



Yorkshire Synod

Briefing

Number 133

11th July 2024



Spirit of Summer

You can tell that we have reached the height of summer when the Clerk starts to think about digging about at the back of his wardrobe for his swimming trunks and *The Briefing* starts to mention Advent and Christmas. This year is no different to any other year; there will be one more *Briefing* before I head off to the sun and you will find details below on how to get a discount on the URC's 2024 Advent packs. Not only that but the Springs Dance Company are offering their services to churches with their acclaimed *Journey of the Magi* presentation, which has been well received by all those churches who have hosted them. There is nothing like forward planning, so please contact the Wilderness team to order the Advent Packs and consider whether your church can be on the tour list for the *Journey of the Magi*.

However, summer isn't over. Some may say it hasn't even started, but nevertheless we still have invitations are still being offered for the Summer Fun Day in August at Herringthorpe and I would like to highlight two very special invitations, one on Saturday 27th July when we welcome Joe Amoah into Harrogate St Pauls, and on the following Saturday, on 3rd August when we welcome Simon Cross to the Hull Churches at St Ninian's & St Andrew's. Full details can be found on the Synod Calendar at <https://urcyorkshire.org.uk/calendar/>

We also have invitations to a couple of key Leading Your Church into Growth events. On the evening of Tuesday 23rd July there is an introductory session to the local LYCiG course and we are also invited to make our bookings for the three-day conference being held at The Hayes in Swanwick in November. Keep on reading the Briefing for further details.

Finally, 15 of us will be heading to the General Assembly of the URC at The Hayes in Swanwick between 12th and 15th July. This annual meeting of the whole denomination is the place where the direction and mission of the URC is determined. Please pray for the Yorkshire representatives, as well as for all those representing their own Synods around the country, as they discern God's plan in the URC and beyond. More details will appear here [General Assembly papers - United Reformed Church](#).

So, with this in mind, there's no excuse not to ring the office up with all the details of what is happening where you are and where we can find it. Tell me what you plan for the summer so that I can help spread that news. Drop me a line at clerk@urcyorkshire.org.uk and I'll showcase it in the next edition, due out on Thursday 25th July.

Thank you and God Bless,

Tim Crossley

Synod Clerk

Inviting



The LYCiG *local* course



Leading your Church
into Growth

Over the last few years, Synods have been helping to resource our churches in all sorts of ways.

One of those ways to attend a LYCiG (Leading Your Church into Growth) conference, and to use the materials. However as a starter Ashley Evans, our Synod Evangelist will be leading an Introductory training session on the **23rd July at 7pm** which will cover how to run the Leading Your Church Into Growth *Local* course at your church or group of churches.

If you are interested please let Ashley know by contacting him at Evangelist@urcyorkshire.org.uk so that he can send you the zoom link.

With this we are able to help your church family to go on a journey of discovery and excitement.

And then it is with great excitement that the LYCiG team is able to offer our Six Synods (Scotland, Northern, North Western, Mersey, Yorkshire and now West Midlands) 12 places each on this year's 'Leading Your Church into Growth' conference. This is a great opportunity to

Leading your Church
into Growth
Conference

25-27 November
at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

Talk to your Synod Rep for more information.

TO BOOK: Use the QR code or email
rachel@urcyorkshire.org.uk

Reformed Church
Five Northernly
Synods

meet with URC folk from various places to learn together about how much God loves us and wants us to share that love in practical, doable and life affirming ways.

If you would like to know more, please do not hesitate to contact Ashley Evans. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis and you can book directly through the QR code, by emailing rachel@urcyorkshire.org.uk, or by following this link <https://buytickets.at/theunitedreformedchurchyorkshireprovincetrustltd/1245607>

Rev Ashley Evans, Evangelist@urcyorkshire.org.uk, lycig@urcwestmidlands.org.uk



<https://www.facebook.com/ashleymtevens>

Mobile---07403423082, Landline-01274241234,



SUMMER FUN

FRIENDSHIP, GAMES, FAITH & FUN

AUGUST 15 | 12 - 4PM | £2PP
HERRINGTHORPE URC

Book your place here

Sign up with Megan Tillbrook
wilderness@urcyorkshire.org.uk

After such a wet spring and it feels like the summer is still so far away



However, here is an event to give you that summer feeling!

