

Lancaster Road
United Reformed Church



July & August 2025
Newsletter

Hello everyone,

This magazine is a bumper edition to cover July and August. Can I take this opportunity to, on behalf of all of us who read the monthly magazines, say a huge thank you to Lisa, Martin and Tom who put together our magazines from across the 3 churches. It takes a good proportion of their time to put each magazine together, which also involves chasing people to get rotas sent in, etc, to be included each month. Therefore, we wish them our grateful thanks and a well-earned rest!

Recently, we have had a wonderful front garden border of peonies which have been a welcome splash of colour for all who pass by. However, the first downpour of rain and gust of wind has totally spoiled them. Now I know why some gardeners, at the first promise of rain cover and shelter their peonies from damage.



Before



after

It made me think of the hymn, well known for being sung by Boys Brigade companies,

‘Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife’.

It then begs the question, how strong is our faith?
Do we drop our ‘petals’ as soon as the wind and rain of trials engulf us? Who do we really put our trust in to shelter us from damage and destruction?

It is so easy to get disappointed because the peonies are wrecked. Similarly, we can get downhearted with the present situations some of us find ourselves in but in the same way we know these same peonies will grow back in ever increasing number next year, God gives us hope that there is another opportunity ahead and a future always with Him.

'After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you',
(1 Peter 5:10).

May these next 2 months allow, at some point, time for rest and recuperation from all the business of life.

God bless, Ruth

Church Hall – Building and Refurbishment Work

The works are progressing well. The small hall, and the annexe are now decorated. The annexe doors and doors to the small hall, including the partition doors, have been replaced.

Redecoration of part of the corridor from the kitchen to the toilets is complete and the new wall dividing the two halls in the corridor has been completed and has a door.

Work on the new kitchen, toilet and store is progressing well. Kitchen units are being fitted and the kitchen should be completed soon. Sanitary ware is being fitted in the new toilet together with baby changing facilities.

New vinyl flooring is going to be laid in the ladies toilet. Replacing the worn vinyl flooring. The lounge is awaiting a new door and is available for use. **The lounge is having new flooring installed as some areas are badly worn.** The carpet is being removed and new vinyl flooring laid.

Many thanks for your understanding and continued support.

Holiday With A Difference

Last autumn our daughter, Lisa, said she was hoping to go away with a friend to walk the 100 mile West Highland Way between Glasgow and Fort William - "would we come and look after our granddaughter for a week?" So at the time of writing, that's where we are on the Staffordshire/Cheshire borders and close to the Peak District and very close to where my own father hailed from.


Having recently moved into a new house, you can imagine we haven't been at a loss of things to do - painting railings at the front of the house (a job that I thought would take me a couple of hours, took 6 hours leaving me with a stiff back and sore knees). Also carpets to shampoo and a courtyard garden to devise (trying to follow the request to "make the space beautiful and calming for me to relax" - I hope we've accomplished the brief!).

In-between these activities and visiting some beautiful places nearby, we've not neglected our grand parenting duties which of course, we enjoy although at times I think it's the granddaughter who believes she's looking after her grandparents (perhaps that really is the case!).

Oh and by the way, there's a nervous cat to look after and delivery of an axolotl (I didn't know what it was either) which needs to acclimatise to it's new surroundings and be kept alive while we're still in charge.

Back home soon in time for Wimbledon and strawberry cream teas.

Graham

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	1 Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	2 Food Hub 10.00-12 Church Meeting 7.30pm Church Lounge Prayer at Home 9.30pm	3
7 Toddlers Large Hall 9.30-11am	8	9 Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12 Prayer at Home 9.30pm	10
14 Toddlers Small Hall 9.30-11am	15 Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	16 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	17
21 Toddlers Small Hall 9.30-11am	22	23 Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	24 Elders Me 7pm Church Lo
28 	29 Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	30 No Food Hub Prayer at Home 9.30pm	31
Psalm Tree Island—Holiday Club in the Ch			

