



The
United
Reformed
Church

CHURCH NEWS

July/August 2022

Kingston United Reformed Church

www.kingstonurc.org



Hampton Court's new wildflower meadow

To God who makes all lovely things
how happy must our praises be!
Each day a new surprise He brings,
to make us glad His world to see.

(J.M. Crum / Rejoice and Sing Hymn 52)

With thanks to John Fisher for both photograph and text suggestion

Worship and events diary: July and August 2022

The following is the anticipated diary for July and August, as of mid-May. Any subsequent updates can be found, together with information on further KURC activities, in the events calendar on the KURC website:

https://www.kingstonurc.org/kurc_eventsnews.html.

J u l y

Sunday 3rd	10.00	Worship & Communion – also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 6th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 10th	10.30	Combined Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 13th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 17th	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Saturday 16th	14.00	Crafternoon. Drop in any time between 14.00 and 17.00
Wednesday 20th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 24th	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 27th		
Sunday 31st	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service

A u g u s t

Wednesday 3rd	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 7th	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 10th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Saturday 13th	14.00	Crafternoon. Drop in any time between 14.00 and 17.00
Sunday 14th	10.30	Combined Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 17th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 21st	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 24th	10.00	Tots' Praise
Sunday 28th	10.30	Worship - also live-streamed on Zoom
	11.30	All Age Worship
	17.00	Reflective Service
Wednesday 31st	10.00	Tots' Praise

For daily prayers, Bible Study and other Zoom sessions, please see the website or emailed weekly notices.

For Young People's Sunday Groups, Jolly Toddlers, Tots' Praise, Stay & Play and Messy Church, please contact Sally Butler, e-mail: youth@kingstonurc.org.



Fundraising Concert For Ukraine

**United Reformed Church
Kingston
KT1 1HZ**

**Saturday 25th June
3pm – 4pm**

**Donations going through DEC –
Humanitarian Appeal**



Teas and Cakes served after concert

www.kingstonurc.org

020 8549 1888

Letter from Lesley

Dear All,



There has been a massive explosion. Life has been shaken up. Some people are pretending nothing happened and others are still in their shelters. More are shocked by what we have all been through. Often people say, 'can you believe what it has been like?'

The dust is settling. It will take a long time maybe even years for people to fully work out what it means. This traumatic time has health implications and lifestyle implications for people. How can you continue to thrive in your life if you have been locked away from all people? Human beings are social animals and we need each other. We heard the message loud and clear about keeping away and keeping safe but later we learned that safety from covid was actually only half of the story.

The message from some people is, 'thank goodness that is over.' But its not. There are still people ill at home. Still people getting covid and for some it may develop into something serious. There are still people who are particularly vulnerable. There are people living with long covid ...and people who live with them and support them.

Some people think that people of faith are meant to be perpetually cheery and smiling. That is not the reality. Yes, we know that the Lord is risen and death is swallowed up in victory. However here and now life is tough and death is not 'nothing at all'.

We Christians live perpetually in some sense in Easter Saturday. Except we know that the Sunday will come with good news but for today there are challenges.

Consider well your life. What are you thankful for on this day? What are the habits we have formed during the covid season? Do they help us thrive in the longer term? It could be we have learned new great things that need to be cherished, but it could be we have got into unhelpful patterns that need to be shed ...quickly. Ask for help. Reach out to others.

God is with us in this reflecting. And in this acting. Listen. Pray for help in the battle.

We do not do any of this alone

Best wishes
Lesley

Funerals

No, the sessions were not recorded. Some of the things that were said are not for public consumption. For some people the timings of the zoom sessions did not work.

Therefore another gathering on zoom to talk about funerals

9 pm on 21st June on zoom. Yes pm

Codes will be sent out later

The aim of this is to help your families and to stop people doing unhelpful things even with the best intentions

*Yours,
Lesley*

Flowers for July/August



3rd July	Jenny Milner
10 th July	Anne Phillips
17 th July	Ursula & Allan Oscroft
24 th July	Gordon Moore
31 st July	Brenda Parkins
7 th August	Daphne Walters
14 th August	Free
21 st August	Free
28 th August	Teresa & Vaughan James

If anybody would like to give flowers for the free Sundays of 14th or 21st August, please have a word with Jean Thompson

Reminder: Copy for the next edition of Church News should reach Jean Thompson by Friday 12 August.

Memo from Martyn



As I write the Platinum jubilee weekend has just ended. We have been treated to some wonderful scenes and spectacular shows as we celebrated the Queen's seventy years of faithful service to her country.

This led me to reflect.

One of the genres of book that I like to read are those attempting to explain, in simple terms, some of the mysteries of our world. You may have read some of these yourself. I am reading a fascinating one at the moment, "The Epigenetics Revolution" by Nessa Carey. It is about how modern biology is rewriting our understanding of genetics, disease and inheritance.

The subject matter is absolutely enthralling but what struck me and always strikes me about this type of book is what has had to happen for it to be possible. On virtually every page, sometimes more than once, the author makes reference to some research that has moved the subject forward. Some are tremendous leaps, others a minor advance that makes future advances possible. Behind each piece of research there is at least one and often a team of people who've spent months and often years working on what can be an incredibly narrow field of research. The author draws on all these years and years of work from countless dedicated people to present us with a laypersons guide.

It struck me that the church is a bit like this. The history of KURC told through the chart that hangs in room 3 and that could be extended to add what we do today, is only possible because of the work of hundreds of dedicated people working faithfully throughout the years, each an unsung hero but each a key part of the whole.