THURSDAY 15 AUGUST at

[Herringthorpe United Reformed Church](#)

Get your young people together and come and join in with an afternoon of fun and friendship.

We will have inflatables available, a nerf war, summer craft activities, food and drink, and short faith seminars.

Bookings now open!

For more information contact wilderness@urc.org.uk.

Short Courses at Trinity College Glasgow

The good folk at URC Education and Learning have asked that you be made aware of these short courses being run by Trinity College Glasgow in the coming academic year, 2024-25. These courses are a mixture of online, in-person and hybrid formats (specified on each course poster, banner and website page), and so will be suitable for a range of people. Comprehensive information for all of our courses is available at our website:

<https://www.trinitycollegglasgow.co.uk/>

Please don't hesitate to get in touch directly if you would like specific sizing of the promotional material or have any questions. The primary contact is Heather O'Connor whose e-mail is TrinityCollegeGlasgow@gmail.com.

2. Preaching in Church Contexts

Practical Theology Short Courses

PREACHING IN CHURCH CONTEXTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This creative, practical and stimulating course will help you to develop as a preacher through reflection on why and how we preach. The course offers students an introduction to the processes involved in constructing, writing and delivering sermons in Christian contexts. We will explore the relationships between the form of biblical texts and the sermons we preach on them, as well as reflecting on delivery, style and method. A key feature of the course is the opportunity to learn from tutor and peer feedback on sermons preached in class.

TUTOR
REV DR DOUG GAY
(Lecturer in Practical Theology at the University of Glasgow, preacher, minister, author)

WHO IS IT FOR?
This course is for those who wish to grow as a preacher and have already completed a level 1 course, or other forms of further education.

APPLICATION INFO
To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegglasgow@gmail.com.
Comprehensive course information available at:
trinitycollegglasgow.co.uk/preaching-in-church-contexts

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON | 4-6PM
WEDNESDAYS
25TH SEPT - 4TH DEC, 2024
£207 PER APPLICANT

“ DOUG GAY ENCOURAGES US TO UNDERSTAND THE WORK OF PREACHING AS AN ARTFUL FORM THAT IS GENERATED OUT OF A LIFE LIVED IN FAITH. ”
- Review of God be in My Mouth: 40 Ways to Grow as a Preacher (2018)

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow

TRINITY COLLEGE University of Glasgow
Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

1. History and Theology of Worship

Practical Theology Short Courses

HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course introduces students to the history and theology of Christian worship. It provides an understanding of the development of current forms of Christian worship, the nature of sacramental distinctions, and new sources and ecumenical confluences in 20th- and 21st-century worship. It provides perspectives which will underpin future worship practice and the development of advanced worship leading skills.

TUTOR
PROFESSOR CHARLOTTE METHUEN
(British Anglican priest, historian, and academic at the University of Glasgow)

WHO IS IT FOR?
This course is for anyone interested in the history and theology of Christian worship with experience within a Christian church.

APPLICATION INFO
To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegglasgow@gmail.com.
Comprehensive course information available at:
trinitycollegglasgow.co.uk/history-and-theology-of-worship

ONLINE | 6:30-8:30PM
MONDAY EVENINGS
30TH SEPT - 25TH NOV, 2024
£207 PER APPLICANT

“ SUCH A POSITIVE AND HELPFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCE ”

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow

TRINITY COLLEGE University of Glasgow
Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

3. Contemporary Art and Visual Worship

Practical Theology Short Courses

CONTEMPORARY VISUAL ART AND WORSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course offers an exploration of the integration of contemporary visual arts in Christian liturgy and the worship environment. The course is open to learners of any background, with no prerequisite knowledge of art or liturgy, and is ideal for those who are seeking to develop the visual arts in their church or faith organisation. The course will engage theologically and artistically, and by the end of the course students will be equipped with practical and theoretical skills for developing creative visual arts practice in their own area.

TUTOR
DR CAROL MARPLES
(Artist, teacher and creative liturgist for the Soul-Marks Trust)

WHO IS IT FOR?
Learners of any background, with an interest in visual arts, who are looking to develop these in their church or faith organisation.

