

NEWSLETTER

April 2025 | No. 830



Christ Church
United
Reformed
Church



Join us this Holy Week

Palm Sunday - 13 April

Morning worship with Janine Stolz (10:45am)

Maundy Thursday - 17 April

Pastorate Service at Lancaster Road URC (7:30pm)

Good Friday - 18 April

Act of Worship at the Fountain, Enfield Town (10:30am)

United Service at St Andrew's Church (11:00am)

Easter Sunday - 20 April

Pastorate Communion Service at Bush Hill Park URC (8:30am)

All Age Service (including Holy Communion)

with The Worship Group (10:45am)

Pastoral Letter April 2025

Hello!

Christ is risen - he is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Church congregations around the world will be rejoicing about this fantastic news, especially on Easter Day. Many more people however will participate in Easter egg hunts searching for the delicious chocolate treats but less likely choosing to seek the Lord. Families often try to meet up around this Easter holiday period which brings them comfort and so much joy; making memories together is so important. Unfortunately not everyone has a happy family life. Spring flowers have by now established themselves again in all their glorious colours; creation sharing its gifts to those who care to stop and look. It might even be sunny - and warm! But what is Easter really all about? We can get so enthusiastic about Easter time for all sorts of reasons that we forget its true relevance for the world today.

God loves us! God is love! However our English language can be an obstacle at times. We have the one word when there are three different definitions of love in Koine Greek; the language the New Testament was first written in. The Greek has eros (romantic love), philia (friendship love) and agape (laying your life down for others love - as Christ did for a broken world).

God is agape! There was nothing romantic about being nailed to a cross - it wasn't a feel good event. It wasn't eros love that kept him on the cross, nor was it friendly love. It was his agape love for the world -

the love that is willing to lay down one's life, not just for your friends but for those who despise you (as many did Christ - and still do).

God does not have favourites - he loves even the vilest offender (by our standards). Too often we see people through the world's eyes, not Jesus' eyes. Those who believe in their heart and confess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord know, that in this darkening world we have wonderful news to share.

Christ is risen, Hallelujah!

What a hope we have! A hope that will be realised when we see Jesus face to face.

"And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power." (1 Corinthians 6:14)

However, until that time we have been afforded an intimacy with God through Jesus Christ our Saviour which we do not take full advantage of. So over this Easter period let us spend time to be still and enjoy God's amazing grace and his holy presence. Let us grab the opportunities to share our hope in Christ with others. Let's share our faith stories.

I came across a reflection by a George MacDonald which I felt says everything about what worship should be:

"As for me, I can only fall on my knees and pray that the Lord Christ, who had died for me, might have his own way with me - that it might

be worth his while to have done what he did and what he is doing now for me. To my Elder Brother, my Lord and my God, I give myself yet again, confidently, because he cares to have me and because my very breath is his. I will be what he wants, who knows all about it and has done everything, that I might be his own - a living glory of gladness."

So in this Easter month of April let us go into the community being "a living glory of gladness".

"I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (Revelation 1:18)

May God bless you and those you are close to this Easter.

Ruth

Church roles update

We are delighted to say that Alison Gibbs was elected to serve as an Elder at Christ Church at the Special Church Meeting held on Sunday 23 February. Alison will be ordained and inducted at our service on Sunday 6 April, and Sarah Harry will be re-inducted at the same time.

In addition, we are grateful that Alison has agreed to take on the role of Safeguarding Coordinator. We thank Pamela Fisher for all her work in this role previously, as well as Rosemary Milns, who filled the interim vacancy and continues as Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator.

2025 Lent Course

This year's Lent Course, titled 'Journey of Generosity', will continue with its third and fourth sessions on 1 and 15 April, with two follow up sessions after Easter (dates to be agreed when we meet in person).

There are two options:

- 10:30am in the Lancaster Road URC church lounge, led by the Revd Ruth Dewis.
- 7:30pm in the Bush Hill Park URC church lounge, led by Lisa Hamblin.

Please email **minister@ccurc.org.uk** or speak to Ruth if you want to attend the course. A booklet will then be sent to you as a PDF for you to print out (if required). If you would like a booklet printed out for you, please indicate when you confirm your wish to attend the sessions.

Zoom Bible Study Group

Forthcoming meetings of the Zoom Bible Study Group will take place on Saturdays 5 and 19 April at the usual time of 9:30am. The group is currently looking at the Letter to the Hebrews, using the *Cover to Cover* Bible study book *Hebrews: Jesus - Simply the Best*.

Newcomers are always welcome. Please contact Rosemary Milns for more information and for joining details.

Communion offering

The Communion offering at our service on Sunday 6 April will be for the Communion Fund. This fund is distributable at the discretion of the Minister, to assist those in need. A plate will be at the back of the church after the service, and any donations are gratefully received.