We may not be honoured with four days of celebrations for our service but we can say we've contributed to the story of God's work through KURC. Now surely that's worth celebrating.

Martyn

Pastoral News

Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ

Please remember people from our church community, especially the sick and their families, including people providing ongoing care and support, and those waiting for and recovering from surgery,

Cast your cares on Him for He cares for you

Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved

**Come to me those who are weary and heavy laden
and I will give you rest.**

Sue Shaw

**Out of care for people's
privacy,
names are not included
in the Pastoral News section
of the
online Church News**

KINGSTON STREET PASTORS QUIZ NIGHT 2022

Come and join us for our third quiz night on

Saturday 9th July, 7pm at Kingston United Reformed Church

⇒ Cost of £10 per person includes a selection of desserts during interval

⇒ Bring your own drinks

⇒ Suggested team size: 6 people (or join a team on the night)

RSVP kingtonstreetpastors@gmail.com or call 07957 834 988

Sally's Slot

I thought I would share pictures of some of our team having fun this month! Here they are enjoying toasted marshmallows at Messy Church!! SO SICKLY SWEET! Ray certainly did not seem impressed! We looked



at the story of how God guided his people with a pillar of fire and cloud to get to the Promised Land. The children built a den, made pillars of cloud/fire, made streamers to wave in our Bible story and had to use a compass to get to the treasure in the Manse Garden. The person closest to the end point was....So Young! Congratulations!

Also there are some photos of our most recent Crafternoon. We were glass/ceramic painting!



Crafternoons are NOT children's sessions! Children can come of course, but we have parents who also join in and people from the foyer, old and young. Please come and visit us. You don't need to be an expert. It would be so encouraging for us to see more of you there. If only to have tea and cake and a chat! The next Crafternoon is Saturday 19 July! Finally, a team of people have now met to start discussing the Children & Youth Friendly Church Scheme. Tom Hackett, our Synod Advisor will be at the meetings every other month to accompany us through the process. The rest of the team are:

Sally Butler	Children, Youth & Families Worker
Bron Robinson	Youth Elder
Barry Braine	Sunday Parent and Child representative
Liz Borthwick	Congregation (Adults) Representative
So Young	Korean mission worker
Ah Young	Youth Representative
Ella Choi	Youth Representative
Sarah Teague	Childminder/midweek families representative

To make a financial donation to Kingston URC, please see the final page

We will all try and keep you updated and if you have ideas, questions or comments, please feed them through to your representative. This really does need to include everyone. Remember we all committed to make this happen! We ask for your continued prayers for God's blessing on these discussions.

Sally Butler
Children, Youth & Families Worker

Next in line

Every minute someone leaves this world behind. We are all in the 'line' without knowing it. We never know how many people are before us.

We cannot move to the back of the line.

We cannot step outside the line.

We cannot avoid the line.

So while we wait in line –

Make moments count.

Make priorities.

Make the time.

Make your gifts known.

Make a nobody feel like a somebody.

Make your voice heard.

Make the small things big.

Make someone smile.

Make the change.

Make love.

Make up.

Make peace.

Make sure you tell people they are loved.

Make sure to have no regrets.

Make sure you are ready.

Author unknown
*Submitted by **Ann Macfarlane***

Christian Aid – Unity and Hope

KURC member Mervyn McCullagh, who is also a member of the Christian Aid management team, led our 10.00 Christian Aid service on Sunday 29 May. What follows is a slightly abridged version of his sermon.

In her village in Zimbabwe, seventy-year-old Janet Zirugo has seen first-hand the desperate hunger that drought causes. But despite the challenges of drought and the anxiety of a never-ending dry season Janet's story is a story of hope.

Thanks to people like you, Janet has been given drought-resistant seeds, and her farm is now bursting with life. She has built a storeroom to keep her harvest safe and secure. She knows when changes are coming and can adapt before crisis hits.

Our Bible passages today point us to **Unity** in the body of Christ (John) and **Hope** in Christ's coming and future grace (Revelation). Unity in Hope.

Through our local partners in Mashonaland in Eastern Zimbabwe, we are working in two of the poorest districts, with a population of approximately quarter of a million people. With European Union funding we have been working with communities to prepare for, and adapt to, the harsh and **changing climate**.

Zimbabwe is at the forefront of the climate **crisis**; the dry seasons are becoming increasingly problematic to predict, with the threat of more intense droughts, floods, and storms. When the rain does come, its intensity increases year on year, while the daily minimum temperatures continue to climb. This change in the climate makes the successful production of crops next to impossible.

Over the past 30 years Zimbabwe has had to deal with ten droughts, the six warmest years on record, with **maximum temperatures** already two degrees higher than a century ago. And water levels in Zimbabwe's main lake have dropped by two thirds, further fueling hunger and poverty. The failure of crops is pushing families into a struggle for survival. When harvest fails, you face the threat of hunger.

And yet the carbon emissions that are causing this catastrophe, come from lands far away. From you and from me.

The ever-changing weather is accompanied by the presence of **diseases** such as malaria, cholera and dengue fever, and then the **COVID 19** pandemic, which has added another 1.3 million Zimbabweans to the numbers of extreme poor. Almost half the population are now in extreme poverty, with children bearing the brunt of the misery.

Sadly, this is not just a Zimbabwean story. For the first time in a generation, global poverty is rising again robbing communities across the world of the power to provide for their future. And these crises mean that we are now living in an era of unprecedented **global displacement**, on a scale not seen since World War II.

