



CHURCH NEWS

Kingston United Reformed Church

www.kingstonurc.org

October 2019



Didn't we have a lovely time, the day we went to Bognor!

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Charity No. 1131880

Edited this month by Bron Robinson

Worship Diary: October 2019

For regular events, see inside back cover.

September 2019

Sun 29	10.00	Worship
	11.30	All-Age Worship (with Communion)
	18.30	Reflective Worship

October 2019

Weds 2	10.00	Tots' Praise
	13.10	Lunchtime service
Fri 4	13.00 – 14.00	Prayer Meeting
Sun 6	10:00	Worship (with Communion)
	11.30	All-Age Worship
	15:30	Messy Church does Arts and Craft
	18.30	Reflective Worship
Weds 9	10.00	Tots' Praise
	13.10	Lunchtime service
Fri 11	13.00 – 14.00	Prayer Meeting
Copy deadline for November Church News – editor Tony Wenman		
Sun 13	09:30	Coffee available
	10.30	Combined service
	18.30	Reflective Worship
Weds 16	10.00	Tots' Praise
	13.10	Lunchtime service
Fri 18	13.00 – 14.00	Prayer Meeting
Sun 20	10.00	Worship
	11.30	All-Age Worship
	18.30	Reflective Worship (with Communion)
Weds 23	10.00	Tots' Praise
	13.10	Lunchtime service
Fri 25	13.00 – 14.00	Prayer Meeting
Sun 27	10:00	Worship
	11:30	All-Age Worship (with Communion)
	18:30	Reflective Worship

LETTER FROM LESLEY



The following is taken from the Minister's Report at the KURC Annual General Meeting on 08/09/19.

The teaching from Jesus (Luke 14 v 25-33) is a reminder of the high cost of discipleship. It is everything that we are and all we possess. It is not about a hobby or occasional activity. Nor is it confined to Sunday morning. We are in the process of developing our Monday to Saturday discipleship.

Just recently I have spent a lot of time wondering about why? Why does Kingston URC exist and why does it do what it does? Not how, not what, but why?

My conclusion is that it is about connection. We are about connecting in ways that would not usually happen. Connecting unusual groups of people and connecting people with God. Or, at the very least, allowing the opportunity for this to happen. Giving people opportunities. Connecting every day and not just on Sundays. Connecting with God each day.

If you want to live a long and good, full life than you need a range of things, to get your weight down, give up booze, exercise, stop smoking, have a close partner. But also be in the place in the world where people live the longest and where the men live as long as the women – Sardinia. The research from there shows that people need a wide social network of connectedness. Neighbours, conversations with people who make your coffee, with the person who is ahead of you in the queue. All of that is life giving, literally.

We provide a network of those opportunities. Not every one of us, of course, is equipped to accept these gifts. And even worse, some of us do not see or understand the importance of them. They are not neat – people misunderstand, they abuse us, they take advantage. Others within the church look for something more proscribed. People love a programme. But the teaching of Jesus needs to be loud in our ears – we are not called to ease, we are called to service.

One of the ways we offer connection is through the range of worship we offer: Sunday x 3, Wednesday, Tots' Praise, Friday prayers, Messy Church. Six members/friends (Ann Macfarlane, Teresa James, Jane Townsend, Martyn Verge, Carol Clack and Maddie Annelzark) have been attending a lay preaching course and they have all completed it.

Another area where we offer connection is through the foyer. It has been under pressure this year. Sadly, we have had to stop offering a shower to street homeless people because of abuse of our staff. Ever had a hug from someone who is smelly? The answer to the question “why do we offer a shower?” is so that people can build relationships with the mainstream of society. That is why it fits in.

Why two services on a Sunday morning? Because people are different and they see God differently. They have different needs and we want to help people connect with God. Why the foyer? Because, in terms of life expectancy, loneliness is as dangerous as smoking. And to put it theologically, everyone is a loved child of God and needs to know that truth.