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	<div>4</div> <div>Shoppers Coffee</div> <div>in the church</div> <div>followed by light</div> <div>lunch</div> <div>10-2.30pm</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Pastorate Elders</div> <div>Morning</div> <div>St Johns</div> <div>New Barnet</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Morning Communion</div> <div>11.15am</div> <div>Mr Terry Silvey</div> <div>Elders Induction</div>
	<div>11</div> <div>Shoppers Coffee</div> <div>Morning</div> <div>in the church</div> <div>10-12</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Morning Worship</div> <div>11.15am</div> <div>Revd Martin Legg</div>
	<div>18</div> <div>Shoppers Coffee</div> <div>Morning</div> <div>in the church</div> <div>10-12</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Morning service</div> <div>11.15am</div> <div>Mr Jeevan Rajkiran</div> <div>Evening service</div> <div>6.30pm @ LR</div>
<div>Meeting</div> <div>Lounge</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Shoppers Coffee</div> <div>Morning</div> <div>in the church</div> <div>10-12</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Morning service</div> <div>11.15am</div> <div>Revd Ruth Dewis</div>
	<div>1st August</div> <div>No Shoppers</div> <div>Coffee Morning</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Holiday Club Service</div> <div>11.15am</div> <div>Revd Martin Legg</div>
<div>Church</div>			

August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
4	5	6 Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	7
11	12 Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	13 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	14
18	19	20 Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	21
25	26 Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	27 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	28

2025

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8 Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	9	10 Morning Communion 11.15am Rev'd Martin Legg
15 Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	16	17 Morning service 11.15am Evodian Fonyonga Evening service 6.30pm @ LR
22 Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	23	24 Morning service 11.15am Mrs Laura Marlow
29 Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	30	31 Pastorate Service Bush Hill Park, 10.30 am Rev'd Ruth Dewis

A colorful pirate-themed illustration. On the left, a pirate ship's mast and a skull-and-crossbones flag are visible. A pirate with a red bandana and a yellow telescope is on the ship. In the center, a girl with orange hair in a striped shirt is on a wooden plank over the water. To her right, a seagull is perched on the plank. The background is a light blue sky with a white cloud and a teal sea with white waves.

Lancaster Rd United Reformed Church

Psalm Tree Island Holiday Club

Monday 28th July to Friday 1st August

9.30am to 12.30pm

**Registration forms available from
holidayclub@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk
or call 020 8367 0289**

Items needed for the Holiday Club, please

Kitchen roll/ toilet roll tubes

Biscuits

Please leave in the container in the church lounge.

Please look out for more items needed over the next few weeks.

Thank you

Flower Rota

There are a number of gaps on the flower rota. Please speak to Marilyn if you are able to provide flowers for the communion table.

Thank you

July 6th Laura Marlow for Don's birthday

13th -----

20th Kate Moody in memory of Les

27th Clare Locke in memory of Joan

August 3rd -----

10th Clare and Tony Locke for their Wedding Anniversary

17th -----

24th -----

31st -----

Thanks Marilyn



THAMES NORTH & SOUTHERN SYNOD

CREATIVE WEEK

TUES 5TH – SAT 9TH 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



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

Register online at www.bit.ly/cw-registration
NB Deadline is 6 July 2025

Our Church Mission Statement.

“As a Church our desire is to worship God and grow as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. To show and nurture love, joy, peace and justice in our fellowship, community and to all people through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Boys Brigade News



We are now near the end of yet another busy session. Friday 6th June to Sunday 8th June the Battalion held a Junior Section Camp at Gilwell Park. 3 of our Boys went with Kieran. The Boys had a great time and managed to miss most of the rain that had been forecast. They took part in raft building, grass surfing, water sports and a quiz to name just a few of the activities. I am not sure how much sleep the boys had over the weekend or in fact any of the officers.

Early in the year the Anchors took part in the Battalion Colouring Competition and James came 2nd in his age group. Well done James.

At the beginning of the year 2 families both of which had 3 Boys moved away which meant we were down in numbers but as the session has continued, we are now up to 7 Juniors and 11 Anchors. We are always looking to receive new members and if you know of any boy or girl between the ages of 5 and 11 please give them my name or pass their details on to me.