APPLICATION INFO
To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegglasgow@gmail.com.
Comprehensive course information available at:
trinitycollegglasgow.co.uk/visual-art-and-worship

ONLINE | 7-9PM
THURSDAY EVENINGS
3RD OCT - 28TH NOV, 2024
£207 PER APPLICANT

“ THE CONTENT WAS PRACTICAL AND INSPIRING, TAUGHT WITH PASSION AND INTEGRITY. THE IMPACT OF THE COURSE REMAINS AND INFLUENCES MY MINISTRY.. ”
- Student feedback, Spring 2022.

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow

TRINITY COLLEGE University of Glasgow
Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

4. Creative Writing as Spiritual Reflection


Practical Theology Short Courses

CREATIVE WRITING AS SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will enable and support the use of creative writing as a means of theological reflection upon personal, spiritual and contemporary experience. Each week participants will engage with key texts, undertake writing exercises, produce their own creative writing and share their work within small groups. By the end of the course they will have produced a piece of creative writing and a critical reflection on this for assessment and/or feedback. The ethos of the course will be supportive, participatory and require the engaged, respectful participation of all members.

TUTOR
LIZ MACWHIRTER
(Award-winning writer, theologian)



WHO IS IT FOR?

This course is for people who would like to engage with creative writing as part of their spiritual journey in a supportive and communal setting.

APPLICATION INFO

To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegeglasgow@gmail.com.


Comprehensive course information available at:
trinitycollegeglasgow.co.uk/creative-writing-spiritual-practice

ONLINE | 7-9PM
MONDAY EVENINGS
SEPT 30TH - NOV 25TH, 2024
£207 PER APPLICANT

“EXCELLENT TEACHING OPENING UP NEW UNDERSTANDING OF CREATIVE WRITING AND ENCOURAGING ONGOING PRACTICE.

- Student feedback, Spring 2022

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow



University of Glasgow

Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

6. Listening in Mission

Practical Theology Short Courses

LISTENING IN MISSION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will explore the practice and theology of listening in mission within local communities and how this may renew imagination and impact of the church in a rapidly changing society. Course attendees will explore common mission approaches and be introduced to practices of local community research, theological reflection, and spiritual discernment, in order to develop practical skills in mission attentiveness. Processes that enable group reflection, observation, listening to stories and interpretation will be introduced so these skills can be deployed in church or mission teams.

TUTOR
TO BE CONFIRMED.

WHO IS IT FOR?

This course is applicable to those who lead in local church situations and those interested in innovating and pioneering in church mission.

APPLICATION INFO

To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegeglasgow@gmail.com.

Comprehensive course information is available at:
trinitycollegeglasgow.co.uk/listening-in-mission

ONLINE | 7-9PM
THURSDAY EVENINGS
30TH JAN - 27TH MAR, 2025
£207 PER APPLICANT

“THOUGHT PROVOKING AND STRETCHING. PRACTICAL AS WELL AS THEOLOGICAL, CHALLENGING US IN OUR PERCEPTIONS OF MISSION.

- Student feedback, Autumn 2021

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow



University of Glasgow

Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

5. Designing and Leading Worship

Practical Theology Short Courses

DESIGNING AND LEADING WORSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to designing and leading Christian worship services utilising theological and historically rich patterns and practices and adapting these to participants contemporary church context. It will stimulate participants to be reflective, recognise how worship works and become more skilled at designing and leading meaningful, participatory acts of church worship. This class is in a 'hybrid' format, with classes taking place in-person and an option to attend online via Zoom.

TUTORS
TUTOR TBC
(UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW)

JO LOVE
(IONA COMMUNITY)



WHO IS IT FOR?

This course is accessible to those in a church who are beginning to lead acts of Christian worship and for local church leaders who wish to refresh their understanding and practice.

APPLICATION INFO

To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegeglasgow@gmail.com.