Just this week the number of forcibly displaced people in the world exceeded 100 million. Humanitarian crises coupled with instability and conflict in places such as Afghanistan, Yemen and South Sudan and now on our doorstep in Europe, mean that millions of people are, literally on the move.

Christian Aid came into being some 75 years ago as a response to the devastation following the second World War, with the churches of Britain and Ireland coming together to decide that it was our Christian duty to recognise our neighbours, to allow others a full life, a fulfilled life; a life lived. **United by Hope.**

The response of churches and others across the UK to the **war in Ukraine** has been unprecedented. The Disasters Emergency Committee, of which Christian Aid is a founder member, has raised over £300million. It is a challenge to balance the enthusiasm for support in Ukraine with needs in Syria, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and other similar crisis. But the Ukraine response is not **oversubscribed** - the need is real and ongoing - it is perhaps that other situations are **undersubscribed**.

Our first response has focused on the hospitals inside Ukraine, equipping them with trauma kits and other much needed medical and pharmaceutical equipment and supplies. Christian Aid has also been equipping hospitals across Ukraine with baby incubators, oxygen concentrators and thermal blankets. And we have been working with partners in Hungary, Poland and Romania to offer assistance to those leaving Ukraine. And finally, we have urged the UK Government to support humanitarian efforts and **welcome** vulnerable people fleeing the conflict.

Our readings today focus on these two concepts. Unity and Hope. So our response to brothers and sisters across the world is also unavoidable. We are God's people. Quite literally, whether we like it or not!

When we spend time looking out and learning from the day-to-day experience of people outside of our reality, we respond to this calling for unity - through our partnership with grassroots communities working on the ground to make a difference.

That's how Christian Aid works. As God works. Through the disciples, through the church, through agencies like Christian Aid, through others. The vision of a future kingdom with Christ at the centre and all creation reconciled is a vision of immense hope. A hope that we can share with others.

For more than 75 years the churches of Britain and Ireland have come together each Christian Aid Week to recognise our duty to our neighbours near and far, to allow others a full life, a fulfilled life; a life lived. In the words of Oscar Romero, one-time Archbishop of El Salvador, “it is not the will of God for some to have everything and others to have nothing. This cannot be God”.

For today there remain 2 billion people without access to clean water; 1.4 billion people living in extreme poverty and out of those, 800 million will tonight go to bed hungry.

We were not taught to pray “give **me** today **my** daily bread”, but we were taught to pray “give **us** today **our** daily bread” and for those 800 million who are hungry, this cannot be the way that God intended it to be.

So, thank you to each and every one of you for the part you have played, supporting Christian Aid since the 1950’s. Well done Ray and all. You join with the activities of hundreds of thousands of supporters and 20,000 churches adding up to the UK’s largest act of witness for those fleeing poverty and injustice.

This year you will help women like Janet to provide for their families.

- grow drought-tolerant crops
- learn how to grow food in dry seasons
- build storerooms to survive future droughts
- eat more healthy and nutritious food
- learn new skills for alternative sources of income when agriculture fails.

Your gifts this Christian Aid Week not only help fulfil the need to grow food but will also act as a physical demonstration of hope and the in-breaking of justice. It is the work of the Kingdom of God and one that we cheerfully and enthusiastically embrace,

So, **thank you** for the part that you have all played in fulfilling God’s vision for **all** his people; we can only continue our work because people like you support us. In the seemingly undoable task of ending poverty – as God searches for his Kingdom on earth – your faithful love, put into action, **unites us in hope**.

Christ has no body now, but yours.

No hands, no feet on earth, but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world.

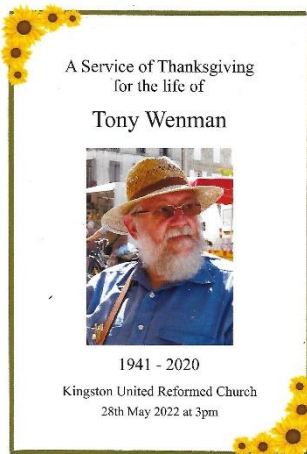
Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good.

Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world.

Amen



Thanksgiving service for the life of Tony Wenman



Family, friends and colleagues of Tony's gathered at KURC on 28 May for a service of thanks and remembrance, led by Lesley. She reminded us that as well as a dedicated musician Tony was "above all a lover of people, husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, brother, support, friend, choir member.....irritating bloke who always spoke at church meeting, supplier of polos to the Elders, host, teller of corny jokes".

With the help of Tony's copious notes, she summarised his life story: from his birth and youth in Derby, through his early love of and devotion to music, his teacher training and youthful grappling with issues of faith to his marriage to Steve. He then started as organist at KURC, a role which lasted for 50 eventful years. During this period, he became father of Sarah and Nicola and later grandfather of Emma and Katherine. He was appointed to two school headships, subsequently becoming an OFSTED inspector with particular responsibilities for music and RE. After early retirement, he developed a studying bug, culminating in the award of a PhD.

Lesley reminded us that "although Tony liked to think of himself as some sort of highbrow musical purist, in reality he was derailed by other more important strands of his character; he remembered what others do not, that it is about people and love. He was a kind man, generous with his life, his money, his time, his support of others. Yes, he loved music. Yes, he loved to talk and talk and talk. Yes, he loved religious debates, France, food and wine. But he loved people; it all comes down to love". Lesley concluded by challenging us to take into our future the gifts that God has given us through Tony.



The service also included moving tributes from members of Tony's family and a personal reflection by Lesley's predecessor at KURC, Rev. Roy Lowes.

