



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

## THAMES NORTH SYNOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Welcome to our News Roundup for 26 June 2025.

Please circulate this widely so that the great events and opportunities here can benefit as many as possible. Please feel free to copy and paste any of this news for your own church's noticeboards or newsletters.

## Events Diary

**The Theology, Rhythm and Feeling of Hymns in Worship** on Saturday 28 June 2025 10:30 to 12:30 at The Lumen Community WC1H 9RS [lpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:lpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)

**Watch the film "Light" showing the work of Community Peacemaker Teams** in Hebron, West Bank Palestine with Revd Maggie Hindley at St Albans URC, Homewood Rd, AL1 4BH on Sunday 29th June 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

**Vision Evening** at St Andrew's, Kimbolton Road, MK40 2PF  
Date: Tuesday 1st July 2025 Time: 7:00-8:30pm

**Bradwell Pilgrimage** Saturday 5 July 2025 10am-3:15pm  
[www.bradwellpilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.bradwellpilgrimage.co.uk)

**Aspiring to More Taster Sessions** Saturday 12 July 2026 at 10:30 to 15:30 at The Lumen and Tuesday 2 September 2025 at 19:30 to 21:30 via Zoom [training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)

**Disability Awareness Sunday – 28 September 2025**

**Festival of Church Music in Coventry Cathedral** on Saturday 11th October 2025

**150th Anniversary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches** 12 July 2:00pm at the American International Church, Tottenham Court Road. Free tickets can be reserved here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1257520550819?aff=oddttdtcreator>

**Annual Dr Williams Lecture** on Wednesday 29 October, at Senate House, London University.

## Jazz Vespers Celebration at American International Church



The season finale of American International Church's series of monthly Jazz Vespers services took place on 25 June. Co-sponsored by Thames North Synod, the concert/worship service brought over 225 people to AIC's sanctuary to hear a full big band and combined choir perform sacred music by Duke Ellington. The next Jazz Vespers service will be 24 September at 18:30.

## Lessons to Learn for Churches in Transitioning Neighbourhoods

Did you know that Thames North Synod has made available a wonderful resource for churches who are navigating changes in the demographics of the neighbourhoods in which they are rooted? You can download a copy of the "Heaton Way: Lessons to Learn" PowerPoint presentation at <https://urcthamesnorth.org.uk/news/heaton-way-lessons-to-learn>. There is also an accompanying book that chronicles the creation, ministry, and closure of the church in East London which is available free of charge by contacting Francis Ackroyd ([ackroyds22@gmail.com](mailto:ackroyds22@gmail.com)).

## Getting to know: Rev Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson



### Churches Together in England welcomes Rev Dr Tessa, Free Churches Group CTE President for 2025 to 2028

"In this role, I carry a responsibility to model unity in a fractured world. It is less about status and more about service..."

<https://cte.org.uk/getting-to-know-rev-tessa-henry-robinson/>

An introduction to Rev Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson, the Churches Together in England President for the Free Churches Group  
#ChurchesTogether

📷 Photo credit: Chris Andrews/United Reformed Church

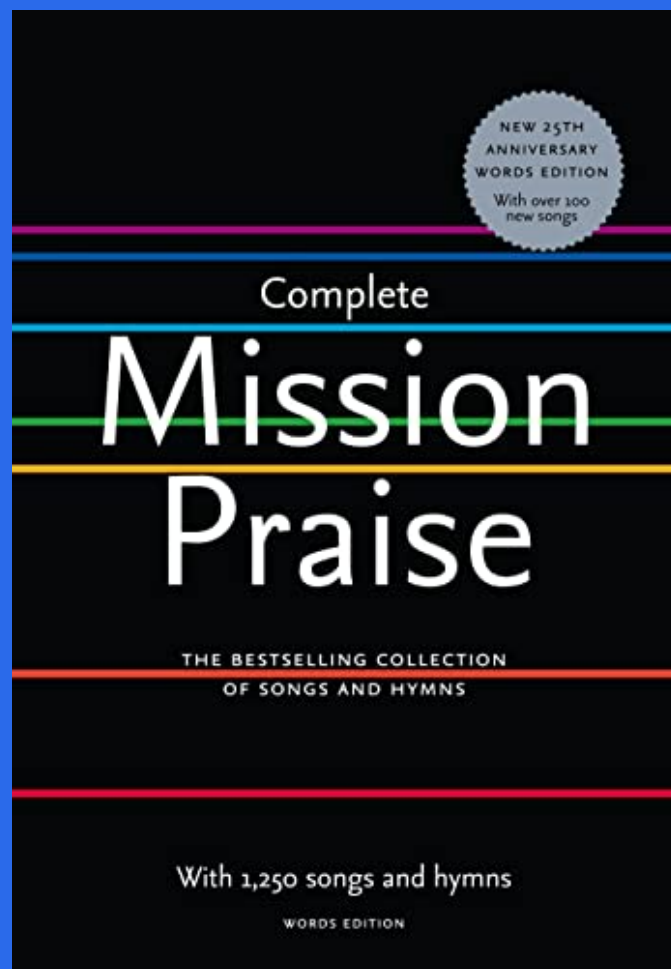
## Eco Church Video - Amersham Free Church





If you would like to know how Amersham free Church obtained a Silver Eco Church award from A Rocha you can watch their video [here](#).

