



THAMES NORTH SYNOD NEWS ROUNDUP

Welcome to our News Roundup for 30 January 2025.

Please circulate this widely so that the great events and opportunities here can benefit as many as possible.

Please note that this newsletter will be going out every Thursday from the beginning of 2025 as I will be working Monday to Thursday from 1 January.

Events

Intergenerational Fun Day on Saturday 1st February 2025 11am - 4pm at Lumen WC1H 9RS. Book by 17 January at www.bit.ly/funday2025

Holiday Forum in a Day on Saturday 1 February 2025

Whole-life Discipleship: Connecting our worship leading and preaching to the everyday lives of the congregation on Saturday 1 February 2025 at High Cross URC, Tottenham at 10:30am – 1.00pm. To book please email Ola Lawal, lpcomm@urcthamesnorth.org.uk

LICC Lunchtime Sessions: Pastoral Care for Every Day, Not Just Bad Days Monday 3rd February Online 1pm-2pm GMT. Book [here](#).

Synod Resources Day for Secretaries, Administrators and Treasurers on Saturday 8 February 2025 from 10am online and at Lumen Centre. For more information contact administrator@urcthamesnorth.org.uk

Racial Justice Sunday on 9 February 2025

Holy Communion Presidency Training for Authorised Elders via Zoom, 7:30 to 9:30 pm on either Friday 7 February 2025

Or Monday 10 March 2025. Contact: Julian Templeton, Training and Development Officer Email: training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk

URC Youth Assembly 7 - 9 March 2025 Kings Park Conference Centre NN3 6LL [Book here](#)

Thames North and Southern Synod Youth Residential Thursday 29 May-1 June 2025. Book by 31 January 2025 at www.bit.ly/residential2025

News



Last Sunday the Moderator led worship at Wembley Park United Reformed Church - a growing, multicultural and multigenerational church. The music was led by a very gifted flautist.



A Day with Pioneers in East London



This week the Moderator spent a day in East London with Pioneers who were learning about Dave Mann's work at Silvertown, Bonny Downs and Seedbeds at Manor Park. A time of inspiration and encouragement with community transformation and the building of God's Kingdom.

What's On



The countdown to Youth Assembly has begun!

Bookings close on 2nd February so get your tickets now!!

Our Youth Assembly is packed with lots of activities and worship, with plenty of time to meet new people and see familiar faces from all around the country who are part of the URC!!

To find out more information you can have a scroll through our social media, contact us directly through Instagram or Facebook and can email children.youth@urc.org.uk for more details.



Thames North & Southern Synod Youth Residential
Thursday 29 May - Sunday 1 June 2025
Whitemoor Lakes, Staffordshire
Cost: £75 (£30 deposit required at booking)
Age: 11 (must be in Year 7) to 16 years
Book by Jan 31 - www.bit.ly/residential2025



A time of **FUN**, **LAUGHTER**, and **FELLOWSHIP** exploring the theme **'All Are Welcome'**, through creative arts, bible stories, discussion and worship. Outdoor activities to include, zip wire, climbing, kayaking, raft building, team games.

Come and enjoy, All are Welcome!

Spaces still available.

Resources Day for Church Treasurers, Secretaries and Administrators



The annual Resources Day for Church Treasurers, Secretaries and Administrators will take place on Saturday 8 February 2025. The aim is to give you a helpful guide to what it takes to run your church in 2025.

The Synod team, with external experts, will present and take questions on the latest developments in property, employment, legal and charity matters. In particular, we will be looking at the likely impacts of the Renters' Rights Bill, Safer Recruitment, and the relationship of the local church to LAGs and Synod.

Saturday 8th February from 10am online and in-person at the Lumen Centre.

We look forward to seeing you.

PLEASE NOTE: The online booking form closes at noon on Wednesday 5th February. And as Nneoma will be away next week, please contact Colleen at modpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk for more information or if you need to be reminded of the link.

This is the link to the online form:

Please book your place via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/7nJiJEmz3y> or scan the QR code below.



Photo by [NORTHFOLK](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Leading your Church into Growth (LYCiG)



At the last Synod we heard a very inspirational presentation from Revd Ashley Evans about Leading your Church into Growth. There will be a 3-day conference run in November for URC's. Alternatively we could arrange our own conference.

Could you please let Colleen Fraser modpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk know if you or your church are interested in either the course in November or whether you would be interested if we ran one as a Synod (probably along with other neighbouring Synods).



Thames North Preachers' Circle Presents:

Whole-life Discipleship: Connecting our worship leading and preaching to to the everyday lives of the congregation'

Led by:

Steve Rouse

Church Team Director at London Institute of Contemporary Christianity
(LICC)

Steve is teaching pastor at Balham Baptist Church in South London,
and is passionate about empowering Christians to make a difference in
daily life.

& Supported by:

Eddie Boon

Thames North Synod Discipleship Enabler

Eddie is passionate about empowering TNS Preachers, Worship leaders
and Churches

to make a difference in daily life.

Venue: High Cross URC, Tottenham,
High Road & Colsterworth Road, London N15 4BN

Date: Saturday 1st February 2025

Time: 10:30am – 1.00pm

(Free refreshments from 9.45am & free lunch at 1 pm)

The session will include Vital signs of a Whole-life Discipleship-making
church, Worship and Preaching with Monday in view.

To book your place at this free event, please email, Ola Lawal,

lpcomm@urcthamesnorth.org.uk

LICC Lunchtime Sessions: Pastoral Care for Every Day, Not Just Bad Days



This should be a really good session

When: Monday 3rd February Online 1pm-2pm GMT

Book [here](#).

Caring about the ordinary as well as the extraordinary days.