Comprehensive course information available at:
trinitycollegeglasgow.co.uk/designing-and-leading-worship

HYBRID | 7-9PM
MONDAY EVENINGS
20TH JAN - 27TH MAR, 2025
£207 PER APPLICANT

“THE COURSE EQUIPPED ALL OF US FOR LEADING WORSHIP WITH A RICH VARIETY OF SESSIONS FROM FOLKS WITH DIFFERENT SPECIALIST AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE.

- Student feedback, Autumn 2021

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow



University of Glasgow

Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

7. Liturgy and Prayer

Practical Theology Short Courses

LITURGY & PRAYER

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course develops participant skills in planning, writing and producing worship materials including spoken liturgies, prayer and rituals and leading these in the context of Christian Worship.

This course will aim to extend student competence in the production of worship materials including spoken liturgies, prayer and rituals; explore the significance of worship and ritual in relation to the human life cycle; examine resources which are helpful in the construction of Christian worship, and support the development of writing and presentation skills through active practice.

TUTOR
REV DR DOUG GAY
(Lecturer in Practical Theology at the University of Glasgow, preacher, minister, author)



WHO IS IT FOR?

This course is designed as a follow up for those who have completed another course in worship, or who have experience in leading worship.

APPLICATION INFO

To notify your interest, please email trinitycollegeglasgow@gmail.com.

Comprehensive course information is available at:
trinitycollegeglasgow.co.uk/liturgy-prayer-worship

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON | 4-6PM
WEDNESDAYS
JAN 15TH - 26TH MAR, 2025
£207 PER APPLICANT

“THOSE SEEKING TO FRESHEN UP THEIR CRAFT WILL BE ENGAGED BY GAY'S CONVERSATIONAL VOICE AND ENRICHED BY HIS IMAGINATIVE APPROACH.

- Rev John Davies

Facebook.com/TrinityCollegeGlasgow
Twitter.com/trinityglasgow



University of Glasgow

Course image design by Kelsey Johnston

Partnering



KELD RESOURCE CENTRE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOW ROW WITH KELD URC NEW FOR 2024 : STUDY DAYS



We are delighted to announce that this year's study days has already begun and we issue a warm invitation to come to any or all of them! We have already welcomed Rev Michael Pearson who led on **Five impossible Things to Believe before Christmas!** Still to come there is:

Saturday August 17th - Revd. Peter Sinclair: **After Sunday : Being Church Seven Days a Week**
Thursday September 26th - Ms. Dorothy Thomson: **There's a Sermon in There Somewhere!**

The programme will be as follows:

10.30 : Arrivals and Coffee	12.30 : Lunch
11.00 : Session One	13.30 : Session Two
15.00 : Refreshments and Departure	

There will be discussion, sharing, space to ponder

All participants are invited to bring a packed lunch. Drinks will be provided. The cost for the day will be £10 per person.