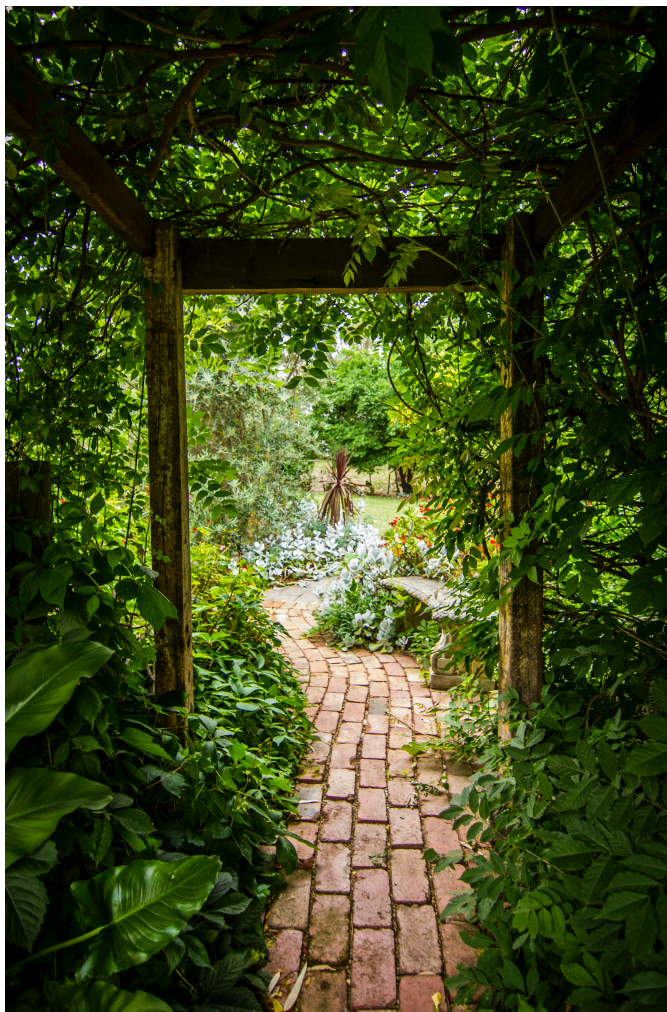
## Books needed



Grange Park URC are seeking 50 word copies of this last version of Mission Praise. If any Church or recently closed Church might have copies available or know where second Hand books can be obtained, please contact Francis Ackroyd here [ackroyds22@gmail.com](mailto:ackroyds22@gmail.com)

## The Quiet Garden Movement





A network of beautiful gardens and outdoor spaces for prayer, stillness, contemplation and an appreciation of the natural world.

Find out more about The Quiet Garden Movement

><https://quietgarden.org/>

## What's On



# SEASON OF CREATION

The season starts 1 September, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. See the launch video [here](#).

Throughout the month-long celebration, the world's 2.2 billion Christians come together to care for our common home. The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

Find out about Events and Resources for this time [here](#).





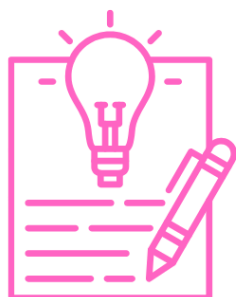
**THAMES NORTH & SOUTHERN SYNOD**

# **CREATIVE WEEK**

**TUES 5<sup>TH</sup> – SAT 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**  
**LUMEN, LONDON – WC1H 9RS**

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SECONDARY  
SCHOOL (AGE 11–16)**

**CHOOSE FROM A RANGE OF CREATIVE  
STREAMS INCLUDING  
DRAMA, MUSIC, CREATIVE WRITING  
MOVEMENT & DANCE, STAGE CRAFT**



**REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[WWW.BIT.LY/CW-REGISTRATION](http://WWW.BIT.LY/CW-REGISTRATION)  
DEADLINE 6TH JULY**



**COME AND WATCH OUR SHOWCASE  
PERFORMANCE ON  
SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AT 4PM  
ALL ARE WELCOME**

Register online at [www.bit.ly/cw-registration](http://www.bit.ly/cw-registration)  
**NB Deadline** is 6 July 2025



**Lancaster Road United Reformed Church  
Enfield**

# **Church Open For Prayer**

**Friday 27th June**

**10am-8pm**

**Saturday 28th June**

**10am-8pm**



**Come and revitalise  
Go deeper with God**



**Come when you can go when you must.**

**Quiet space in the church.**

## ***All Welcome***

**Light refreshments available until 7.30 pm**

## **The Theology, Rhythm and Feeling of Hymns in Worship**

A Workshop led by Julian Templeton and Francis Ackroyd

Saturday 28 June 2025, 10:30 – 12:30

The Lumen Community, 88 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RS



The number and type of hymns available to worship leaders and worshippers today is vast. What criteria does a worship leader use to select hymns? This workshop will include a discussion, with sung examples, of hymns that might be selected for their theology or rhythm or feeling, and how these hymns shape the moments of worship.