Christian Aid



Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to Christian Aid Week in any way – by delivering envelopes, making a donation or praying for its success. We raised the sum of £498.80. A substantial amount of this was Gift Aided, which will give another £98.50 (thanks HMRC!), making our grand total £597.30. A superb effort – well done!

Laura

Guiding News



The groups have been doing well as the term has gone on - the waiting list is officially in place for Rainbows as we have a full group of 15 girls whilst we are always happy to welcome girls into Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

We've been busy with doing joint activities between the 4 groups to do things such as completing the World Thinking Day badge and space badge. The activities have ranged from drawing a window into the world of guiding, design astronaut food to building jet packs and the ISS. Trips to the park have been for fun as well as art to do nature pictures and we are planning to go on a scavenger hunt which will go towards the nature badge.

We are also hoping to go on some trips to the zoo and the activity days in the county in the next month or so. Next term will hopefully lead to our charity show at Christmas and a Christmas events such as panto and maybe a santa visit if we're lucky!

Let's get together!

You've decided to have a party for your extended family who come from different areas. You don't see them that often but when you do, you all realise how good it is to be together, it helps you realise you are part of something bigger than just your immediate loved ones.

So, you send out the invite for them to join you, it's the 5th weekend of the month, you always choose the 5th weekend of the month for these parties because then it's not too regular. You make sure that you've bought the best coffee, tea, biscuits and even cake!



Anyway, the day arrives, you are so looking forward to seeing your extended family. Your immediate family start to arrive and then a few of the extended family come through the door, which is lovely because they are the few who regularly come to these dos and you're really getting to know them better.

However, there's a tinge of disappointment because not all the extended family attend. You realise that actually a lot of the extended family just haven't bothered because you didn't organise the party at their place. They always turn up to the parties held at theirs. You've made so much effort to make them welcome as well!

To be honest you don't blame them really because when the parties have been at there's you haven't always gone - well it meant going out of your way and you took the opportunity to do something else; you didn't think they'd notice but you've noticed they are not here and you were so looking forward to seeing and being with them. You've decided that next time it's at there's, you'll definitely go because you've realised it's so disappointing when people don't turn up.

All across the country there are groups of churches who have joint services so that the people can all come together to worship. However, all sorts of reasons not to go to each others churches are given. It is God's desire for unity and he gives us one another as brothers and sisters to walk alongside each other. Let's make the most of this opportunity to be a pleasure to God when we come to worship him together.
Psalm 133:1

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in Unity!"

Anon

Further Adventures in Another European Extravaganza, part 3, aka 'Travels with My Daughter'

The next venue on our itinerary was Venice. A train from Carnate Usmate, Emma & Sam's nearest station, took us to Monza, where we caught another train to Venice Centrale. I was not sure I was going to like Venice, bragging of its 'no vehicle' policy, and imagining it to be very busy and touristy – how wrong could I be?

We started by meandering along beside the river, where I was immediately mesmerized by the amount of different river boats, i.e. taxis, working boats of all sorts, including building materials and all other supplies which we see every day on our UK roads and take for granted. There were of course also the pleasure boats and gondolas for the benefit of tourists, but these blended in with the scenery and reminded me that these are the livelihoods for the local people living there. Such a different lifestyle to that lived here in Enfield!

We found a very quiet café (we were the only people there, probably due to the blustery wind blowing off the sea which was causing a few problems!) where we enjoyed a delicious meal of tortuca pasta with tomatoes and basil and a spaghetti carbonara which we mixed and matched between us, in an area full of character.

I have always found languages interesting and do not mind having a go at speaking foreign languages if the occasion arises! Faux pas coming up! There were many stalls selling merchandise which I usually do my utmost to avoid, but on this occasion, I was tempted by a navy and white striped t-shirt similar to that worn by the gondoliers and embroidered in gold with 'Venezia Italia'. I asked the stallholder the price in what I hoped was understandable Italian. He answered me in English. I then continued in my broken Italian to ask him to show me the 'small' and 'extra small' to compare sizes, and to ask if he had any with a navy background and white stripes instead of a white background with navy stripes. The young man seemed rather perplexed but showed me the two sizes and politely answered in English that the stripes, both navy and white, were the same width! So, no background colour! Out of the corner of my eye I saw Emma wishing she could disown me as I continued to pursue my question, still in Italian! Eventually Emma intervened explaining that this polite young Italian man spoke English and could I not

see that the t-shirt was striped evenly with no background?! Well, after that how could I not buy a t-shirt from him? Emma offered to pay as a Mothering Sunday gift for me, and he gave her £2 off. I think he felt sorry for her having to cope with me!!