Request for jigsaws

Does anyone have any not too difficult jigsaws which they are willing to give, or lend to the church for use at Lunchtime @ Christ Church events, please? If so, please speak to Rosemary - thank you.

Lenten offering

If you would like to make a Lenten gift this year, you can do so by using a Lenten offering envelope, or via bank transfer, with the reference of 'Lenten offering'. Lenten offering envelopes can be placed in the weekly collection bag, or given to an Elder. If you would like the church's bank details, please speak to Rosemary. The Lenten offering goes towards supporting the work of Christ Church. Thank you for anything that you can give - we really appreciate it.

If you are a UK tax payer you can Gift Aid any donations that you make to Christ Church. This will enable us to claim an additional 25p for every £1 given, at no extra cost to you. A form to do this is available from Rosemary.



Lunchtime @ Christ Church

**Saturday
12 April**

11:00am-1:00pm

Come and join us for a
time of food, drink and
fellowship together

Lunch and refreshments
will be available

No set charge -
donations accepted

Find us at **Christ Church URC**
Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NJ

Visit us online at **ccurc.org.uk**

Friendship Club programme

The Friendship Club meets in the church hall on the third Monday of each month at 2:15pm for friendship, fellowship and cups of tea!

New members are very welcome at any of these meetings - for more details please speak to Sylvia Coombs.

Forthcoming meetings in the remainder of 2025 will take place as follows:

21 April: Memories of Enfield - Margaret Hume (including short AGM)

19 May: Bridge of Hope - Rosemary Randall

16 June: Linda Clarke paints us a picture

21 July: Who would be a volunteer? - Sylvia Coombs

18 August: Summer tea - The Revd Ruth Dewis

15 September: Our favourite poems

20 October: Songs of Praise - The Revd Ruth Dewis

17 November: Quiz time - The Revd Mandy James

15 December: Christmas programme including a bring and share tea
- The Revd Ruth Dewis

Christ Church 150th anniversary

A reminder that the events and dates for 2025 are:

- Lunchtime @ Christ Church on the following Saturdays - 12 April, 10 May, 14 June, 9 August and 11 October, all 11:00am-1:00pm. If you are able to organise or help at any of the lunches, please sign up on the lists by the coffee area, under the yearly planner for 2025.
- Church Fun Day - Saturday 21 June, times TBC.
- Open Day - Saturday 13 September, 10:00am-4:00pm.
- Enfield Choral Society Concert - Saturday 8 November, 7:30pm.
- Anniversary Service led by the Moderator of Thames North Synod, the Revd George Watt - Sunday 16 November, 10:45am. This will be a North Enfield Pastorate service at Christ Church.

The Revd Henry Roy Martin BA BD

As was reported in our last newsletter, the Revd Roy Martin sadly died on 1 February at the age of 94. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Joy and their family.

After studying at Lancashire College, Roy Martin was ordained and inducted to Cheadle Hulme Congregational Church in 1956. Between 1962 and 1980 he served in the Church of South India.

In December 1980 he became the Minister at Christ Church and moved into the manse at Waverley Road with his family. Roy and Joy

had four children; Peter, Anne, Rosemary and Paul.

Roy Martin's kindness, friendship and pastoral care were particularly appreciated and he would always do his best to resolve any disagreements which might arise in the church. He regularly visited the members of the congregation at a time when the church had a membership of over 100. When visiting he would often say that he was in the area, so that people would not feel that he had made a special effort to see them.



Roy and Joy Martin outside Christ Church in 1987 (photo from Christ Church archives)

Roy's experience of serving in India was reflected in his ministry at Christ Church. Members were able to learn more about that country's culture at social occasions when Indian food was served and Indian music was played. Some visitors would come dressed in Indian costume.

In 1987 Roy Martin left Enfield after receiving a call to become the Minister of St Margaret's and St George's United Reformed & Moravian Church, Harlesden in north-west London. In that same year he was appointed Minister Emeritus of Christ Church. In 1995 he retired and moved with Joy to Milton Keynes where they joined the ecumenical Church of Christ the Cornerstone. They continued to send Christmas greetings to friends at Christ Church.

Stephen

Guides & Rangers at Disneyland

During the February half term the Guides and Rangers enjoyed a trip to Disneyland Paris - thank you to some of those who attended for sharing a bit about what they got up to!

Day 1

We had a very long journey on the Eurostar to get to Disneyland. When we got to Disneyland we were greeted by the big sign to our shuttle bus which was hectic, we were squashed in and it was hot. Then we got our keys and Vicki told us the rules, then we went to our room and unpacked our bags. Later we went to dinner which was a buffet with different food before we went back to the hotel.