To book your place, please contact Revd David Wood at david.wood4@btinternet.com



Loving



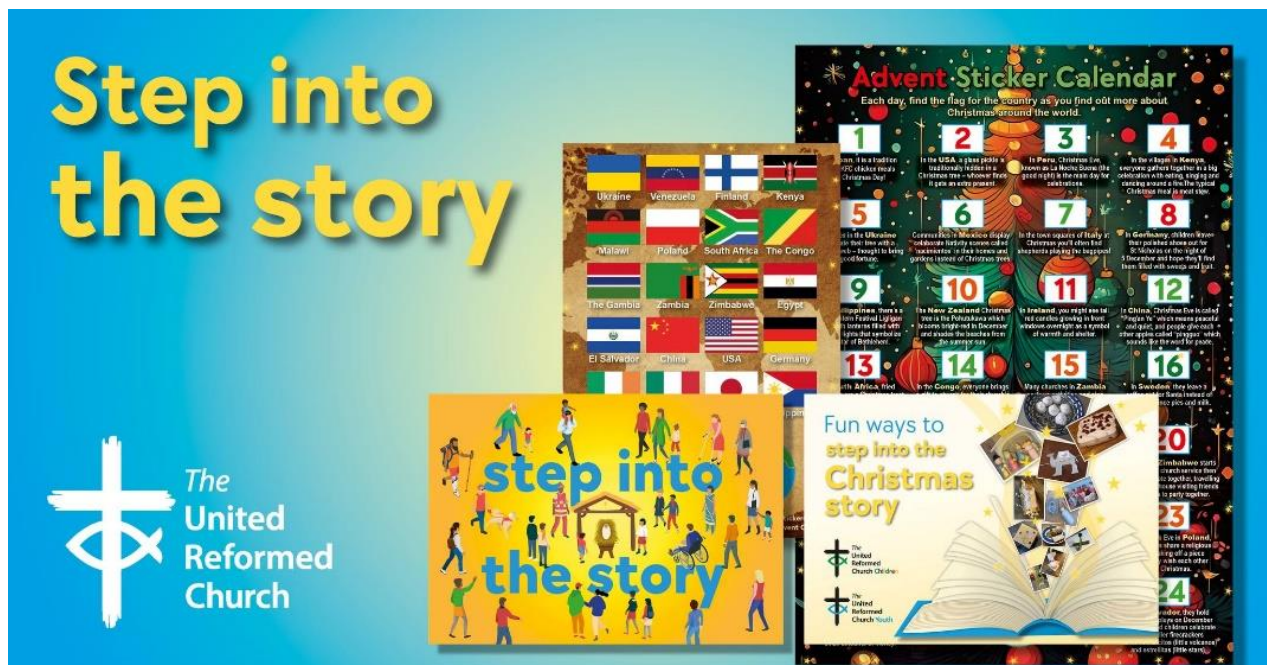
WILDERNESS

children | youth | young adults | workers & volunteers

URC Advent Pack: Step into the Story PRE-ORDER NOW

This year's Advent Packs from the URC Children's and Youth Work team invite people to 'step into the story' and focus on Christmas as everyone's story with traditions, crafts and recipes from around the world to enrich the celebration.

The Advent Packs are a great gift to give to families. They arrive in unsealed, A5 envelopes for churches to add their own material and invitations.



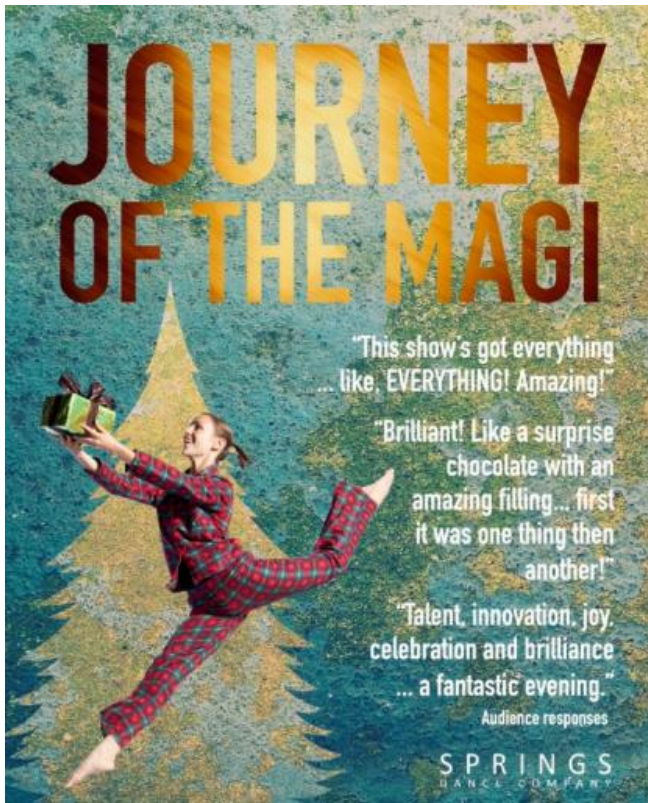
Each pack will contain:

- A giant poster with a 'countdown to Christmas', featuring lots of suggestions for things to do, QR codes to the Faith Adventures: Children Together take-home postcards with the Bible story, prayer and activity for the four weeks of Advent
- Four mini-books (which look like presents) with ribbon to hang them up as decorations – each telling part of the Christmas story with playful photo illustrations and a simple prayer
- Four stained-glass windows to colour (linked to the four books)

Once again, the [United Reformed Church in Yorkshire](http://www.urchurch.org.uk) is offering 50% these Advent gifts: Just £15 for 10 packs or £32.50 for 25 packs.

