

Lancaster Road
United Reformed Church



September 2026
Newsletter

www.lrurc.org.uk

Hello everyone,

I hope you haven't melted in the heat we have experienced over the summer? We definitely can't say it was a wet summer. Drought has blighted the landscape with tragic results in some parts of the UK. Climate change seems to be here in the present now, not something which will arrive in the future.

The new academic year starts this month. Students start their new classes, or new schools, colleges or universities. For some they are in the midst of finding employment (not an easy task these days). For some it's the opportunity to start afresh. For some there is the temptation to be someone they think will fit into the crowd, rather than being themselves. Being who we really are can bring the risk of not being in the in crowd.

In a culture of various identities and labels, that will all fade as we all will (like the flowers) one day, there is only one identity and label that really matters and will endure. It is so important to remember that our identity as a child of God is the gift from God we cannot afford to let pass us by. We have this amazing gift that gives us entrance to God's kingdom as citizens of heaven. This should give us such hope of things to come, even when the world we live in presently can appear chaotic.

“But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Saviour.” (Philippians 3:20)

It's tempting to compare today's young people to how we were but the world is so very different. Things are so very different with very different pressures. Young people have worries that we couldn't have even imagined, for example knife crime. Social media seems to magnify the mistakes we make in a culture of cancellation. Woe betide anyone who makes a mistake or says something that upsets someone else, even if what is being said is in fact the truth.

For those of us who profess to be followers of Jesus we now, more than ever before, need to share with those around us the real truth and hope that we have in Christ. The one person who can show us who we really are in Him and the purpose He has for us. We do not know what tomorrow brings for ourselves and those we care for, so time is of the essence.

We know that Jesus died in order to have laid on Him the punishment we deserve for our sins. What an amazing act of selflessness for us to benefit from when we believe. So why are we slow to share this good news, when the bad news is

terrible news; an eternity away from God?

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,” (1 Peter 3:15)

We do not have to be street preachers to do this. We need to be our authentic selves, knowing with confidence we are children of God who have a hope in a Saviour who has promised us an eternal home with him.

I encourage you to pray to God to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help to share with someone your story of faith in a Saviour who can be their Saviour too. I promise you, if you ask God, an opportunity will be given to you to share and it won’t be as daunting as you imagine.

I will sign off now but hope the rain has arrived when you read this letter and greenness has returned to the land.

God bless,

Ruth

Belonging to a church

If you belong to a church long enough, eventually it will disappoint you. Someone will make a decision you disagree with. A ministry you love will change. A song you dislike will be sung. Someone will overlook you. The pastor will disappoint you. People you trusted will hurt you.

But not every disappointment is evidence that we need another church.

Sometimes disappointment is where discipleship begins. Because covenant community forces us to confront something consumer culture allows us to avoid: People are difficult. Including us.

If I leave every community when it becomes uncomfortable, I may protect myself from difficult people. I may also protect myself from becoming the kind of person who knows how to forgive, endure, reconcile, and love. Sometimes the church that disappoints you is also the church through which God exposes something in you. Not every discomfort is a sign to leave. Some discomforts are invitations to grow.

Baptist pastor James Bell

Highs and Lows in Holland, part 3

Another lovely bright sunny start to the day greeted me as I peered out of the window of the caravan in Holland. We were very blessed with good weather. It couldn't have been better. After spending a leisurely couple of hours enjoying the company of Bowie the dog, the goats, the ducks and the chickens in this wonderfully tranquil setting, there was one thing on my mind – to see the Dutch coast! This involved a taxi to start with. No public transport in this rural area. What I didn't expect was an Uber Tesla car to pull up to collect us, and within a few minutes I realised that the driver was not driving but simply sitting in the front seat! That was when he started talking to the car, not us, telling the car how silly it was to have taken the wrong route! He did then take over the controls to bring us back on track! He explained to us that it was only the previous week that 'driverless' cars such as these had been approved by Dutch law! A taste of things to come here!

Another surprise awaited me. A bracing walk across the dunes. But these were hilly, steep in places, dunes – the most hilly area in Holland that I had seen, contrasting sharply with the enormous expanses of flat lands seen up until then! The beach at Nederzandt with its vast sands stretching in both directions as far as the eye could see and its palm trees for a little shade was delightful. Although I am sure in the height of the holiday season it is a popular, busy venue with its nearby places to eat and a small gift shop run by a very friendly welcoming local man. We returned, reluctantly, as time was getting on, by quiet roads, again passing tulips and hyacinth fields...and deer! Then in a taxi – with a driver driving this time. Finally we enjoyed eating rolls in the caravan's field whilst watching the sun setting and the stars twinkling. In the real Holland, far away from any tourists.

A lovely evening at the end of a lovely God-given day.

Marion Burdett



September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
31st No Toddlers	1st	2nd Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	3rd
7th Toddlers 9.30to 11.30	8th Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	9th Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	10th
14th Toddlers 9.30to 11.30	15th	16th Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	17th
21st Toddlers 9.30to 11.30	22nd Bible Study Church Lounge 8.15pm	23rd Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	24th
28th Toddlers 9.30to 11.30	29th	30th Bible Study 9.45 Food Hub 10.00-12pm Prayer at Home 9.30pm	1st October

2026

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4th Shoppers Coffee in the church with lunch 10-2pm	5th	6th Morning Worship With Holy Communion 11.15am Revd Martin Legg Church Members Meeting
11th Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	12th	13th Morning Worship 11.15am
18th Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	19th	20th Morning Worship 11.15am Mr Terry Silvey Joint Evening Service 6.30pm @ LR
25th Shoppers Coffee in the church 10-12	26th	27th Morning Worship 11.15am Revd Ruth Dewis
2nd Shoppers Coffee in the church with lunch 10-2pm	3rd	4th Morning Worship With Holy Communion 11.15am Revd Ruth Dewis



At the end of the session our Junior Section joined with the Battalion for a weekend camp at Firth Grange in Barnet. It took place at the end of a very hot week so there were plenty of water games involved. The Boys went to Ninja Warrior on the Sunday and other activities included toasting marshmallows, camp fire, rounders, other games, mini golf and lots more. We were lucky to receive a grant from Stonewall trust which enable us to reduce the cost of the camp for the Boys. Thank you goes to Kieran who not only braved the hot weather but also had to put up with sleep deprivation (not his doing).