Lily

Day 2

On day 2 we had breakfast and then we went to Disneyland, and when we arrived we met Mickey, which was very cool. We saw the giant castle which was pink and very pointy, and then we split into groups and went on some rides, to the shop and met other characters. My favourite ride was the 'It's a Small World' ride. After that we went to see the parade and there were lots of characters, and after that we went to see the fireworks and lots of characters from different movies.

Liana

Day 3

On day 3 we started off at Disney Studios right when the park opened. We ran to Hollywood Towers where half of us braved the terrible drop

while the other half went on a gift shop hunt. Then, as a group, we all went on every ride at Hollywood Studios. By 1pm we had gone on every ride in that park, so we then split up with some of us staying in the Studios and the other half going back to the main Disney park. We then spent all day going on rides and enjoying ourselves until 9pm where we all met up by one of the restaurants after the fireworks display. We then took pictures by the castle when no-one was around. To conclude our day we went to the big Disney store and took the bus back to the hotel tired and happy.

Isobella

Day 4

On day 4 we woke up, got dressed and went down to the breakfast buffet and we had our feast. Then we packed our bags and we headed off to the train station to take us to the Eurostar to go home. On the train, it was not very busy but getting off the train was a bit of a hassle with all 32 of us. The train that we went on was a triple decker train and we sat with our friends. We got off the train and we went through security with our passports, then we waited for the Eurostar. The train came and we all got on and we talked about our journey and what a great time we had. We then got on the Underground and we sat there until we got home. We saw our parents, got a badge and a pin. It was the best time ever!

Charlie

A huge amount of work goes into planning and running events like this, so a big thank you to all of the leaders for everything they do for the girls!



Boys' Brigade update

From Friday 21 to Sunday 23 February members of our Company & Seniors age groups joined with others from across Enfield and Barnet for a Weekend Away at Well End Activity Centre in Borehamwood.

We started off on Friday evening with activities on site including table games, inflatable Gladiator Duel and sumo suits. Saturday saw us travel to Coral Reef Waterworld in Bracknell as well as outdoor laser tag in Eversley, before heading back to Well End for a quiz, devotions, a campfire, marshmallow toasting and more games on site!

On Sunday we travelled to Topgolf in Watford to try out our skills on the driving range, and closed out the weekend at Well End with a fantastic Sunday lunch.

On Saturday 8 March our Anchors joined with others from across London District for a Superhero Fun Day at Oasis Academy Enfield.

During their time together they took on a



range of Superhero themed activities including Training Academy, Craft Workshop and Balloon Modelling Workshop.

To finish our time together they had the chance to see some magic and an amazing gospel message from Magical Mayhem!

On Mondays 10 and 17 March members of our Company and Seniors age groups took on our 2025 MasterChef Challenge.

The challenge was split over two weeks, with the first week containing some time to plan their dish. This included thinking about what they wanted to make, what ingredients they would need and how they would do it.

On the second week they had 45 minutes to prepare their chosen dish - either a main course or dessert - trying to impress our judges and score points for skill of making the dish, presentation, taste, completing on time and clearing up after themselves!

There was a very good standard of dishes across the board, which made for a very tough decision for the judges. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations our prize winners, who were announced at our meeting on 24 March.



- Best Main Course -
Winner: Yianni
- Best Main Course -
Runner-up: Austin
- Best Dessert -
Winner: Tyla
- Best Dessert -
Runner-up: Joe



On Saturday 22 March four of our leaders (Sue, Tina, Grace & Tom) attended the Enfield Battalion

Leaders Social and Awards, each being presented with awards to celebrate their service and dedication to the BB.

The awards were presented by Cllr Mohammed Islam, Mayor of Enfield, and recognised 58 leaders across the Battalion who have amassed a combined 1,409 years of service.

At the 3rd we're incredibly grateful for our own team of leaders, who have clocked up over 100 years between the eight of them - thank you to them all for everything they do in support of our boys!



Tom

When Jesus Rode a Donkey

A hymn for Palm Sunday - Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-40, John 12:12-16

1. When Jesus rode a donkey
into Jerusalem
the people laid down branches
and cloaks along his way;
when he came to the city,
that holy place for Jews,
they chanted and sang praises
and blessed the name of God.

2. When Jesus rode a donkey
they praised him as their Lord
and hoped that he would save
them
from hated foreign rule;
may we now also praise him
who came to save us all
and let him always guide us
in what we say and do.

Stephen Gilbert

Metre 7676D iambic

Tunes 'Aurelia' (RS 566 'The Church's One Foundation')

'Penlan' (RS 590 'In Heavenly Love Abiding')



Entry into Jerusalem, Giotto 1305, Scrovegni Chapel, Padua, Italy. Public domain image via Wikimedia Commons.