What we do is loads of small stuff. Together these things are transformational but they are also easily dismissed. It is our contribution to Kingston and to the life of the Kingdom lived through the building and in our every day.

Most of the time small contacts significant relationships and friendship are enough. But every now and then people, including Christian people need more.

Best wishes,

Lesley

Annual General Meeting, 8 September 2019

Here are some headlines from the KURC Annual General Meeting (AGM) that was held as part of the morning worship on 8 September. For more detail see the full minutes, which will be circulated in the usual way.

The meeting received the Youth Report, Pastoral Report, an item on 'Whole Life Discipleship', the Ministers Report and a talk from the Samaritans. After the service the AGM was concluded with Finance report and Members Time.

Youth Report: Glyn Robinson reported on the continuing success of all the children and young people's activities. Regular activities are Tot's Praise, Messy Church (held monthly with a different theme each month) and Jolly Toddlers (the new name for Parents and Toddlers). YPSG continues on Sundays and now each of the leaders takes it in turn to present the introduction to the theme for the day. The young people continue to take an active role in the music for the second service, in between their studies. Finally, Glyn reported the happy news that we have been granted Turn the Tide funding in the form of a grant from Synod.

Pastoral Report – Martyn Verge reported on work of the Pastoral Co-ordinators (Lesley, Suk In, Ann Macfarlane, Jenny Milner, Rosette Oming Bali and Martyn). They meet quarterly and their role is to have an oversight of the pastoral concerns of the church. Martyn reported that the pastoral system is geared to networks and linkages and they try to ensure that no one is unsupported.

Church Secretary's Report (position is in vacancy) – slide presentation was made recalling activities in the year leading up to the meeting.

Whole Life Discipleship – Carol Clack updated on the URC wide initiative with training from the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity. The following people have committed to the training sessions for this over the coming year – Maddie Anlezark, Sue Shaw, Sharon Henriquez Vernon, Carol Clack, Ken Bartlett, Rachel Mason, Rosette Oming Bali and Christine Thompson. The course will help them to develop skills and strategies to take beliefs and messages outside and beyond Sunday worship, our own so called 'Front Lines'. The wider they will then cascade the learning to KURC.

Ministers Report – see page 3 in this edition of Church News.

Samaritans – the meeting received a presentation by Christine and Barry from the Kingston branch of Samaritans. Located in Wheatfield they can be contacted in person or by telephoning 116123.

The website for Kingston branch of Samaritans is:

<https://www.samaritans.org/branches/kingston-upon-thames/>

At this point the worship finished and after short pause the meeting commenced. There were approximately 40 members present for this section.

Finance Report – Lesley gave out a paper copy of the finance report. For more information on this item, please speak to the KURC Treasurer, Christine Chippendale. Ray Taylor led a vote of thanks for everyone in the finance team and this was seconded by Myrtle Austin; they are: Christine Chippendale, Lisa (Bookkeeper), Christine Thompson, Management Committee, the counters and the Elders. It was noted that we are to hold bi-annual gift days and so should expect one in 2020.

Church Officers and Groups – the church officers and groups were displayed and all appointments were agreed by the meeting. Lesley led a prayer of thanks for all those listed.

Members Time – included discussion on the shower, update from Linda Austin on the Church Handbook (which will be published in 2-3 months), thanks from Sally Butler and an update from Derek Winsor regarding the plans for the Surrey House development (see article on P xxxx).

The date of the next KURC Church Meeting is 10th November 2019.

Pastoral News

“Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray, giving thanks to God.” (Colossians 4 v 2)

Out of care for people’s privacy, the list of Personal Concerns is not included in the web edition of Church News.

Anyone wishing to receive the full edition of Church News by email should send an email to:

tony.wenman@gmail.com

God of life,

We pray for all those who have had important exam results recently; for the impact these will have on their future; be with them as they make their choices, and with us, support them in the year ahead. We pray for Ann and Helen and all those having treatment or tests. Give them peace as they await the outcome. We pray too for those with family members who are unwell, help them as they deal with the emotional impact and as they provide support. We remember those who feel lonely; help us to find ways to share together.