Roy recalled Tony's relationship with sound – not just his love of decibels but his ability as organist "to interpret the notation so that it augmented the words, magnifying their meaning whether meditative pieces or thunderous voluntaries". He had fond memories of the welcome and hospitality that were shown to him and his family by Tony and Steve on their arrival in Kingston, and the development of a friendship that lasted throughout his ministry here and beyond.

Roy also retained lasting memories of, among many other things, Tony's "fascination with, questioning of and general engagement in God talk, ...his

commitment to nurturing children's' education, ... his distaste of easy and sentimental Christianity, his glorying in cathedral worship and church music,... his rushing to help, assist, support wherever there was a need." He highlighted in particular Tony's support and encouragement for his ministry. Finally, although they did not always see eye to eye and their conversations were not always "heart to heart", Roy saw their friendship as like few others that he had had.



Tony's influence was evident throughout the service, but particularly in the choice of readings and music. As well as in the hymns and the closing Bach voluntary, played by Andrew Daldorf, the music included Bach's 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' sung by KURC's choir and members of the Claygate Choral Society. Tony was a leading member of both.

Tony was never one to slink off quietly at the end of KURC services, so it was only fitting that there was no slinking off on this occasion either. We all moved into the Mayo Hall to exchange memories over tea and cakes and, of course, cheese and wine. We missed Tony's presence – but he would have approved of this social postlude!

If you missed the service celebrating the life of Tony Wenman and want to view it, it is on the KURC website. (Unfortunately, the sound is not great, particularly the musical parts, but the spoken parts are OK.) You can find the service in the 2022 section of the recorded material on the web site -https://www.kingstonurc.org/kurc_collectedrecording.html. As well as the audio file there is also a video. Again the quality is not great and the sound is not quite synchronised with the pictures but you can follow most of what happened.



A big thank you

Yesterday I sat down with pen and paper intending to write to all the people who had been so helpful at Tony's thanksgiving service on 28 May.

I made a list of all the names I could think of and it was so long I realised it would take a very long time to write to everyone individually! At this point I'm afraid I "chickened out" and decided to use *Church News* to express my thanks!

There were people who arranged flowers, people who helped to organise the seating in the church, who made cakes, brewed tea and served it. Others did the huge job of washing up, and probably jobs I don't know about!

I am so lucky to have such friends and I'm very grateful for your help.

As you can imagine, it was an emotional time for me and my family, and it was just great to know that the practicalities were being taken care of.

Thank you — thank you —thank you!!!!

Steve Wenman

Unusual Churches of the World

St Matthew's Glass Church



The church of St Matthew on the island of Jersey dates from 1840. In the early 20th century a nearby resident was Florence Boot, married to Jesse Boot, the founder of Boots the chemist. When Jesse died Florence decided to

refurbish the church in his memory. She had met the foremost glassmaker of the age, Rene Lalique, while on holiday in France and decided to commission him to produce glass furnishings. He immersed himself thoroughly in the project during the 1930s, producing a cross, pillars, screens, an altar rail and a solid glass font: 'all shimmering like ice'. Thousands now visit this unique and remarkable building each year.

John Fisher

Coming Musical Events at Kingston URC

There are several musical treats in store during the summer.

First, on **Saturday 25 June** at 3pm there is to be a concert by the musicians of our church in aid of the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. This will last around an hour and feature a wide variety of instruments and music. To give you the flavour, Julia (violin) will be playing the haunting



theme from Schindler's List, Diane will be singing the Seekers' song 'There'll never be another you' with guitar, Haeun will play an arrangement of Greensleeves for organ, Ruth will play works by Schubert and Bach on the piano, and the Choir will sing a Ukrainian song 'Moonlit Night'. And there's much more!!! Refreshments will be served

afterwards. There will be donation plates on the door. Cash, card and cheque payments will all be accepted.

On **Thursday 7 July** at 12.30pm Haeun Lim, our organist, gives her first recital on our new Makin organ. Her programme will include Christian Rinck's amazing set of variations on 'God Save the King', and the exciting Toccata by Dubois. Admission free with retiring collection.

On **Thursday 21 July** at 12.30pm Hannah Cresswell and Constance Chow will give a recital of flute and piano music. Hannah and Constance have played for us before and we know how good they are. The flute sounds splendid in our acoustic. Admission free with retiring collection.

The KURC Music Support Group

A Good News Money Story!

As you will know from Church meetings and other events, like many organisations, KURC has been grappling with how to make ends meet each year. God has been good; members have been generous and staff have worked hard, all to ensure as much money as possible is raised and that costs are kept down. But it continues to be a worry and annual deficits are still common!

The current financial year is no different with the budget once more projecting a large deficit.

Amongst what might appear a rather gloomy outlook there have been some brighter moments and two recent events are worth sharing and celebrating. Thanks to a lot of detailed work from our treasurer and bookkeeper, an application to our insurers for loss of income was made and we recently received a payment of around £26K from them. The other good news is that thanks to work by members of the Management group we have been successful in getting a VAT grant on the money paid for the new organ. This has resulted in just over £9K being returned to church funds for use elsewhere.

These two bits of good news don't solve all our financial worries but they have certainly helped!

A huge thank you to all those people who've been involved.