Christ Mocked (The Crowning with Thorns)

Matthew 27:27-31, Mark 15:16-20, John 19:1-3

Hieronymus Bosch is recorded in 's-Hertogenbosch in the pre-Reformation Netherlands in 1480-1481. He may have been born there in about 1450 and certainly spent most of his life there, dying in 1516. He is most famous for his surrealist fantasy pictures such as *Earthly Paradise* and the *Ship of Fools*.

Christ Mocked (The Crowning with Thorns) is an early work painted in oil on oak for private devotion between 1490 and 1500. Bosch sought to make the image of Jesus more vivid to the viewer by showing him close up with a humble and serene expression surrounded by taunting figures with hatred on their faces. They are dressed in contemporary costumes and Bosch may have been making a satirical comment on corruption in society at the time.

The soldier top left has a crossbow bolt in his turban and is about to force the crown of thorns on to Jesus' head with his armoured fist. The soldier top right is carrying a stick, which he is about to present to Jesus as a mockery of a regal sceptre. He is wearing a spiked dog collar recalling Psalm 22:16, which would have been read on Good Friday: "An evil gang is round me, like a pack of dogs they close in on me; they tear at my hands and feet." The two kneeling figures are offering false humility to Jesus. The one on the left is wearing a headdress with designs of a crescent moon and a star, which proclaim

him to be an unbeliever. The one bottom right, dressed as a merchant, is pulling at Jesus' robe, which is white to symbolise his purity.

This painting may be seen in the National Gallery in London.

Stephen

You can see a full colour version of *Christ Mocked (The Crowning with Thorns)* by Bosch on page 39.

Discipleship Matters/Vital Signs

Thames North Synod's next 'Discipleship Matters/Vital Signs' meeting will be held on Monday 28 April at 3:00pm or 7:30pm on Zoom. More details are available from the Revd Eddie Boon, the Synod's Discipleship Enabler, on **disc.enab@urcthamesnorth.org.uk**

Lancaster Road URC Holiday Club

Lancaster Road URC's Holiday Club (for children aged 5-11) has been confirmed as taking place on Monday 28 July to Friday 1 August.

Further details will follow in due course. If you have a child in this age range and would like to find out more or register interest, please email **holidayclub@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk**

The Life and Mission Choir

joyfully presents

TIME FOR JESUS

The Musical



Music and Lyrics

PAUL WARDROP-DAY

Script

JOHN COX

25th ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATIONS

Saturday 12th April 2025 7PM

St James' Church, East Barnet Road, EN48RN

Sunday 13th April 2025 7PM

St Mary's Church, Church End, Hendon, NW4 4JT

ADMISSION FREE

lifeandmissionchoir.com

SPRING CONCERT

**The London Central Fellowship Band
of the Salvation Army
(Dudley Bright)**

**&
Enfield Citadel Songsters
(Delia Patterson)**



**Saturday 26th April 2025
7pm**

(Doors open 6.30pm)

Admission: £5

**Enfield Baptist Church
Cecil Road, Enfield EN2 6TG**

Compère: Major James Williams

***The London Central
Fellowship Band***
Of The Salvation Army



Annual General Meeting

Christ Church's AGM will be held on Sunday 6 April at 12:15pm (after the morning service).

The annual accounts and reports will be presented at the meeting. Elections will take place for Church Secretary, Treasurer, members of the Property Committee, and representatives on the Enfield & East Hertfordshire Local Area Group and for the Thames North Synod.

On the pages that follow you can find the annual reports for 2024.

Minister's report

2024 was the start of my first full year in Enfield. After getting Covid over Christmas I started off managing to pick up a few viruses at the start of the year. Unfortunately, it wasn't an easy year all round for various reasons but has definitely been a year of learning.

In February, Christ Church's Elders attended a policy workshop which was open to the Enfield & East Hertfordshire Local Area Group held at Bush Hill Park URC. This allowed the Elders and other volunteers to assess what policies needed attending to.

We also started the journey with Eddie Boon to develop a Discipleship Space within the church which highlighted the need for clearing sessions and the hiring of skips. During the year we have had to apply

for grants and permission to remove unused pews from the church.

There was a huge amount of work achieved getting the church hall refreshed. Everyone has remarked on the difference this has made. A lot of work was done in the background by Pamela and David Fisher, which the church family really appreciate.

It has been a year of getting to know the groups that use our hall on a regular basis. I have enjoyed spending time getting to know the people who attend the Friendship Club on a Monday afternoon, which as the name suggests is a friendly (and warm place in the winter months) to socialise.