We pray for EJ and Jacob as they build their future together. Bless Jacob in his ministry in Elephant and Castle and EJ as she moves in to work.

We ask for your blessing on Nancy as she joins us in membership and finds her place among us.

We pray for members and friends between the ages of 60 and 80. Encourage them to share the skills, insights and wisdom that growing old can give and support them where growing old is a challenge. We give thanks for the Worship support group and all they do to sustain the great variety of worship offered here. We ask your guidance for the

Management group and all they do supporting the employees, overseeing the finances and fabric of the church.

We pray for our centre staff, giving thanks for all the valuable work they do on our behalf. We ask for wisdom and your hand of protection on them. Help us as we support them. We pray for the foyer users and for their part in maintaining a loving, open and welcoming space.

Finally, we pray for our ministers, Lesley and Suk-In. May they be filled with the life you offer and strengthened for their work among us. Bless us all as we work together to advance your kingdom in Kingston.

Amen.

At the 11.30am service on Sunday 15 September we wished Bessie all the best as she leaves to start her university course in Creative Technology and Design at Sussex University in Brighton. We all read together the following blessing, adapted by Martyn, which I thought was worth reproducing here. We also send this blessing to all members and friends of KURC who are starting new courses, schools, or new phases of their life this month. *Ed.*

Bessie,

May the peace of God reign in your heart
May the love of God forever hold you tight,
May the Spirit of God flow through your life
May the joy of God uphold you day and night

May your shared house be a place of joy and peace,
May your studies be stimulating and enjoyable
May you remain faithful in daily bible reading and prayer
May you quickly find a spiritual home

And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His/Her hand.

Introducing Nancy Bamford

Nancy became a member of KURC on Sunday 1st September 2019.

Nancy was born in Worcestershire. At 28, married with two children, the family moved to Perth, Australia. She lived there for 31 years. She hated the weather (due to the heat) but loved the wonderful people. She especially remembers many Italians and Greeks, who were very friendly and loved children. It was 42 degrees on the day they left Australia.



Nancy has been back to Australia twice, but is now living in the UK for good. Her daughter is settled in Australia and she has 2 grandchildren in the family that live in the UK.

Nancy came to KURC via the dancing and tea. She feels welcomed here and, now you can put a name to a face, please say hello and have a chat. By the way, the flowers are to celebrate a significant birthday!

World War Two memories

1st September 2019 was the 80th anniversary of the invasion of Poland that started the 2nd World War. 10th November is Remembrance Sunday.

If you have memories that you are willing to share of the War or prose or poetry that you feel is significant please let **Christine Thompson** know.

Flower rota for October 2019

6 Oct – Pat Foster

13 Oct – Nigel Tunley and Harvest

20 Oct – Jenny Milner

27 Oct – Lesley and Ray Charlton



HARVEST WORKSHOP

We will be having our usual workshop to decorate the sanctuary for Harvest on Saturday, 12 October, at 10 am. If you could spare an hour or two that morning, you would be very welcome. No experience is necessary.

Any autumn flowers and greenery would also be gratefully received.

Our Harvest gifts will be going to the Food Bank and if anybody would like to leave their gifts, labelled for Harvest, during the week, they could be used for decoration.

Jean Thompson & Steve Wenman



Didn't we have a lovely time, the day we went to Bognor!

On Saturday 7 September, a large group of members and friends of KURC had a day out at the seaside (Bognor Regis), fantastically organised by Vaughan and Teresa James. The majority of us made the trip by coach, but others joined by train. Once there, we found an amazing variety of activities to do, including

Swimming and paddling in the sea (special mention to Vaughan, Carol, Janine and Liam who managed "proper" swimming!).



Trying out the coffee shops and, of course, the ice cream.



Crazy golf.



Driving bumper cars, blowing bubbles and just chilling ...



To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see inside back cover

Some had a picnic on the beach, others went for a fish and chips lunch.