Cathy Seymour

Editor's 2022 holiday





You are warmly invited to

A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration

**of the United Reformed Church's
50th Anniversary**

**Saturday 1 October, 2022
3pm-5pm**

**Methodist Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate,
London, SE1 9NH, where the Uniting Assembly and
first General Assembly of the URC took place in October 1972**

You are also invited to an Open Church House event
on the same day: 10am-1pm at United Reformed Church
House, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT

Book your free ticket: [www. bit.ly/urc50](http://www.bit.ly/urc50)
50th Anniversary website: [www. urch.org.uk/50](http://www.urch.org.uk/50)

Pyongyang's Great Revival

*Thank you to **Jihae Kim** for forwarding Church News the article below by Rev. Joo-in Kim of Bristol Redland URC.*

What do you think of North Korea? What word first comes to your mind when you hear the word 'North Korea'? I am sure that it would be Kim Jong-un, a dictatorship, nuclear weapons, or a dangerous country.

However, do you know that Pyongyang, the present capital of North Korea, became known to missionaries as the "Jerusalem of the East" 100 years ago? About 100 years ago, Pyongyang was the base of revival in East Asia and the headquarters of missions for East Asia.

I would like to share the story of that shortly. In the Korean church, there is a tradition to hold a prayer meeting and a Bible conference in the early morning and evening over the span of a week at the beginning of the year. This tradition started 130 years ago when Protestantism was introduced to Korea. The same was true in January 1907. For 14 days, the bible conference was held at several churches in Pyongyang and 1500 people gathered each morning and evening.



These photos show the people at the time that the Bible conference finished

The night before the end of this bible conference, the amazing things of God begin to happen. After the official evening service, they were having a prayer meeting until 2 am the next day. At that time, Seon-Joo Gil, who was in charge of the sermon at the service on that day, confessed his sins, saying that he could not bear it because his heart was hot by the Holy Spirit. He publicly confessed in front of the crowd that he had embezzled the inheritance of his friend who passed away a year ago in secret. His repentance led to the repentance of the entire congregation who gathered there, a chain-reaction followed as if a detonator trigger had been pulled and one by one each confessed their sins.

Following his confession, a woman who killed her own child, a man who drank every day and cursed his sick wife with an incurable disease, a

man who left his home with two concubines, and a woman who stole money from missionaries all confessed their sins publicly. A missionary who witnessed this repentance at the time said, "It was like opening the roof of a prison. the most unimaginable crimes such as murder and rape had been confessed." This confession of sins continued at the meeting into the next evening.

That repentance was not just an emotional one. It was a practical change in their daily lives. The people who caused such damage to another person visited their victims and apologized to them, and those who stole someone else's property directly repaid it. Those who had concubines gave the property to their concubines and dispensed with their relationships. And more and more people freed their slaves.

This revival did not end with a spiritual awakening of the individual but led to social reform. Class discrimination in the church has disappeared, and the social status of women has changed. Missionaries' racist prejudices against Koreans changed also. People who experienced this repentance and revival spread across the country, planting new churches and even sending missionaries abroad. And the flames of this revival also spread to China.

Looking back on that day 115 years ago, I felt again that the gospel makes us really uncomfortable. The gospel calls for concrete and practical changes in our lives. The Holy Spirit asks us, who are living without any problems in today's era, what it means to 'follow Jesus'.

Rev. Joojin Kim

Archive of the Month



This photo was taken about 50 years ago from the top of the Eden Walk multi-storey car park, then under construction. It shows the east side of our church and the old Hall of Remembrance (just to the right) which stood on the site now occupied by the Mayo Hall. There was an open passage between the hall and the church where it was possible to park two or three cars.

Note the jumble of old sheds (belonging to a builder, not the church) in the left foreground. This is now the entrance to Eden Walk.

John Fisher

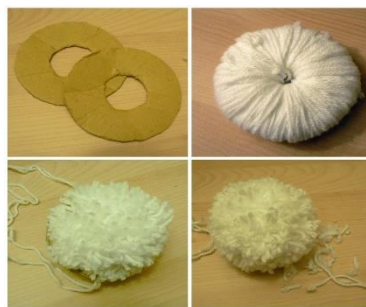
Take Time out to Craft

With Carol and Marian

1st Tuesday of the month

From 11am

In The Foyer of Kingston URC

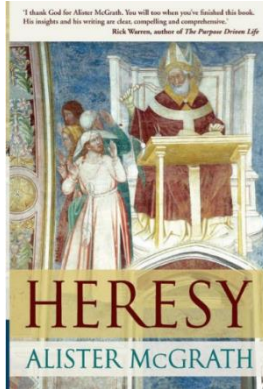


Take time out of your busy life to unwind and chill. Come and create, drink tea and chat. All welcome.e

Book of the month

Keath Gaskill from Kingsgate Church suggests a book a month to his congregation. Why not steal his ideas, I thought?

This month it is ***Heresy*** by Alistair McGrath.



Never has there been such interest in heresy and the 'religious forbidden'. But what is heresy? Why has it been sprinkled with stardust in recent years? How did it originally develop? Are heresies liberating ideas that were ruthlessly suppressed? Or are they flawed visions of Christianity, abandoned because of their inadequacies? In *Heresy*, Alistair McGrath expertly reveals the surprising history of this subject, presenting a powerful, compassionate and deeply attractive orthodoxy that will equip the Church to meet the challenge from renewed forms of heresy today' A very accessible read.

Graham in the bookshop will be able to get you a copy.

Email info@thekingsstoreroom.org.

Lesley Charlton

To Be or Not to Be a Vegetarian?

The U3A (University of the 3rd Age) is a UK-wide collection of 1000+ local u3a groups that provide the opportunity for those no longer in work to come together and learn for fun. Many of its members are very concerned about Climate Change and a group were at COP26 and spoke to Al Gore.