I have also been able to visit regularly on a Monday to the Boys' Brigade groups and enjoyed the activities provided by the leaders. I have always had a warm welcome. I also have spent time getting to know the Girlguiding units and the leaders on a Friday evening and have been made very welcome at these sessions too. The numbers of each of these groups continue to grow and flourish. We decided that due to lack of attendance from the young people, we would try a new format for parade services and so five Sundays were chosen for services.

Two members of the congregation kindly volunteered to help at the Holiday Club at Lancaster Road URC in August where the theme was around the Olympics.

We welcomed two new members to the church family but sadly lost four members. There were two baptisms during the year.

A small memorial service was held for someone who couldn't go to their stepmother's funeral (due to having had surgery) and asked us if we could pray with them. A small private service was conducted.

We continue to meet with the other two churches in the pastorate at joint services. The yearly end of year café style service at Christ Church was well attended. Some members of the congregation joined the prayer morning at Bush Hill Park URC focusing our prayers on the pastorate.

The online Bible study which meets on a Saturday morning continues to be well attended and enjoyed by those who join online and by telephone. Sadly this is when I try to take my day off so do not attend unless covering for Rosemary.

Our relationship with Chase Side Primary School continues to grow and in December we had the Year 1 classes come in for a Christingle celebration and then the Year 5 & 6 classes came in to learn about the church and its view on racism, and then to hold their Christmas service.

That same week the BB and Girlguiding groups organised a free Christmas Fun Morning. Over these three days we saw over 750 children and adults come through Christ Church URC's doors.

We have been able to offer space for the young people connected to Chase Family Church to come and have their Bible study on a Sunday morning because they have the problem of too many young people and limited space. It has been nice that we have been able to help

another church with their mission plans.

I have continued with my EM2 training events and I also attended General Assembly in July and our Synod meeting in March.

We will continue to develop the Discipleship Space to offer a comfortable area for prayer and reflection. We have further plans, in the next year, for the church hall kitchen to be refurbished and await to see what plans God has for us moving forward in our 150th anniversary year.

The Revd Ruth Dewis

Zoom Bible Study Group report

The Zoom Bible Study Group meets twice a month on a Saturday morning at 9:30am by Zoom, though we do meet face to face once a year for our Christmas Breakfast. We currently have 10 members from four different churches.

During the year we have looked at a series of studies on the books of Ruth and Hosea and also had two sessions on the theme of Advent.

New members are always welcome. Please contact me for joining instructions.

Rosemary Milns

Worship Group report

The Worship Group (Sylvia Coombs, Pamela Fisher and Rosemary Milns) has planned and taken 11 services in 2024.

We have continued with the idea of trying to achieve a more integrated teaching by incorporating into Worship Group services the themes which were being followed in the Zoom Bible Study.

Accordingly, we have had services on the books of Ruth and Hosea. We have also included a series of services on Romans, based upon Andrew Ollerton's book, *Romans: A Letter That Makes Sense of Life*.

We continue to incorporate some of the ideas which we have gained from taking part in the Whole-Life Discipleship sessions. This has included interviews with members of the congregation to find out what they do during the rest of the week, what are their challenges and joys there, and most importantly how we can pray for them.

We have planned and led the services for Easter, Remembrance Sunday, the Christmas Nativity and the Service of Lessons and Carols, and ran the August Breakfast Service.

We have tried to include a variety of different approaches to worship within the services, some informal, some formal. We hope people find the services relevant and thought provoking! Thank you to everyone who has taken part and for being willing to do so.

We are sorry to say goodbye to Pamela Fisher as a member of the group and thank her very much for all she has contributed over the

years, since the group started.

Rosemary Milns

Adventurers (Junior Church) report

Adventurers now meets at the back of the church during the Sunday morning service. The group is for children aged 3 years and upwards.

We usually follow the themes from the lectionary, unless the person taking the service particularly requests a different topic. Whatever the theme though, we enjoy exploring the amazing stories of the Bible, using a mixture of drama, games and craft activities. We try to imagine what it would have been like to live in Bible times, but also think about how the teachings of the Bible relate to us today and provide guidance for how we should live our lives and treat other people.

We were sponsoring a girl called Erena, who lives in Albania, through the charity World Vision. However, World Vison has now completed its work in that country, so we are now sponsoring Wario, who is 11 years old and lives in Sololo in Kenya. He lives with his mother, who is unemployed. Sadly, his father has died. In his free time he loves playing football. We send him a birthday and Christmas card each year with a short message.

Rosemary Milns

Friendship Club report

During 2024 our numbers have continued to rise as we have enjoyed another varied programme once a month on a Monday afternoon at Friendship Club.

Our thanks go to Barbara and Margaret for all their help with running our programme, to Yvonne who has given help with the refreshments and to Olive for looking after our accounts.

