, as well as social time together. There will also be space to enjoy the facilities and beauty of Westminster and Cambridge. We look forward to seeing you back again or for a first visit. A warm welcome awaits.

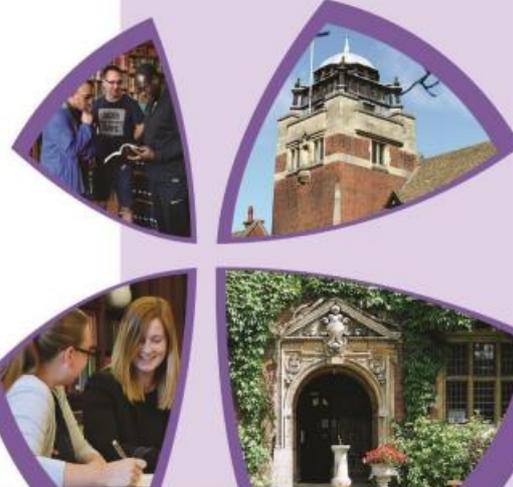
Prices (inclusive of accommodation, meals and course):

- Single room - £195
- Double room - £390
- Day delegate - £ 90

For more information and a booking form please contact the Tutorial Office
01223 330649
office@westminster.cam.ac.uk



Serving the United Reformed Church





The
**Synod
Forum**
Yorkshire

10.30am – 1pm

Followed by lunch together

Saturday 11th May 2024

At St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Scarborough, YO11 2LN

Saturday 1st June 2024

At Gleadless United Reformed Church, Sheffield, S12 2NP

Saturday 8th June 2024

At Salem United Reformed Church, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7DG

Saturday 6th July 2024

At Christ Church LEP, Hipperholme, HX3 8AA

All members and friends of the Yorkshire Synod churches are invited to join us in faith-shaped conversation about the life and mission of the local church.

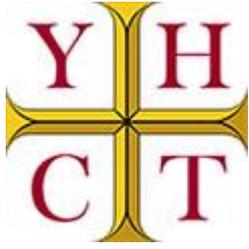
Please bring a packed lunch. Coffee, tea and cakes or pastries provided

Building on the success of last year's Synod Forums as opportunities for fellowship and good conversation, we will be meeting again in four different locations around Yorkshire Synod in May, June and July. You are free to choose the date and venue that is best for you. All will run from 10.30am – 1pm. You are encouraged to stay to share a bring-your-own lunch.

As last year, the conversation will be based around Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. It will be mostly in small group discussions, so you get chance to share with people from other churches. We will

picking up on some of the themes in the URC's Theos report (<https://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/cmsfiles/URC-report-Final.pdf>), and will be asking Where do we see flourishing in Yorkshire Synod? (And what might be the barriers to flourishing?)

We hope that this will also be a chance for those with Synod roles to hear from the local church about your opportunities and challenges so that together we can find the best ways to support and encourage each other. The Synod Forum is your place to have your voice heard, and to help shape the priorities of the Synod.



Helping Yorkshire's Historic Churches & Chapels

Good news! Funding available for Yorkshire's Churches

The Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust is welcoming funding applications from places of worship across the county for repair, restoration and maintenance work. Due to the generous donations and legacies received last year, the Trust is actively encouraging churches to apply for the next round of funding.

The application deadlines for 2024 are Friday 8 March for consideration at the April grants committee and Friday 23 August for consideration at the October grants committee. For guidance and how to apply please go to: www.yhct.org.uk/grants.

In summary:

What you can apply for: Grants are available for repairs to the church fabric, the walls, roofs, floors, tower, bell frames, windows, stonework, repointing and rainwater goods. Grants are also available for the conservation of fixture and fittings, such as monuments, furniture and stained glass and repairs to bells, clocks and organs.

Applications are also welcome for investigatory work, e.g. where a cherry picker may be required to assess what repairs may be required. You can apply for this type of grant at any time of the year. Do contact Jonathan Stamp by email at grants@yhct.org.uk if you would like to discuss this.