We then continued to St Mark's Square – and there to my amazement and further embarrassment I suddenly came over all emotional! Tears pricked my eyes! Thank goodness I was only with Emma! The sun was shining directly onto the cross at the top of this enormous imposing building dedicated to St Mark, picking out the gold decorative items adorning its exterior. It looked amazing! The entire square felt so different to anywhere I had been before.



Moving on, but still in the large square, outside a very 'upper class' restaurant, soft, relaxing, live music was being played on a violin, grand piano, cello and accordion. Waiters dressed impeccably in well-tailored suits carried trays of expensive food, wine and champagne, held at their shoulder height on the flat upturned palms of their hands such as I had only seen in old

films before! So bourgeois! The first song we heard was a beautiful rendition of 'My Way'. Oh dear! The tears began to flow again!! As we sat and watched, a waiter approached me with a menu. I tried not to gasp too loudly when I saw the prices and gently suggested to Emma that we left the area, graciously, but rapidly!



We continued to walk to the waterfront where we watched the gondoliers in their stripey tops and straw hats covering their gondolas for the night...and singing happily. I think their joyful singing was genuine and not merely for tourists'

benefit as again there were very few people around. The clouds were gathering, and it was starting to rain. We walked via St Mark’s Basilica and various alleyways, the night river life contrasting to the varied scenery we had seen in the daylight. After arriving at our self-contained fourth floor Air BnB apartment for the night it was easy to find an outside seating café for another delicious Italian light meal – and very reasonably priced! We were the only two there once again! That night I could hardly sleep. My mind was so full of so many thoughts provoked by the various sights, experiences and emotions of the day (and the mosquito in the room didn’t help!)

The following morning, we gently meandered through alleyways and along the river before enjoying the sea air and lunch (with a complimentary starter) before returning to the station for our return journey.

I’m not sure Emma will want to accompany me to Venice again, but I thank God yet again that I am alive and experiencing so many things I never thought possible.

Marion Burdett

Duty Elders for July				
	11.15 a.m.	Notes	6:30 p.m.	Notes
6 th	Janice/ Clare	<i>Holy Communion</i>		
13 th	Graham	<i>All Age Service</i>		
20 th	Chris		Beryl	<i>Joint Service CHP Lead</i>
27 th	Clare			

Duty Elders for August 2025				
	11.15 a.m.	Notes	6:30 p.m.	Notes
3 rd	Chris	<i>All Age Service</i>		
10 th 17 th 24 th 31 st	Clare/? Janice Clare Joint Ser-vice @ BHP	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Graham	<i>Joint Svce LR lead</i>

Duty Elders for September 2025				
	11.15 a.m.	Notes	6:30 p.m.	Notes
7 th	Graham/Chris	<i>Holy Communion</i>		
14 th 21 st 28 th	Beryl Chris Janice	<i>All Age Service</i>	Clare	<i>Joint service CHP lead</i>

Do you have a bread maker? Would you like to try to bake a sourdough loaf? I have plenty of starter, you just need a small container to hold 116 ml of starter. Tony has some Hovis 50/50 bread flour that has been donated to the food hub you could have for a small donation.. I have a refined recipe that I have tried and tasted, plus some hints and tips based on my baking experience If your interested, let me know.

Martin MB

Your Associate Minister

On the 21st July 2024 I was inducted as your Associate Minister. At the time several people asked, "What is an Associate Minister and what do you do?" In hindsight, I had taken it for granted having spent 24 years at Bush Hill Park as the Associate Minister, that folk would somehow know, perhaps by osmosis. In essence, I have the same charge as Ruth being ordained to the ministry of word and sacraments. The promises I made at my induction are the same, as is my responsibility to the denomination, the church family and to the community in which we serve.