Pastoral care is a privilege. Being there for people in their hour of need – sometimes when there’s no-one else to call – can be both heart-rending and joy-giving. As church leaders, it’s often one of the best and most challenging parts of the job. But often, we risk reducing our definition of ‘pastoral care’ to only the bad days. Just as much as the extraordinary times of crisis, we’re called to equip people for the ordinary times of life – pastoring them in the 9-to-5 as well as the storm.

Join LICC’s Church Team for a one-hour lunchtime webinar that’ll expand your imagination for how your church’s pastoral care can transform people’s daily lives. Because when we pastorally equip them as well as pastorally caring for them, it helps grow disciples who make a difference with Jesus in all the details of the week – at work, in the community, and beyond.

Filled with fresh perspective, practical wisdom, and ideas to try, this webinar will help deepen your whole-life disciplinemaking practice. You’ll rediscover the huge difference visiting your people in their everyday places can make, and dive into the art of asking questions that equip people for fruitful discipleship.

Our lunchtime webinars are designed to give you quality input in a bitesize way. So grab some lunch and join us for this session on the art of pastoral care.

This webinar is based on insights from Vital Signs, LICC’s flagship

resource to help churches embed a culture of whole-life discipling.

Revd. Eddie Boon
Synod Discipleship Enabler
www.discipleseveryday.com

Photo by [Matheus Ferrero](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Theology of Worship Group invites you to our next Speaker meeting on Preparing to Preach to an Unfamiliar Congregation



Speaker: Revd. Dr. Richard Goldring
Secretary, Theology of Worship and Semi-Retired Minister

Chair:

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Welch
Chair, Society for Ecumenical Studies (2011-2023); Co-chair International Reformed Anglican Dialogue (2015-2022); Emeritus Honorary Ecumenical Canon, Worcester Cathedral; Former Chair of Theology of Worship Group; Semi-retired Minister.

Date: Tuesday, 25 February 2025

Time: 7:30 - 9pm via Zoom

How do you decide what to preach upon, particularly to an unfamiliar congregation? To what extent is it helpful to use the Lectionary? Richard will reflect upon the process by which he makes such decisions, and the theological basis underlying that process. We expect his thoughts will prompt lively and enjoyable discussion!

To book, please contact Richard: rgoldring23@gmail.com



Group for
Evangelism
And
Renewal
*within the United
Reformed Church*

Prayer and Share

An initiative to encourage God's people,
our local churches and all the Church



The
United
Reformed
Church

zoom with us on the first Thursday of each month from
8pm to 9pm starting **Thursday, 6th of Feb.**

To **support and encourage** individuals and individual churches

For **issues** facing the United Reformed Church

For the URC & all Christ's Church to be **revived by the Holy Spirit**

The Link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85884570470>



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God (Philippians 4, 6b).

Explore your calling to become a Lay Preacher



The
United
Reformed
Church

Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher
Taster Session **Tuesday 4 March, 7-8pm**

Northern College is running an Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher taster session on 4 March from 7-8pm, via Zoom, ahead of the Assembly Accredited Lay Preaching course which begins every September.

Those who believe God may be calling them to become a lay preacher are invited to attend this taster session. For further details visit Northern College's website. Alternatively, please email christine.hufton@lutherking.ac.uk.



Hello Holiday Forum Friends!

Can you believe we've only got two days to go until Holiday Forum in a Day. It will be great to see everyone again. Don't forget, you can drop in for as much as you want, or even stay all day. We also have the evening sessions with Songs of Praise and then the social and quiz. You could even invite friends and family, so they can see what Holiday Forum is all about.

We do ask if you're attending the Card Making Workshop with Linda Gowland, that you bring the following items with you.

- White Card
- Anything with hearts on (peel off stickers would be good)
- Scissors
- Glue or double sided sticky tape
- Anything else you would like to add to your card

The idea is to make a wedding, valentines, engagement or an anniversary card.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday.

Information



Do you have chapel chairs, church pews, or vintage church furniture your church is looking to dispose of? It might be worth contacting Peppermill Interiors via their [Sell to Us](#) form to see if they can help find a new home for the furniture.

Vacancies



**Job
vacancy**



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Apply at:
www.urc.org.uk/jobs



The URC seeks:
Head of Governance Services

**The URC is seeking a Head of Governance Services
London**

Permanent contract, full-time

Salary: £78,000 – £86,000 per annum

Closing date for applications: 3 February.

See <https://urc.org.uk/jobs/>

A large orange fish-shaped graphic containing the text "Job vacancy" in blue.

**Job
vacancy**



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

**Apply at:
www.urc.org.uk/jobs**

Three orange fish icons arranged in a curved line.

**The URC seeks:
Ministries Support Officer**

**The URC is seeking a Ministries Support Officer
London**

Permanent contract, full-time

Salary: Circa £43,000 per annum

Closing date for applications: 3 March

For full details, see <https://urc.org.uk/jobs/>

Other URC Roles

For other URC Roles including Business Committee roles see here
<https://urc.org.uk/jobs/>

Safeguarding Training

UK Wide Safeguarding Training 2025

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

All training listed below will take place via Zoom

| First date | Event |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 14 January, 2025 1:30pm | Domestic abuse |
| 23 January 7:00pm | Supporting survivors |
| 4 February 7:00pm | Modern slavery |
| 13 February 1:30pm | Elders as Trustees |
| 4 March 7:00pm | Substance abuse |
| 18 March 1:30pm | Refugees and asylum seekers |
| 27 March 7:00pm | Adult safeguarding |
| 24 April 1:30pm | Spiritual abuse |
| 13 May 7:00pm | Online safety |

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



www.urc.org.uk



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