The YHCT have no set funding amounts, but common grants range from £2000 - £10,000, depending on the size of the works. The Grant Committee looks at how much the total project is and how much effort has gone into fund raising locally, and which other funders have been approached or confirmed their grants. The YHCT ideally likes to be able to help a church or chapel who have neared the end of their fund raising and only have a shortfall of say £10 - £15,000 to be able to start their project.

It is also inviting individual churches and chapels to become 'Church Members' and to support the Trust by opening churches on Yorkshire Churches Day on 14 September 2024 or taking part in the Ride and Stride sponsored event. All this is found on the trust website <https://www.yhct.org.uk/yorkshire-churches-day/>

We look forward to hearing from you.

Stop Press

Rev'd Ashley Evans, the Yorkshire Synod Evangelist, has a new e-mail. From now on can you change your records for Ashley to evangelist@urcyorkshire.org.uk. Why not e-mail him to see what he can offer your church (and to make sure the new e-mail address works).

Partnering



SKIRCOAT REPAIR CAFÉ



Emulating the current popular television programme, *The Repair Shop*, Heath URC in Halifax as part of the South Halifax Churches Together, have been instrumental in the starting of the Skircoat Repair Café.

The team behind it comprises folk from each of the local churches in Skircoat – Heath URC, St Andrew’s Methodist, All Saints C of E and St Mark’s C of E - as well as a local Halifax councillor, an administrator of the community Facebook page and a local ‘fixer’ who fixes for the Huddersfield Repair Café who

has brought his knowledge experience and some fixers. Members of the churches provide the catering and front of house volunteers. It has caught the eye of the local media, in particular the *Halifax Courier* <https://www.halifaxcourier.co.uk/news/people/the-repair-shop-make-do-and-mend-enthusiasts-inspired-by-hit-tv-show-bringing-new-life-to-loved-household-items-all-over-calderdale-4490167>

and BBC Radio Leeds, which you can listen to here if you are reading this on a digital device



https://drive.google.com/file/d/19CdGj9uleMMS_hywf9wXyIG0ZBJImxND/view?usp=sharing



This past Saturday – 20th January - went very well, with over 30 items being brought into be fixed. Over half of these items were repaired on the spot, other things taken away for fixing off site, and advice given on others. The room was buzzing, with many more coming for the coffee and amazing donated cakes, as well as to see what is going on. We may even have recruited some more fixers by chatting to the curious.

This will, of course, take is one step further on our journey to a Gold Eco Church award, with that applying to All Saints too.

SAFEGUARDING

URC launches new safeguarding guidance - Good Practice 6



On 23 October 2023 the URC launched Good Practice 6. You can read more from the URC national website by clicking [here](#). A copy of Good Practice 6 will be posted to all church-based Safeguarding Coordinators, Synod Safeguarding Officers and Moderators. You can also read a free digital version of Good Practice 6 by clicking [here](#).

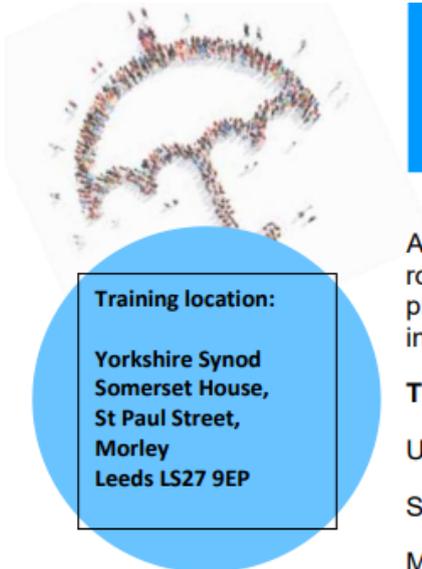
Forthcoming Training Sessions

The following dates in 2024 are still available for Intermediate Safeguarding Training via Zoom with Matt Knowles/Carrie Kaunda.

Monday 5th February, 1pm – 3.30pm

Saturday 17th February, 9.30am – 12.00pm

If you are unsure as to whether you need to do the foundation (basic) training or the intermediate training Please click [here](#) to read Paper T5 which was adopted at last summer's General Assembly. It details the roles and levels of training required. Members wishing to book a place should have completed the foundation e-learning package prior to the date of the Intermediate course. For more information or to book your course please [email](#) Paula Kitson as soon as you can as spaces are limited and are being taken up rapidly.