The Kingston u3a (which uses KURC premises) has set up a Climate Emergency group which I coordinate. A member of the group wrote this excellent article about vegetarianism.

Christine Thompson

When I became a vegetarian 40 or so years ago, it was easy because I felt it was right, and hard because, in those days, you were definitely 'a weirdo', 'a bit of a nuisance' at dinner parties (which were a thing then) and 'difficult' when eating out and trying to find something suitable on the menu. It was especially difficult abroad. Soup would have chicken stock in it but 'there's no actual chicken in it'. A carefully chosen pizza would have bacon bits sprinkled on, because '... it didn't look much'. Meals sent back to the kitchen would be brought back to the table with the meat bits removed.

If I were not a vegetarian already, I would have to become one now. I've never preached vegetarianism – I've cooked meat for my family – but there isn't enough land for everyone to consume meat at the same rate as we in the

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West do without harming the earth. There isn't enough of anything for everyone in the world to live as we do. Cows and other farm animals produce methane from their burps and manure. The effect of methane emissions on the climate alone, never mind the vast tracts of land cleared and given over to producing feedstuff, makes the case. Methane is a vastly more potent greenhouse gas than carbon and that is seen as both the biggest concern and best opportunity for tackling global heating. (*The Guardian*, 27 October 2021)

At a guess, I would say that **KURC** members are overwhelmingly responsible, caring human beings. We wore masks and self-isolated. We're turning our lights off and our heating down, cutting back on plastic and looking at where food is produced. We must do what we can and giving up or cutting back on meat and dairy are not the only things we can do but it is the least we can contribute. Stopping or drastically reducing meat consumption, and consequently methane production, is a quick win. The Committee on Climate Change's most recent report confirms that a shift towards a diet that's less reliant on carbon-intensive animal products could enable you as an individual to reduce your dietary emissions by 35 per cent.

A single kilo of beef produces 70kg emissions' and '14% of all emissions come from meat and dairy production'. (*The Guardian*, 21 September 2021). The figures are scary and verifiable. While 'carbon dioxide hangs around in the atmosphere for 300 to 1,000 years' (NASA, 9 October 2019), 'during its first 20 years ... methane's warming effect is more than 80 times greater' (*The New Scientist*, 5 March 2022). That's without bringing nitrous oxide into the mix. The meat, egg and dairy industries produce 65% of worldwide nitrous oxide emissions, which, I read, is 300 times more powerful at trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. The question for me is, 'Is that a lot?' I'm pretty sure it is. It requires up to 16kg grain to produce 1kg meat.

If you haven't seen it already, I strongly recommend the powerful documentary film *Cowspiracy*, available widely and on Netflix. It details the particular contributions of modern agriculture to climate change. There's something in it for almost everyone. It's a disaster movie, it includes politics, there is science (not science fiction) but no comedy. Please watch it and make up your own mind.

I agree that dairy production is a massive problem and a vegan diet is hard. I haven't yet given up cheese completely and I'm trying goat's milk butter, because I believe goats live on marginal land and eat all sorts. And if you haven't tried Alpro Barista Oat Milk, I recommend that you give that a go. Guests have liked it or not commented but I enjoy it and have it on cereal.

The climate emergency is just that – an emergency. The meat and dairy industry is a major factor in global warming and we have a small window in which to act. Our children and grandchildren face a hellish future if we don't get this right. And the question we should ask ourselves is, 'Am I one of the good guys? Or not?' And if that persuades you to eat less meat here is a delicious recipe.....

Artichoke Crumble

This is a vegetarian dish traditionally served in Spain around Christmas.

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed or grated
- 400g tin globe artichoke hearts (You can use those in oil in a jar but will need to drain them well first.)
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 50g green olives, chopped
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 100g Gran Padano cheese, grated (Any alternative if this not available?)
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh basil, torn
- Black pepper
- Breadcrumbs



Pre-heat oven to 170°C (Fan). (gas equivalent??) In large frying-pan, heat 2 tablespoons of olive oil and add onion. Cook over a low heat for 10 minutes until soft. Add garlic and continue cooking for a further 5 minutes. Drain artichokes on kitchen paper and cut into quarters. In a large bowl, place beaten eggs and add onion and garlic mixture, artichoke quarters, olives, 75g of the cheese, herbs, milk and pepper.

Grease an ovenproof dish with a little oil and pour in the mixture. Sprinkle with the breadcrumbs and remaining cheese and drizzle with last of the olive oil. Cook for 35-40 minutes till the top is golden. Serve with a green salad.

Matthew 25;35 NJV (Non-profit Jargon Version)

If the Bible was written by #nonprofit staff.....

For I was food insecure and you removed barriers to nutrition access in low-income populations

I lacked pathways to hydration and you empowered me with sustainable and adaptive solutions for safe water ,adequate sanitation and improved hygiene

I was an internally displaced person and you offered me voluntary repatriation, local integration in a host state or resettlement to third countries.

With thanks to Christine Thompson

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Seenager

I **JUST** discovered my age group! I am a **Seenager** (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a **Seenager**. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends, too.

With thanks to Ann Macfarlane

Voices for Hope – summer concert

Voices for Hope, the charity Rhiannon works for, is holding a concert, showcasing the work their choirs have been doing this year. Do come and support them. Details below.



Coming Home - Summer Concert

Celebrating the return of all our choirs singing together!