In addition, we are grateful to all the members who help with the many smaller tasks that enable our meetings to run smoothly - everything from providing transport and stacking chairs to making tea and washing up - and to Tom and the BB for help with setting up, putting away tables, and other heavy jobs. Very many thanks too, to Ruth, for coming and helping whenever she has been able to join us and for her support.

In 2024 our programme included a wonderful variety of very varied topics. We started with Stuart who gave us an amazing talk about his working life as an air traffic controller. This was a job which none of us had heard much about before and, with all the tremendous responsibility involved, nobody envied. It was fascinating and rather frightening to see all the fights across America taking place even as he spoke to us! Then Mandy provided another of her really fun quiz programmes with plenty of hilarity and later in the year, in complete contrast, the story of her parents' life in medicine, in particular her mother's battle to actually train and practice as a doctor and surgeon specialising in liver problems. Despite the many problems she had

had to be accepted as a woman doctor in her day, she became famous for her pioneering work.

Another very popular programme was Linda Clarke painting us a new picture accompanied by her choice of music. This year the picture was a seaside scene which is now framed and on the wall in the lounge at Borrowdale Court after one of our residents asked if she could take it home for us! Her story, to go with the picture, included all sorts of wonderful facts and information new to most of us about God's created world and the universe in which we live. This was followed by an interesting talk from Alison about her life and work in Zambia as a missionary teacher and headmistress. Then Alan Goldring brought us more news of MAF, Mission Aviation Fellowship, and Sylvia told us about the journey that she and Olive had enjoyed and survived on the trans-Mongolian, trans-Siberian railway from China to St Petersburg in northern Russia. With all of these sessions, we were taken around the world by speakers who introduced us to far flung places.

Nearer home, Anne and Ruth prepared our own version of *Desert Island Discs* interviewing six of us about our choice of song, book and luxury item to take with us to an island to help us survive, which proved to be a hilarious session. Then, in contrast, Ruth explained to us about the possibility of applying for Attendance Allowance to help us survive here in Enfield.

In August we again celebrated with a wonderful summer tea. Our tea was organised, prepared and served by Pamela Fisher and we would like to say a very big 'thank you' to her and her helpers for all the planning and hard work that she put into this event. For our

Christmas programme Ruth spoke about the real meaning of Christmas as we read again the Bible story of the first Christmas and sang carols. Then we welcomed Jim back as Father Christmas to distribute presents. Our thanks to Jim too. As usual, together, we provided lots of food for our 'bring and share' tea, which brought us to the end of another exciting and interesting year for the Friendship Club.

Sylvia Coombs

Girlguiding report

The Rainbows enjoyed a trip to Bayford Observatory where they got to look through a telescope at the Moon. On Fridays we have also enjoyed lots of craft and messy activities including vegetable painting.

We also had lots of new Rainbows start as lots of our existing Rainbows turned 7 and moved up to Brownies to continue their journey.

The Brownies enjoyed two camps in 2024, one of which was Wild West themed and involved lots of line dancing, crafts and we had great weather so enjoyed a slip and slide. We also enjoyed a robotics workshop at Legoland and an overnight stay inside the theme park.

On Fridays we did lots of craft, badge work and cooking. The girls enjoyed a wide range of new things!

The Guides and Rangers enjoyed a week long summer camp filled with activities and a day trip out to Stevenage.

Christmas time saw a shopping spree at Bluewater, Christmas craft and a Christmas camp - we loved the festive season!

Into this year the Guides and Rangers enjoyed an international trip to Disneyland Paris. We went by Eurostar and learnt lots about travelling by train across France. All of the girls who attended loved it but were so tired when we all safely arrived back home.

In 2025 we have started planning for our next trip - not quite as far as Paris, but we will be travelling by train again.

Following the success of the last fundraising ball in October 2024, which raised over £3,800 towards supporting a range of trips, camps and other activities for the girls in our groups, we have decided to have another one this year and so we are already planning for that.

All of our age groups continue to grow and we have enjoyed watching the girls move up through the groups and continue their Girlguiding journey.

The 9th Enfield meets on Friday evenings in the hall with activities across the four age groups - Rainbows (4-7 years), Brownies (7-10 years), Guides (10-14 years) and Rangers (14-18 years). For more information please email **9thenfield@gmail.com**

Vicki Stratton-Stubbs

Boys' Brigade report

At Boys' Brigade we have enjoyed another year full of activities in 2024, with numbers continuing to grow in all of our age groups.

In our team of leaders, it was fantastic to welcome Michael Bowden who completed his time as a young person in the organisation and is now working with our Anchors & Juniors age groups. Due to work and family commitments we also said goodbye to Jean-Baptiste Jouassain and thank him for his efforts across two years with us.