Email wilderness@urcyorkshire.org.uk to put in your order TODAY.

Sharing



NOW BOOKING FOR 2024

Share the joy and wonder of Christmas with your local community through this fast-paced, brilliantly-witty yet poignant performance. Springs is taking bookings from churches for performances between November 22nd and December 22nd 2024.

Watch now:

youtube.com/watch?v=qlQmZj6hDoE

"Absolutely fabulous show. Wonderful mix of fun, wit, and meaning. It made me laugh and it made me cry all in a couple of minutes." Richard, Poynton Methodist Church

"The show was wonderful and it was such a thrill to have the hall buzzing – everyone was captivated." Sue, Central Hall Methodist Church, Walsall

"... the best of both worlds: a vibrant piece of entertainment and an opportunity to step back, to reflect, and to refocus." John, Moortown Baptist Church

Webpage:

springsdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi

All we need for the performance is a clear flat space of around 7m x 7m, on which we lay our dance floor. Springs provides the lighting, sound equipment and set and needs 6 hours in the space to set up for the show before the performance start time.

Journey of the Magi is enjoyed by children and adults alike, and can be accompanied by a workshop or series of workshops in theatre, church, school or community settings.

The fees for *Journey of the Magi* are:

- For a weekend performance (Friday – Sunday): £1250
 - For Monday or Tuesday: £1050
 - For Wednesday or Thursday: £1150
- Plus a donation towards the travel costs.

Accommodation with local hosts may be requested. Many venues cover their costs by charging between £6 and £12 for tickets.

For more information and to book for Advent 2024 contact our office on 07775 628442 or email: touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk.

"...booking *Journey of the Magi* ... was one of the best decisions I have ever made. There is no way that, as a church minister, I could ever have even dreamt of taking people to the heart of Christmas in the way that *Journey of the Magi* did."

Rev Paul Timmis



Photo Roger Vaughan © www.kazipix.co.uk 101127-Journey of the Magi-155

SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding team have asked that you are reminded that they are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year (and even 366 days in Leap Years!!). Details can be found on the Yorkshire website at <https://urcyorkshire.org.uk/safeguarding/> and any query, either by phone or by e-mail will be answered within 24 hours.

Safeguarding Training

The Safeguarding team have put together some fresh dates for Intermediate and Advanced Safeguarding Training as well as a few dates offering Refresher Training.

As ever, to **book a place, please let Paula Kitson know which course and the date you wish to attend** – her e-mail address is paulakitson.1and4@urc.org.uk – and a zoom link will be sent to you shortly before the event where appropriate.

Refresher Training – via zoom

Thursday 25th July 2024 @ 10am
Tuesday 13th August 2024 @ 1pm
Wednesday 25th September 2024 @ 7pm
Saturday 16th November 2024 @10am

Intermediate Training – via zoom

Monday 16th September @10am
Wednesday 20th November 2024 @1pm

Advanced Training – via zoom, both parts must be completed.

Monday 25th November 2024 @ 1pm
Monday 2nd December 2024 @ 1pm

Finally, there are two more UK wide Safeguarding training sessions left this year, both in the Autumn:

28 October 6:30pm	DDC Verifiers training and safer recruitment	4 December 10:00am
19 November 1:30pm	Online safety	

For more information and to book onto these courses, please contact emma.pearce@urc.org.uk

Joined Up Conference, York 2024

Hot off the e-mail is advanced notice of the Joined Up Conference being held in York in October. More details will be following, but we have a little more information through Megan Tillbrook via megancyp@urcyorkshire.org.uk

**Saturday
19 October**

10am - 3.30pm
Registration & Marketplace
open from 9.30am

Haxby and Wiggington
Methodist Church,
YO32 2JJ

joined up
CONFERENCE 2024
York

£15

This year's theme: Sharing our Stories
Includes 10+ workshops marketplace and lunch

Contributors include:
Care for the Family, Roots,
Paraklesis, Wonderful Me,
Open the Book & many more.....