Participants are invited to select 3 hymns, 1 in each category:

- A hymn selected for the theology/message of its words
- A hymn selected for the rhythm of its music
- A hymn selected for the feeling it evokes

and to email the selected hymns to Julian [training@urchthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:training@urchthamesnorth.org.uk) by 21 June.

Julian and Francis will note all the hymns submitted, and from these will choose some that we will sing together in the workshop. Hymns can come either from published hymnals or from online videos, so long as you identify their source. If you don't wish to select hymns yourself, please come to the workshop anyway.

To attend this free Thames North Synod Preachers' Circle Event  
Please email Ola Lawal, Lay Preaching Advocate,  
[lpa@urchthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:lpa@urchthamesnorth.org.uk)

The Reverends Francis Ackroyd and Julian Templeton are both musically trained and have made congregational and choral singing a significant feature of their ministries.

## Vacancies

# PART-TIME CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORKER

## Broxbourne URC



### ABOUT US

We are a United Reformed Church in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire. We are a friendly, inclusive and welcoming church, proud of our heritage, but forward looking and innovative. Everyone is welcome in our church.

As a church family we are offering a flexible opportunity for someone with a love of God, children and church.

### THE APPLICANT

We seek a motivated and enthusiastic Children's and Youth Worker who can help us nurture and grow the existing work with our young people, working with our children's team volunteers. A committed Christian with a passion and ability to share the gospel with children and young people. This post may suit someone seeking flexible, part-time hours, wishing to develop their skills or changing career.

### EXPERIENCE

We are looking for someone who has experience in working with children and young people in a church or community setting. The age group is currently 9-15.

#### Location

Broxbourne United Reformed Church,  
Mill Lane, Broxbourne EN10 7BQ

### THE POSITION

This position is important for the spiritual development of children and youth, supporting their faith journeys and fostering a welcoming, inclusive environment for all families.

The postholder will focus on carrying out their role at Broxbourne URC, while gradually developing a model that the other two churches in our pastorate could adapt in their future work with children and youth.

We'd love to chat with you about creating a bespoke role that draws on your gifts.

#### Hours

16 hours a week - flexible, including some Sunday mornings and mid-week and evening events.

#### Contract and salary

Three-year fixed term. £16 per hour. 20 days paid leave and 8 days paid statutory holidays per year pro rata. Workplace pension scheme offered. Responsible to the Minister and supported by him and volunteer members.

### HOW TO APPLY

Please apply for an application pack to our Pastorate Administrator, Mrs. Stepanka Moysey at [urcnlvg@gmail.com](mailto:urcnlvg@gmail.com)  
For informal inquiries, please contact our Minister, the Revd. Mark Robinson  
[revdmarkr@gmail.com](mailto:revdmarkr@gmail.com).

Visit our website: [www.nlvg.org.uk](http://www.nlvg.org.uk)

The closing date for applications is noon on **Monday 18 August**.  
Interviews will be held after Monday 25 August.



# Adeyfield Free Church



**Adeyfield Free Church, Hemel Hempstead**  
a place where lives are transformed by Jesus

We have 2 vacancies in our church ministry  
and welcome applications for a

**Youth worker and a Families' Worker**

For a job description please email [admin@adeyfieldfree.org.uk](mailto:admin@adeyfieldfree.org.uk)  
Closing date 17th July 2025

## Safeguarding Training

### Synod Training Dates 2025

To book a place on any of the training listed below, please email  
[safeguarding@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)

In person training is TBA and will be limited due to the timescales within my role and existing cover period.

#### **E Learning**

Foundation Training and Safeguarding Coordinators Training are available as e-learning courses.

Simply follow the links below to access the courses.

#### **Foundation Safeguarding Training**

<https://www.urclearninghub.org.uk/course/view.php?id=24>

#### **Safeguarding Coordinators Training**

<https://www.urclearninghub.org.uk/course/view.php?id=70>

## Zoom Intermediate Safeguarding Training

Saturday 2nd August 2025 - 10.30am – 1.00pm

### Advanced Safeguarding Training

Part 1 - Tuesday 16th September 2025 - 6.30pm – 9.00pm

Part 2 - Tuesday 23rd September 2025 - 6.30pm – 9.00pm

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<http://urcthamesnorth.org.uk/>



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