Some groups also visited the really interesting town museum, walked some of the Bognor Regis Heritage trails and went charity shop shopping!

So Young, Natasha and Bron have loads of photos, so if you can't see yourself, or would like a larger version of any photos, please do ask!

Cherrill's memories of Margaret Randall

I was so sad to hear of Margaret's death in the last edition of the Church News. The last time I met up with her was at my Mum's funeral (Brenda Ives) in 2015. We sent cards at Christmas and heard news from others but really I should have done more to keep in touch.

Mum and Margaret were friends in Young Wives way back in the '50's, before Paul and I were born!! So, Paul and I grew up together in the church and out, having great fun together at Hampton Court fair, playing darts and even on an educational cruise at the same time!!



Margaret, John, Jean, Cherrill, Rosemary



Church group

At the Randall house Fred and Margaret were always there to give the warmest of welcomes, especially on Fred Fridays. Do you know that under the hall wallpaper at their house, it being decorated at the time, are many names from us teenagers of the time and I believe our heights as well!!

All this friendship led to Lynne making my wedding dress way back in 1980 and the family being there at my wedding.

Margaret seemed to always be there in my life and always on Sundays, greeting me with a hug and wishing me well. She has been there in my happy times and in the saddest of moments, being at both Mum and Dad's funerals, giving me so much love and comfort

I shall miss her being there but my life is full of memories of her and Fred, Paul and Lynne and life at 80 Villiers Avenue.

Cherrill Theobald (Brenda Ives' daughter)

Archive of the month

This month's archive is a poster (which has miraculously survived in one of our scrapbooks) advertising a church social event 150 years ago. It isn't dated, but we can assume that the concert took place in 1870 as 'Signor Blinkhorn unordained' must surely refer to the Rev George Blinkhorn, who came straight from college to commence his ministry at our church in that year.

Great Attraction.
 UNDER EXTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.
 Without Permission of the Worshipful the Mayor, and Borough Magistrates.

**Congregational
 MUSIC HALL,
 EDEN STREET, KINGSTON.**
 (OPPOSITE THE "HORSE SHOES.")

On *TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, JAN. 23rd,*
**A GRAND EVENING
 CONCERT**

Will be given, by the following popular Artistes, the whole of the arrangements being under the Management of

SIGNOR BLINKHORN (unordained).
 ARTISTES:—
 MADEMOISELLE EMILIE BLANCHE.
 MISS ROSALINE STUART.
 MISS C. H. MILLAR.
 MRS. B. MANSELL RAMSEY.
Mr. WALTER REEVES.
 (Who it is hoped will equal Sims Reeves.)
 MR. H. LESLIE RAMSEY.
 CONDUCTOR - MR. B. MANSELL RAMSEY.

ERARD'S CONCERT GRAND PIANOFORTE will be used on this occasion.

It is hoped that this Performance will prove as attractive as the former Entertainment in the above Hall (Chapel), viz., "The Jackdaw of Rheims."

Carriages may be Ordered at 10 o'clock (unless we won't go Home till Morning).
 Admission. 6d., 1s., and 2s. Doors open at 7:30, commence at 8 o'clock.

To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see inside back cover

Planning Inspectorate appeal decision

As part of Members' Time at the KURC Annual General Meeting on 08/09/19, Derek Winsor updated the meeting that The Planning Inspectorate has dismissed an appeal relating to a planning permission application on the area surrounding the KURC building. Extracts from the decision are below:

34. The significance of the URC building as a heritage asset is in the aesthetic value of its Victorian classical architecture, particularly its front façade onto Eden Street, as well as the historical and communal value of its ecclesiastical role in the development of Kingston. The setting of the URC also makes an important contribution to its heritage significance. This is because it occupies a prominent position in the town centre, at the junction of Eden Street, St James Road and Union Street, where it acts as a landmark at the entrance to the KOTCA (Kingston Old Town Conservation Area) and a focal point for the community, reinforcing its ecclesiastical role. Its setting includes the 20th century buildings of Surrey House, BoConcept and Eden Walk and the buildings on the western edge of the KOTCA, including the curved façade of 18 Eden Street. Whilst the appearance of the existing buildings on the appeal site does not make a positive contribution to the aesthetic value of the URC, none is of a height or scale as to dominate its setting. Rather the more modest height and scale of the surrounding buildings respects the prominence of the URC within this setting, and thereby contributes to the significance of its historical status and architecture.