In January 2024 we held a fundraising Quiz Night, which was attended by around 70 people and raised around £680 for Company funds.

All of our age groups continued to meet weekly in the hall on Monday evenings during school term times, enjoying a series of activities based around the BB's six Activity Areas: Get Active, Get Adventurous, Get Creative, Get into the Bible, Get Involved and Get Learning.

Special events which all of our age groups got involved with included two Enfield Battalion Church Parades (one at Totteridge Road Baptist Church with an activity afternoon afterwards; the other at Barnet URC followed by an adventure golf trip), a Hare & Hounds Fun Race, the Life 2 the Max activity day, Athletics & Sports, Remembrance events and the Enfield Parade of Light.

Our Anchors (5-8 years) enjoyed a range of special events including a Space Themed Fun Day along with trips to Legoland Windsor and Colchester Zoo.

As well as joining the Anchors for the above events, our Juniors (8-11 years) had the opportunity to take part in a Swimming Gala, Football Academy and Topgolf Competition. They also entered the BB's Juniors International Team Games, which sees Juniors from across the world take part in the same team challenges in their own meeting space.

The Company (11-14 years) & Seniors (14-18 years) age groups took part in the Swimming Gala, a Weekend Away, a Badminton Competition, two Paintball Days, the Football Academy, the Waltham Walk (for the first time in many years), the BB's national Unite camp, a trip to Thorpe Park, an Adventure Day, a Quiz & Pizza Evening and the Topgolf Competition. We also took part in the BB's Top Team Challenge, a national competition where young people take part in a range of physical and logical challenges in their own meeting space.

In August we once again joined with our friends from 10th Enfield and 4th Barnet for our annual Summer Camp, which in 2024 saw us fly to Jersey. We enjoyed an amazing week of activities around the island.

On Monday evenings our Company & Seniors have continued to be joined by members of 1st Enfield (Lancaster Road URC) and it is great to be able to continue to work together and support each other.

In May we held our Awards Evening, where the boys were presented with awards, certificates and trophies to celebrate their achievements. This included a Queen's Badge (the BB's highest award) which was presented to Michael Bowden, who we are extremely proud of for reaching this milestone. In the summer Michael took part in the first part of KGVI Youth Leader Training, a BB course for young leaders.

In October we held our Enrolment Service, where the boys were enrolled or re-enrolled as members of the Company.

Summer Programme activities included games on the Green and in the hall, trips to Jungle Falls Adventure Golf, Hollywood Bowl Finchley and footgolf in Tudor Park, and an end of term BBQ.

All of our age groups continue to meet on Monday evenings in the hall. For more information please email **info@3rdenfieldbb.co.uk**

It was great to be able to do so much during 2024, and 2025 is already another busy year well in progress!

Tom Boorman

Prayer diary April 2025

- 1 Pray for today's third sessions of the Lent Course.
- 2 Pray for anyone you know who is unwell at this time.
- 3 Pray for our Elders.
- 4 Pray for the Rainbows and Brownies as they meet today.
- 5 Pray for the Zoom Bible Study Group as they meet this morning.
- 6 Pray for today's Ordination and Induction of Elders, and the Church AGM taking place following the service.
- 7 Pray for all those from our Pastorate who are travelling to Spring Harvest at Butlins in Skegness for the next few days.
- 8 Pray for today's fourth sessions of the Lent Course.
- 9 Pray for the work of the Food Hub at Lancaster Road URC.

- 10 Give thanks to God for his word to us through the Bible.
- 11 Pray for our government.
- 12 Pray for today's Lunchtime @ Christ Church.
- 13 Palm Sunday: Reflect on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- 14 Pray for all of the children and young people in our fellowship.
- 15 Pray for Ruth and Stuart.
- 16 Pray for the residents of Monks Close.
- 17 Maundy Thursday: Reflect on the events of Jesus' last supper.
- 18 Good Friday: Give thanks that Jesus chose to die for us.
- 19 Pray for the Zoom Bible Study Group as they meet this morning.
- 20 Easter Sunday: Celebrate the risen King Jesus!
- 21 Pray for the Friendship Club as they meet this afternoon.
- 22 Pray for those who are new to the Christian faith.
- 23 St George's Day: Pray for England.
- 24 Pray for those who are facing financial struggles.
- 25 Pray for the Guides and Rangers as they meet today.
- 26 Give thanks to God for friends and families.
- 27 Pray for the Adventurers as they meet during our service today.
- 28 Pray for all of the Boys' Brigade age groups as they meet today.
- 29 Pray for all those who work in the CAMHS unit at Bay Tree House.
- 30 Pray for the local community around Christ Church.