Advanced Safeguarding Training

Thursday 14th March 10.00am-2.30pm

Advanced training is to support those who have safeguarding leadership roles in which they manage and oversee safeguarding arrangements and practice. This training is mandatory for all Youth and Children Workers including volunteer leaders and Adult Workers including volunteer leaders.

Topics Included in the Training

Unconscious Bias

Supporting those who may pose a risk

Managing allegations

Systemic grooming, and the impact on the entire denomination. This includes how to have safe relationships with appropriate boundaries in place

An advanced understanding of how to recognise, respond, record and report safeguarding concerns

To Book please contact paulakitson.1and4@urc.org.uk



UK Wide Safeguarding Training 2024

Make your booking by emailing: Emma.Pearce@urc.org.uk

All training listed below will take place via Zoom

First date	Event	Second date
17 January, 2024 1:30pm	Domestic abuse	4 June, 2024 6:30pm
25 January 1:30pm	Safeguarding for Pastoral Workers and Elders supporting survivors	11 June 6:30pm
30 January 6:30pm	Modern slavery	8 October 1:30pm
31 January 1:30pm	Elders as Trustees	14 May 7:00pm
8 February 1:30pm	DDC Verifiers training and safer recruitment	23 May 6:30pm
27 February 6:30pm	Substance abuse	3 October 1:30pm
6 March 1:30pm	Refugees and asylum seekers	17 September 6:30pm
18 March 6:30pm	Safeguarding for Ministers supporting survivors	25 September 1:30pm
18 April 6:30pm	Adult safeguarding	15 October 1:30pm
8 May 1:30pm	Spiritual abuse	11 November 7:00pm
28 October 6:30pm	DDC Verifiers training and safer recruitment	4 December 10:00am
19 November 1:30pm	Online safety	

Foundation Training can be accessed on the Learning Hub
bit.ly/3Txldm4



From the United Reformed Church Safeguarding Committee

The URC History Society Conference

16-18 September 2024, University of Durham

*The Church on the margins:
learning from the past to shape the future*



Speakers include:

1. Dr Michael Hopkins – *“Durham and its Dissent”*
2. Nancy Graham - *“The trajectory of Erik Routley”*
3. Professor Alec Ryrie – *“A remarkable work of grace”:
the first era of Presbyterian missions (c. 1740-70)*
4. Professor Peter Ackers - *“The Churches of Christ and
the early twentieth century British labour movement”*
5. Dr Victoria Turner – *“Coming to terms with Coloniality: The Changed Mind of Bernard
Thorogood as General Secretary of CWM”*
6. Professor Stephen Taylor – *“Episcopalian congregationalism: a neglected episode in the
development of Anglicanism in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries”*



This is an open and welcoming conference, for those with a general interest through to professional historians/theologians. Independent scholars, practitioners, and those with no formal training are all equally welcome. We welcome serving ministers, because the conference is about exploring where we have come from in order to know where we are going. **£275 full board in single room, £250 per person**

sharing a double room. Payments to United Reformed Church History Society 40-52-40, 00032467

Ministers can access EM3 funding towards this and for others it comes within the scope of the small DDF grant application for lay folk in Synods. For more information on this contact Kath Lonsdale through the Synod office at office@urcyorkshire.org.uk.



Children, Youth & Families Project Worker

Part-time 20 hrs/week - £27,000 (pro rata) initially for 4 years

For details of this exciting new post, view details at www.valentinechurch.online

Or contact Martin at martinlambourner@me.com for documents to be emailed to you or to arrange a chat about the post.

Closing date for applications: Mon Feb 5th. Interviews on Friday (am), Feb 23rd.



The
United
Reformed
Church

Job Advert

Community Worker



Moldgreen United Reformed Church is seeking to appoint a creative, experienced and knowledgeable **Community Worker** to support the “**Unite – Respect – Connect**” (URC) Project. The post will be based at Moldgreen URC with occasional support being given to Waverley URC (Lindley) and Brackenhall URC (Deighton).