Sat 9th July, 2:30-4pm



SCAN ME

Featuring:

Whiteley Village Choir

Coxhill Manor Choir

Sisterhood Choir

Kingston Voices

Sherwood Grange Choir

Cobham Voices

Book online:

<https://cominghome2022.eventbrite.co.uk>



One of the above choirs, Kingston Voices, a small friendly group meeting at KURC, is looking for new members. No experience necessary and no auditions. Speak to Rhiannon for further details.

Finally, Voices for Hope itself is now desperate for new volunteers to help with its various projects. To find out more visit www.voh.org.uk or have a word with Rhiannon.

KURC nature walks

Here are the proposed dates of Sally's next series of Nature Walks. The first one is centred on 'pond dipping' (Well may you ask! Come along and find out.). Further themes will emerge as the series progresses, depending on what the weather and nature are doing nearer the time!

Make a note of the dates now.

Sunday 10 July ('pond dipping')
 Sunday 07 August
 Sunday 04 September
 Sunday 09 October
 Sunday 06 November
 Sunday 04 December



URC 2023 Buildings Calendar

Calling all members of KURC's dedicated band of talented photographers!

Following the success of the 2022 URC Buildings Calendar, photographs of URC church buildings are invited for the 2023 Calendar. The theme is 'Inside our churches'.

The calendar aims to give a flavour of the length and breadth of the denomination – all interior photos will be considered, especially close-ups of architectural features or parts of the building such as crosses, flowers, altars, banners, organs, organ pipes, stained glass or memorial plaques.

Please don't send pictures full of empty chairs or pews. Pictures of people are welcome but please ensure you have everyone's permission before sending in the image.

Please send landscape photos for preference, but square and portrait images are welcome. JPG or PNG file format, all by the middle of July 2022. Please include the name and location of the church and the name of the photographer. No bigger than 3600 pixels wide, about 3Mb. Please email them to andy.jackson@urc.org.uk. If photos are submitted, the photographer is granting the URC permission to use the photographs in print and digitally.

More music!

If you are looking for a relaxing way to spend a sunny Sunday afternoon by the river, surrounded by nature and with music in your ears, the summer bandstand concerts in Canbury Park could provide the answer. Details below. There are normally some deckchairs available and there is also an open-air café nearby. Highly recommended!

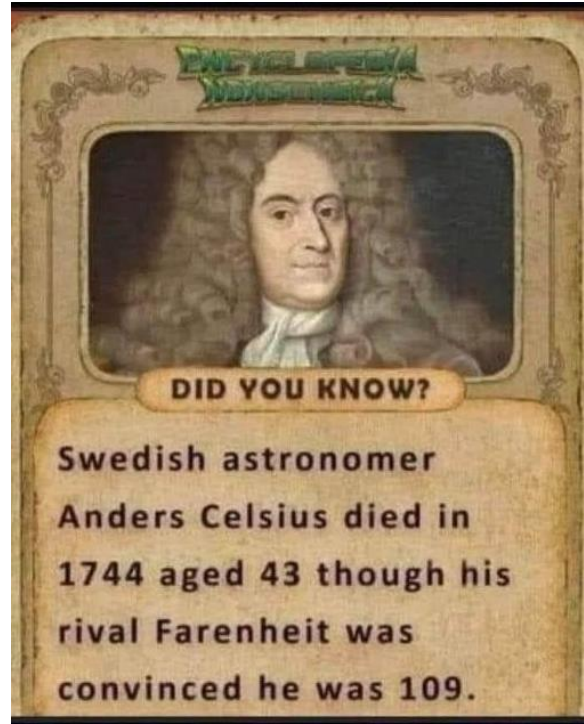
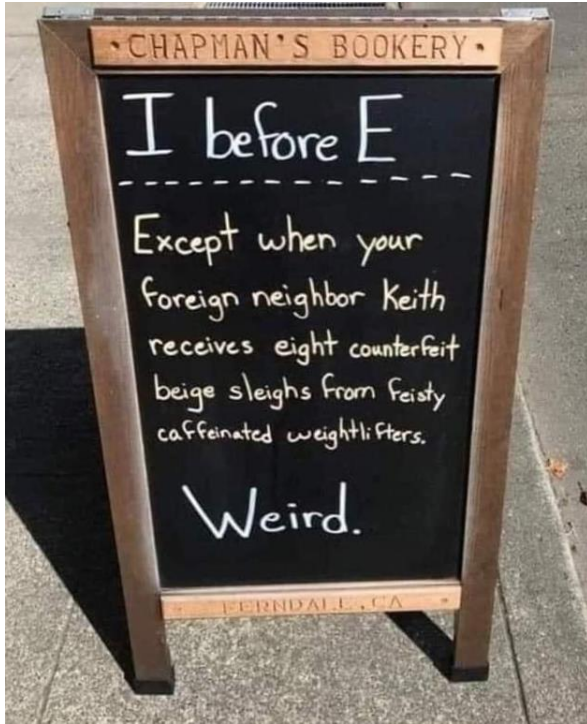
We are pleased to share the list of Sunday bandstand concerts scheduled for this Summer, all running from 3 to 5pm. These are free events organised by volunteers, to provide music in Canbury Gardens for the public to enjoy, with funding from the council, local organisations (including CARA) and businesses. The organisers need volunteers to help with marshalling on the day. If you are free to help, please do contact friendsofcanburybandstand@hotmail.com (no prior experience needed, all welcome).