(And from section 40, conclusion):

I find that the appeal proposal would fail to preserve the settings of a range of heritage assets and thereby harm their significance, including the Old Post Office, the United Reformed Church and the Guildhall II listed buildings, MarketPlace and the Kingston Old Town Conservation Area. This would conflict with Policy 7.8 of the London Plan and Policy DM12 of the Core Strategy, as set out above, and with the overall thrust of section 16 of the Framework to conserve and enhance the significance of heritage assets.

The full Appeal Decision can be downloaded from:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3223667&CoID=0>

Our Daily Bread Ministries

During my daily prayers, I came across this article published in one of the brochures of *Our Daily Bread Ministries* and felt that it is so relevant to all of us, so I decided to share it with you.

"The piano was soaring, the drums were thundering, the trumpets were blaring and the violins were singing. But the conductor noticed something missing - the piccolo. The piccolo player has been distracted and hoped his instrument wouldn't be missed. The conductor reminded him: *"Each one of us is needed."*

This was pretty much the same message Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians in his first letter to them (1COR. 12:4-7). Every Christian plays an important part in God's kingdom. Paul gave a list of gifts of the Spirit and compared their use to different parts of the human body all working together (VV. 8-10). *The Corinthian Christians must have had different backgrounds, gifts and personalities, but they were filled with the same Spirit and belonged to the same Church. In his illustration, Paul talked about 'weaker' parts of the human body that are kept hidden but are still really important. He said it is similar in the church - even those who feel that they don't have much to offer are needed. No one is unimportant. No one is needed less than anyone else.*

Remember, Jesus has given you an important part to play and will use you to support your church."

After reading it, I asked myself a few questions: *"In what ways can I get involved more in our church? Do I feel myself less important than those who spend more time in our church? Do I feel satisfied and pleased with myself when I do something for my church? Will be I missed by anyone if I will skip a few services or stop coming altogether?"*

Natasha Reid

International Bible Reading Association - IBRA

The readings for October 2019 are below.

The list may also be downloaded at from the IBRA website at: www.ibraglobal.org



An open invitation

Tuesday 1 Oct	Luke 15:1-10
Wednesday 2 Oct	Luke 15:11-31
Thursday 3 Oct	Luke 16:1-18
Friday 4 Oct	Luke 16:19-31
Saturday 5 Oct	Luke 17:1-19

The kingdom within

Sunday 6 Oct	Luke 17:20-37
Monday 7 Oct	Luke 18:1-14
Tuesday 8 Oct	Luke 18:15-30
Wednesday 9 Oct	Luke 18:31-43
Thursday 10 Oct	Luke 19:1-10
Friday 11 Oct	Luke 19:11-27
Saturday 12 Oct	Luke 19:28-48

Building and rebuilding – Sacred space

Sunday 13 Oct	Psalms 104:1-9
Monday 14 Oct	Exodus 25:1-9
Tuesday 15 Oct	2 Samuel 7:1-17
Wednesday 16 Oct	Psalms 144:9-15
Thursday 17 Oct	Psalms 79
Friday 18 Oct	Lamentations 2:1-10
Saturday 19 Oct	Zechariah 8:1-17

Buildings of flesh and stone

Sunday 20 Oct	Jeremiah 24:1-7
Monday 21 Oct	Habakkuk 2:6-14
Tuesday 22 Oct	Nehemiah 1:1-11
Wednesday 23 Oct	Nehemiah 12:27-30
Thursday 24 Oct	1 Corinthians 3:10-17
Friday 25 Oct	1 Corinthians 14:1-5
Saturday 26 Oct	1 Peter 2:1-5