The person appointed will work with individuals, families and communities, empowering them to:

- identify and articulate their challenges, needs and opportunities.
- develop and run activities and events to generate, inclusion, aspiration and confidence.

This is a new position that involves working alongside; a URC Minister, volunteers, local community groups, partner organisations and services (e.g. Kirklees Council, local schools, Neighbourhood Policing Team and Health Professionals). Whilst based at Moldgreen and reporting to a key member of the Unite-Respect-Connect Project Steering Committee the postholder will work across the Pastorate as necessary and determined by priorities and circumstances.

The postholder will work in partnership with others to develop, deliver and monitor a variety of community initiatives, activities and events (new and existing), which will support communities, help address inequalities and involve residents and young people, especially those living in more deprived neighbourhoods. The postholder will also help to raise funding, monitor activity budgets and produce progress reports on the impact of the project and their work.

Previous experience working and/or volunteering in diverse communities is essential. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate excellent communication skills (written and verbal) and a ‘can do’ attitude. They must have the ability to relate to people of different ages and from diverse backgrounds, and build strong and effective relationships with partners. Good organisational and time management skills, and an ability to work as part of a team and independently, using their own initiative, are essential. The candidate will be able to work sensitively with people of all faiths and of no faith to ensure an inclusive approach to involving people in the URC Project and its related community activities and events.

The candidate will ideally have a related qualification in community development further to any GCSE and/or A Level qualifications (or equivalent). Good literacy, numeracy and IT skills are essential with the ability to compile emails, flyers and posters, and produce basic progress reports.

Hours of work are: 16 hours per week. This may well include working some evenings, bank holidays and weekends on occasions. The salary is £12,000 – £14,500 per annum depending on experience. The ability to travel around the communities of the Project is essential. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

To request an application form and Job Description please email; office@moldgreenurc.org.uk

Closing date: 16th February 2024

Interviews are expected to take place week commencing 26th February.

URC Line Management Training

The Human Resources Department at Church House has now released the Line Management training dates for 2024. These sessions will be online on Zoom from 10 am to 11:15 am.

You can find the training dates and topics here: <https://urc.org.uk/your-church/guidance-support-for-churches-synods/employment-guidance/training-events-and-courses/>

To reserve a place, please follow the details in the link where you will also find more details on what the training entails. Having done it, I do recommend it for any church official who acts in a line management capacity.

For more details contact click on the link above or contact **Deepti Upadhyaya, the HR Coordinator at The United Reformed Church**, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT, 020 7691 9871, deepti.upadhyaya@urc.org.uk | www.urc.org.uk

To offer support for the Church's humanitarian support for those affected by the ongoing crisis in Gaza please visit the URC's website at [Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal - United Reformed Church](#). Also please visit the [Christian Aid Appeal](#) site which includes supporting key facts and information, together with the opportunity to make donations direct to [Christians Aid](#). You can also contribute through the URC's own programme *Commitment for Life* at [Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory – United Reformed Church](#).

And Finally

A dozen folks from Yorkshire Synod attended the **URC Youth Assembly 2024**, which was held at Whitemoor Lakes in Staffordshire from 27th to 29th January. The Assembly marked the start of Children's and Youth Work's year of *'Love Is...'* and featured a lively weekend of worship, discussion, fellowship, music, exploring how we love God, our neighbour and ourselves in ways that make a difference.

Daniel Raddings, Yorkshire Synod Youth Rep, was quite heavily involved and gave a presentation on the Gender and Sexual Identity Discrimination Task Group of which he is a member. It is really great to see young people from all over the URC engaging passionately in current issues and for more information of what happened please visit [Youth Assembly round-up: 27-29 January 2023 - United Reformed Church](#)



You can also keep an eye on all our social media platforms for news; on the website at [Home - URC Yorkshire Synod](#), the Facebook pages at [United Reformed Church in Yorkshire - Home | Facebook](#) and [Wilderness URC Yorkshire - Home | Facebook](#), the YouTube page at [URC Yorkshire - YouTube](#) and the Twitter page at [URC in Yorkshire \(@URCYorkshire\) / Twitter](#).