BOOK HERE

United Reformed Church
YoYo

With
Matt Woodcock
www.mattwoodcock.co.uk

Building



The West Midlands Synod of the United Reformed Church is seeking to appoint a Children and Youth Development Officer (Ref CYDO)

This is a full-time post for 35 hours per week, including evening and weekends on an open-ended contract. This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS Disclosure.

Salary: £40,000 depending on experience and qualifications

This post offers a challenging opportunity for an experienced and professionally qualified Children's and Youth Worker with training (or development) skills. We are looking for an enterprising Christian to serve the churches of the Synod in offering advice and support to those working with children and young people and to build up a Synod Youth Executive. The Officer appointed will be a member of a professional Assembly team and a large lay Synod team; good team working skills are essential.

If you share our passion for children and young people playing their part in the mission of God, please download the job description, person specification and application form from our website:

[Click to download the Job Description](#)

[Click to download the Person Specification](#)

[Click to download the Application Form](#)

Alternatively, request an information pack from Lindsay Peniston,

West Midlands Synod Office, on 0121 783 1177

E-mail: moderators@urcwestmidlands.org.uk

Closing date for applications: noon on Thursday 15 August 2024

Shortlisting: Monday 19 August 2024

Interview date: Monday 2 September 2024

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010: Part 1, Schedule 9, there is an occupational requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian.

We are committed to diversity and equality of opportunity. We especially welcome applications from women and Black and Minority Ethnic Groups who are currently under-represented in this area of work in the Church.

Church and Outreach Worker for Altrincham United Reformed Church

Cecil Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 9NT

We are a friendly and welcoming church family seeking a person who will help us in developing relationships with the wider community through innovative projects. Why not come and join us on the church's journey in the Altrincham area? You will also play a full and active part in the life of our church. This is an exciting post with the full support of a small management team. There is an office base although some homeworking will be an option.

The position is full-time (37.5 hours per week) but we will be willing to consider applicants who wish to work fewer hours. Flexibility on hours worked will be required with some work on evenings and weekends. Salary will be between £27k and £30k (full time) depending on experience. The post is budget limited but is expected to last for three years initially and will be subject to review after a probationary period of three months.

A job description is available from the Church Secretary Sue Jesson: Contact jessonsusan@gmail.com.

To apply, please send a covering letter detailing your reasons for applying together with a copy of your CV to Sue Jesson, Church Secretary at the above address.

Closing date for applications is 31st July 2024

Date of interview to be advised. If you wish to have an informal discussion about this role please contact Sue Jesson on 07973 391154.

And Finally

Celebrations in South Leeds

The food and hospitality theme that seems to have developed in this slot over the past few issues seems to be continuing as I'm please to bring you a link to the South Leeds Life newspaper article about Trinity Network, the URC in South Leeds day centre's 50th anniversary. By clicking on <https://southleedslife.com/trinity-network-celebrates-half-a-century-of-service/> you'll see that the URC in South Leeds has a thriving missional outreach project and that the 50th anniversary was well attended on Friday 14th June.



For those who don't know, Trinity Network provides a range of day facilities for older people in South Leeds including hot lunches, a wide range of activities, trips and holidays. It provides opportunities for friendship, social interaction and making people safe, stay healthy and independent. Manager Trevor

Heylings gave a potted history explaining how Trinity Network started out as an 'Over 55s Club' based at Dewsbury Road URC church. It developed opening in Belle Isle in 1982 and it changed its name in 2011. Unfortunately, the Dewsbury Road site had to close in 2020 due to Covid, but a minibus provides transport to allow members from Beeston to access the services.

Alex Walker the Chair of Trinity Network also spoke, thanking all the staff and volunteers who have served and also remembering those members have passed away over the years. He recalled asking a member how they had got involved with Trinity Network. She explained that her mother had used the service twenty years previously and had told her it was "too good not to go."

The centre and the church were decked out with balloons and bunting as well as hundreds of photos displaying the work, the members and the volunteers over the decades. The chat was lively as old friends caught up and talked about old times and new developments with other guests including the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Cllr Abigail Marshall Katung, Hilary Benn MP and Tom Riordan, Chief Executive of Leeds City Council.

If you have a good news story from your part of the Synod, drop me a line at clerk@urcyorkshire.org.uk and I'll make sure it hits the back page!!

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](#).