12th June	Canbury Singers
19th June	Richmond Youth Jazz Band
26th June	Norwood Wind Ensemble
3rd July	Cobham Band
10th July	Kingston Youth Ensembles
24th July	Soul Rites
31st July	The New MUGs
7th August	Voice of Hope Choirs
14th August	Perrin Jazz Collective
28th August	West London Brass
4th September	Allegra Concert Band
11th September	Two Meters Apart
25th September	Barnes Concert Band



Kenophobia

This month's editor was recently self-diagnosed with a severe case of chronic kenophobia (look it up!). This helps to explain the contents of this page, which have little to do with either 'church' or 'news'.



Finally the fourth ape!
He is the sum of the first three.
He sees nobody, hears nobody,
and speaks to nobody!



And finally.....
The patron saint of copying people in on emails: St Francis of a cc.



readings for July and August

Restored to life

Friday 1 July Ezekiel 39:25-29, 43:1-5

Saturday 2 July Ezekiel 47:1-12

THE STRANGER NEXT DOOR

Stranger danger

Sunday 3 July Judges 13:2-20

Monday 4 July Deuteronomy 10:12-22

Tuesday 5 July Psalms 94:1-11

Wednesday 6 July Hosea 8:1-10

Thursday 7 July Lamentations 5:1-15

Friday 8 July Psalms 146

Saturday 9 July Hebrews 13:1-6

A culture of care

Sunday 10 July Genesis 4:1-16

Monday 11 July Exodus 20:12-17

Tuesday 12 July Leviticus 19:9-18 Wednesday 13 July Proverbs 24:27-34

Thursday 14 July Psalms 15

Friday 15 July Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday 16 July Ephesians 4:25-32

LIVING HOPEFULLY WITH PAIN AND DISABILITY

Living with pain

Sunday 17 July 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Monday 18 July Genesis 32:24-31

Tuesday 19 July Exodus 4:10-17

Wednesday 20 July 2 Samuel 9

Thursday 21 July Job 6:8-13

Friday 22 July Psalm 22:1-15

Saturday 23 July Galatians 4:12-20

Sustained by hope

Sunday 24 July Mark 1:12-13

Monday 25 July John 20:19-20 Tuesday 26 July Romans 8:18-25

Wednesday 27 July 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

Thursday 28 July 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

Friday 29 July Philippians 2:2-11

Saturday 30 July Micah 4:1-4

SETTING SAIL

Make yourself an ark

Sunday 31 July Genesis 1:6-9

Monday 1 August Genesis 6:13-18

Tuesday 2 August 2 Chronicles 9:20-22

Wednesday 3 August Daniel 11:40-45

Thursday 4 August Deuteronomy 28:64-6

Friday 5 August Exodus 2:1-10

Saturday 6 August Genesis 8:13-22

All hands on deck

Sunday 7 August Psalm 107:23-30

Monday 8 August Acts 27:1-11

Tuesday 9 August Acts 18:18-22

Wednesday 10 August Acts 27:27-44

Thursday 11 August Isaiah 23:1-3

Friday 12 August John 21:1-13

Saturday 13 August John 6:16-24

ECCLESIASTES

Vanity of vanities

Sunday 14 August Ecclesiastes 1:1-15

Monday 15 August Ecclesiastes 1:16–2:11

Tuesday 16 August Ecclesiastes 2:12-26

Wednesday 17 August Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Thursday 18 August Ecclesiastes 3:9-22

Friday 19 August Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

Saturday 20 August Ecclesiastes 5:1-17

Wisdom is better than might

Sunday 21 August Ecclesiastes 6:1-12

Monday 22 August Ecclesiastes 7:1-14

Tuesday 23 August Ecclesiastes 8:1-15

Wednesday 24 August Ecclesiastes 9:1-16

Thursday 25 August Ecclesiastes 10:1-15

Friday 26 August Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

Saturday 27 August Ecclesiastes 12:1-14

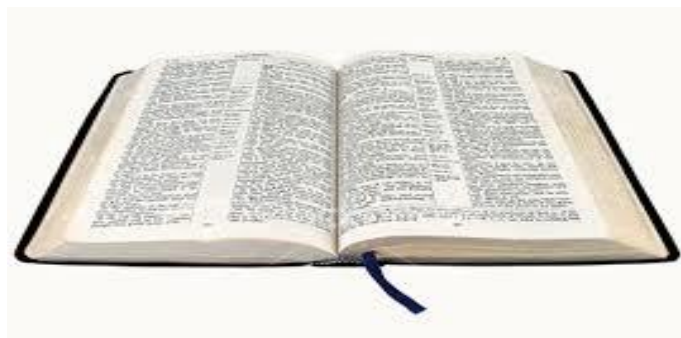
THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

Sunday 28 August Genesis 25:19-28

Monday 29 August 1 Kings 17:17-24

Tuesday 30 August Genesis 24:50-67

Wednesday 31 August 1 Samuel 2:18-21



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

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e-mail (PA to Minister): kingstonurc@gmail.com

Premises Assistant:

Georgi Todorov, Landline as above.

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 the second Friday of the month.

The next copy deadline for the September 2022 edition is Friday, 12 August,

Editor: Jean Thompson; e-mail: jeant@btinternet.com

FINANCIAL DONATIONS to KURC can be made in a number of ways:

Complete one of the forms at the back of the church to set up standing order payments.

Make regular cash gifts at the Sunday services. By using the offertory envelopes, you allow the church to reclaim Gift Aid.

You can also pay directly into our bank account: sort code 20-46-73, account number 60921289 and quote Kingston United Reformed Church Charity.

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)**

You can also 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.

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