May 2025 Newsletter

The **May 2025** edition of the Christ Church Newsletter will be published on **Sunday 27 April**. Items intended for inclusion in this issue should be with the Editor by Sunday 13 April. Any late submissions may be held over to the following issue.

Church diary April 2025

Tuesday 1 April 10:30am or 7:30pm
Lent Course part 3 (morning at Lancaster Road URC, evening at Bush Hill Park URC - see page 6)

Saturday 5 April 9:30am-10:30am
Zoom Bible Study Group (see page 6)

Sunday 6 April 10:45am
The Revd Ruth Dewis
Ordination and Induction of Elders & Holy Communion (offering for the Communion Fund)
Duty Elder - Sarah Harry

Sunday 6 April 12:15pm
Church AGM (see page 22)

Tuesday 8 April 10:30am or 7:30pm
Lent Course part 4 (morning at Lancaster Road URC, evening at Bush Hill Park URC - see page 6)

Saturday 12 April 11:00am-1:00pm
Lunchtime @ Christ Church (see page 8)

Sunday 13 April 10:45am
Janine Stolz
Palm Sunday
Duty Elder - Rosemary Milns

Thursday 17 April **7:30pm**
The Revd Ruth Dewis and the Revd Martin Legg
Pastorate Maundy Thursday Service (at Lancaster Road URC)

Friday 18 April **10:30am & 11:00am**
Act of Worship (at the Fountain, Enfield Town) and United Service
for Good Friday (at St Andrew's Church)

Saturday 19 April **9:30am-10:30am**
Zoom Bible Study Group (see page 6)

Sunday 20 April **8:30am**
The Revd Ruth Dewis
Pastorate Easter Sunday Communion Service (at Bush Hill Park
URC)

Sunday 20 April **10:45am**
The Worship Group
Easter Sunday All Age Service (including Holy Communion)
Duty Elder - Alison Gibbs

Monday 21 April **2:15pm**
Friendship Club
Memories of Enfield - Margaret Hume (including short AGM)

Sunday 27 April **10:45am**
Evodian Fonyonga
Duty Elder - Alison Gibbs

Key information

Minister The Revd Ruth Dewis 07592 125 027 / minister@ccurc.org.uk

Secretary Rosemary Milns secretary@ccurc.org.uk

Serving Elders

Alison Gibbs, Sarah Harry & Rosemary Milns elders@ccurc.org.uk

Safeguarding Alison Gibbs safeguarding@ccurc.org.uk

Treasurer David Fisher treasurer@ccurc.org.uk

Property Committee property@ccurc.org.uk

Hall & Room Hire bookings@ccurc.org.uk

Newsletter & Website Tom Boorman newsletter@ccurc.org.uk

Activities for adults

Bible Study Group Rosemary Milns secretary@ccurc.org.uk

Friendship Club Sylvia Coombs 020 8363 3543 / mail@ccurc.org.uk

Activities for children and young people

Adventurers Rosemary Milns secretary@ccurc.org.uk

Boys' Brigade Tom Boorman info@3rdenfieldbb.co.uk

Girlguiding Vicki Stratton-Stubbs 9thenfield@gmail.com

If you are not able to email, please phone Ruth and your details will be passed on.

Website ccurc.org.uk **Facebook & Instagram** @ccurcenenfield

Address Christ Church URC, Chase Side, Enfield, EN2 6NJ

Christ Church URC is a part of the **North Enfield Pastorate** and the **Enfield & East Hertfordshire Local Area Group**.

Our motto: "Enter to worship, depart to serve."

Our mission statement: Christ Church URC aims to provide through its worship, work, witness and mission an effective contribution to the spiritual and social welfare of the Church family and the wider community.

Please note that views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship, nor are they representative of church policy.



Christ Mocked (The Crowning with Thorns), Bosch, National Gallery, London. Public domain image via Wikimedia Commons. A related article by Stephen Gilburt can be found on pages 18-19.

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Christ Church
United
Reformed
Church

Email mail@ccurc.org.uk
for more details of regular
activities taking place at
Christ Church



You are invited...

Join us for worship on **Sundays** at **10:45am**

See diary for details of upcoming services

Adventurers (Junior Church)

During our Sunday morning service - for children aged 3+

Games, drama, craft and lots more fun activities based around a Bible theme

Friendship Club

Once monthly on a Monday (usually third Monday) at 2:15pm

Social meetings for adults for all ages - see diary for upcoming dates



Monday evenings
For boys aged 5-18
info@3rdenfieldbb.co.uk



Friday evenings
For girls aged 4-18
9thenfield@gmail.com



Zoom Bible Study Group

Saturdays (twice monthly) at 9:30am

See diary for upcoming dates