Romans 1-8: Not ashamed of the gospel

Sunday 27 Oct	Romans 1:1-17
Monday 28 Oct	Romans 1:18-32
Tuesday 29 Oct	Romans 2:1-16
Wednesday 30 Oct	Romans 3:21-31
Thursday 31 Oct	Romans 4:13-25

Regular Activities

Sunday:

15.30 Messy Church (monthly, but Sundays vary – for dates see Worship Diary)

Monday:

10.00 Jolly Toddlers (during school terms)

Tuesday:

19.30 Book Club: (third Tuesday monthly)
Speak to Linda Austin or Katie Frost for location

Wednesday:

10.00 Tots' Praise
13.10 Lunchtime Service
14.00 & 19.30 Faith Studies – check date & frequency of courses

Thursday:

19.00 International Friendship Café
19.30 Line Dancing

Friday:

13.00 Friday Prayers
14.00 Quiz afternoon for Foyer guests (second Friday monthly)
14.00 Ballroom & Latin American dancing with Lyn
22.00 All night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)

Saturday:

10.00 Stay and Play (third Saturday monthly)
22.00 All night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)

How to contribute to Church News:

Contributions on matters of reflection and opinion as well as reports of activities are welcome. Copy for **Church News** must reach the editor by midday on the **second Sunday of the month**. **The next copy deadline is 11.30 am on Sunday, 13 October 2019. Editor: Tony Wenman.**

FINANCIAL DONATIONS may be made to the church in a number of ways, including via our “My Donate” page, accessible through every page of our website at www.kingstonurc.org. You can also pay directly into our bank account: sort code 20-46-76, account number 33054942. If you would like more information on giving to KURC, please ask any elder.

Kingston United Reformed Church is a member of the **Local Ecumenical Project** in Kingston Town Centre with its partner, **All Saints Parish Church** in the Market Place. The town centre ministers meet regularly.

We are a part of **Churches Together in Kingston**.

Kingston URC is also affiliated with the **Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK)** and the **Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea (PROK)**.

Thank you to Mail Boxes Etc. 29 Castle Street, Kingston, KT1 1ST, for printing Church News.
Tel: 020 8547 1547 e-mail: info@mbekingston.co.uk

You can keep in touch with worship and activities at our church through our website: www.kingstonurc.org. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Kingston United Reformed Church – Information

A warm invitation is given to all who read this magazine to come and share in our services and activities

The Sanctuary is open for private prayer with access via the foyer.

Coffee and Tea: Our foyer is normally open every weekday and Saturday from 11.00 until 14.00 for coffee and tea.

Need to talk to someone about a problem or concern? There is sometimes a designated listener available in the foyer; if not, please speak to the coffee server or contact Lesley Charlton.

Our Sunday Services:

10.00 – Traditional Worship (with communion on the first Sunday monthly)

11.30 – All Age Worship (with communion on the last Sunday monthly)

18.30 – Reflective Worship (with communion on the third Sunday monthly)

On the **second Sunday** of each month a **combined service at 10.30** replaces the 10.00 and 11.30 services

Tea and coffee are served between the 10.00 and 11.30 services, before the 10.30 service on the second Sunday and after the 18.30 service

During the 10.00, 10.30 and 11.30 services there are **group activities for children** of all ages. Visiting children are welcome to join them.

Ministers:

Rev Lesley M Charlton, tel: 020 8399 4423 e-mail: minister@kingstonurc.org

Rev Dr Suk In Lee, tel: 020 8949 2070 e-mail: leesukin@hotmail.com

Church Secretary:

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Treasurer:

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Youth & Families Worker:

Sally Butler, mobile: 07807 348326 e-mail: youth@kingstonurc.org

Mission Development Worker through Music:

Sulhee Kim, e-mail: sulhee.kim4him@gmail.com

Centre Manager:

Catherine Treweek

Facilities Assistant:

Gaffar Zarei

Monday – Friday: 09.00 – 17.00
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