I could have continued to do all the things I have previously undertaken, supporting the food hub, occasionally chairing meetings, leading worship and supporting the Elders in pastoral care. It is this commitment to serve our God and the community in which we minister which governs the life we live and my ministry here at Lancaster Road.

This last year I have been able to play a small part in seeing the Mission Building Project come to fruition. I have been part of this journey with you over the last few years. At times it has been a challenge, and we nearly did not make it, but we have truly witnessed God at work in so many areas of our church life. He continues to bless us in so many generous ways.

Our discipleship space is developing, with the lounge now adaptable to support various activities. The discipleship area in the church will begin to take shape in July.

We continue to meet new people attending the food hub and the Friday Coffee mornings continue to grow. The addition of a 'light lunch' has proved to be popular. The majority who attend are not 'church folk', but truly consider Lancaster Road to be their church. It would be good to see a few members pop in from time to time on a Wednesday or a Friday morning. The way in which we serve our community is not just about putting 'bums on seats'. This also applies to our support of the youth and children's activities and organisations that use our premises.

I am continuing to be the LAG convenor, for the time being.

I have also just been discharged from my duties and responsibilities as Interim Moderator for the South & East Pastorate. :)

I have been blessed to minister and to serve our church family and the community. It is going to be an exciting year ahead as together we realise the mission potential of our church and refurbished church hall.

Martin+

Christ Church 150th anniversary

Christ Church 150th anniversary celebratory events and dates for 2025, including a couple of updates and additions, are:

- Lunchtime @ Christ Church on the following Saturdays - 9 August and 11 October, both 12:00pm-2:00pm. .
- Open Day - Saturday 13 September, 10:00am-4:00pm. On the same day there will also be a worship concert by Rony Padillo from 4:30pm-6:30pm.
- Eneld Choral Society Concert - Saturday 8 November, 7:30pm. Further details to follow.
- Anniversary Service led by the Moderator of Thames North Synod, the Revd George Watt - Sunday 16 November, 10:45am. This will be a North En eld Pastorate service at Christ Church.
- 'From Zion Chapel to Christ Church: A story of Congregationalists in Eneld' - Wednesday 19 November, 3:00pm at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane. This is an illustrated talk by Stephen Gilbert organised by the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. All members and friends from Christ Church will be welcome.
- Christmas Tree Festival - Saturday 13 December. Further details to follow.



We have a group booked to go to Minehead after Easter—6th to 10th April 2026. If you would like to go or would like more information then please speak to Chris, Ruth or Martin. We are going and would like you to join us.

There is a varied program and you can go to as much or as little as you want. Most of the holiday facilities and rides are available at Butlins, (most of the gambling machines are hidden or covered). There is a wide range of accommodation available as well as catering/self catered.

Financial support is available. Please speak to Ruth or Martin



Youth & Children's work Activities

In the Church Hall Armfield Road.

Toddler group – 0-4 yrs

Monday morning 9.30 – 11.00am. Just come along, refreshments provided.

Boys Brigade and Girls Association (boys and girls) – 5 – 11 yrs.

Monday 6.15 – 7.30 pm.

Contact Vivienne Legg 1stenfieldbb@gmail.com

5th Enfield Rainbows - Girls 4-7y rs -

Thursday 5.30pm - 6.30pm :

Contact Sumita Biswas 5thenfieldrainbows@gmail.com

5th Enfield Brownies - Girls 7-10 yrs -

Thursday 6.15pm - 7.45pm

Contact Mary Dawson 5enfieldbrownies@googlemail.com

5th Enfield Guides - Girls 10-14 yrs

Thursday 7pm—8.30pm

Contact Allison Duggal guides5thenfield@hotmail.co.uk

5th Enfield Rangers - Girls 14-18 yrs

Thursday 7pm—8.30pm

Contact Nansi Ellis guides5thenfield@hotmail.co.uk

YPCF – 5 -11 yrs **Sunday 11.15 – 12.15 (in the church).**

Contact Chris Marlow ypcf@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk

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