Our last night we had a holiday themed evening with Boys and Girls making a suitcases in which they put a passport which reminded them that wherever they go God is with them. Everyone was given a challenge sheet to complete over the holidays which includes family activities like going on

a picnic. We finished the evening with Hotdogs. Thank you to all our staff and helpers who throughout the year have supported the Company.



To the future. I have notified the Church, Battalion and Parents that at the end of the 2026-2027 session I will be standing down as Captain. When I originally took over from Barry Warner I said that I would do so for 5 years and it is almost 20 years later so it is really time for me to hand over to someone else. We do need to have a Captain and I pray that someone will come forward to take on this role but also we need helpers/officers to come along each week to support Susan and Kieran. So if you know of anyone who would be interested please give them the BB email address or if you would like to talk about what is involved please contact me.

1stEnfieldBB@gmail.com



Big Top Holiday Club

We have had a fantastic week with the young people. We had a total of 63 children registered with an average of 53 attending each day over the week. Each day we had looked at different aspects of God - God's strength, God's, Love, God's Power, God's Faithfulness and God's Leadership. Each day we had stories of characters from the Old Testament – Samson, Jonah, Elijah, Daniel and Moses. Linked to the story there was a memory verse which was in the form of a song. There were work sheets to complete relating to the story and handicraft activities. The Watt Family Drama always proves popular and Tom still struggled with their name. The children were able to tell us some of their jokes and some of them wrote prayers which were used in our final session on Friday.

This year we were able to provide lunch hampers for families who struggle over the summer holidays and we were thankful to the URC and the Co-op for their donations which enabled us to do this. We also received a food donation from Warburtons'.

On Friday, we provided a hot dog lunch and invited parents to come along to watch our final session. We invited families to join us for the Holiday Club Service in the church on Sunday morning. We have received lots of comments from parents about the Holiday Club as follows:

'Thank you so much for a great week. Chloe has had a wonderful time and was sad it was over today. This afternoon she has been upstairs dressing up and playing alongside her sister pretending to be on stage and singing and acting. Which I've not heard her do before. So lovely to hear. Thanks again for the lunch package this week too. Hopefully see you all again next year'



'So sorry Joss won't be able to make tomorrow am. I wanted to thank you so much for having him this week - really appreciate all your time and effort.'

'I returned home with the food hamper you gave me and I am truly humbled by

your generosity. - I had in my mind a snack for the children, but this is above and beyond what I was thinking. I really appreciate the time, effort and thoughtfulness that has gone into this gesture and the holiday camp overall. '

'Your team are amazing and what you do for the children is really appreciated'
There are lots of people to thank for giving up their time and I'll try not to forget anyone.

Ruth, Martin, Tom, Chris, Laura, Clare, Geoff, Rosemary, Beryl, Liz, Kate, Alison, Terry, Kevin, Wendy, Phyllis, Tina, Teresa, Graham and Marilyn. We also had 5 young leaders who came to help us Lu, Maisie, Katie, Isabel and Charlie.

Vivienne



PONDERS END HEALTH POP UP!

Your Health, Your Community, Your Wellbeing!



DATE: Thursday 10th September 2026



TIME: 11am – 3pm



LOCATION: Ponders End United Reform Church,
College Court Road, Ponders End EN3 4EY

≡ *All Welcome! Free Event!* ≡

- ✓ Blood Pressure Checks
- ✓ Diabetic Checks
- ✓ Vaccination Information
- ✓ Hepatitis B & C testing
- ✓ Body Composition Scans
- ✓ Healthy Lifestyle Coaches
- ✓ Talking Therapies
- ✓ Stop Smoking Support
- ✓ Family First Aid

...AND MUCH MORE!



**PLUS: FREE REFRESHMENTS
AND GUEST SPEAKER SESSIONS**



The
United
Reformed
Church

Proudly brought to you by:



Enfield Unity
Primary Care Network



Taizé Worship

**a service of song, silence
and contemplation
for the season of Creation**

All are welcome

Trinity Church, Church Street,

Enfield, EN2 6AN

Thursday 17th September 7.30pm

Duty Elders for September 2026				
	11.15 a.m.	Notes	6:30 p.m.	Notes
6 th	Clare /Graham	<i>Holy Communion</i>	Clare	<i>Joint service CHP lead</i>
13 th	Beryl	<i>All Age Service</i>		
20 th	Chris			
27 th	Beryl			

Elders marked in **BOLD** are responsible for reading notices at that service. Please let them have any notices 10 minutes before the start of the service.

Elders on duty at a **Communion Service** must ensure that the person presiding at Communion informs the congregation of the Charity/Organisation receiving the Communion Offertory and that the collection plate is on the Communion Table. Thank you

Youth & Childrens work Activities In the Church Hall Armfield Road.

Toddler group – 0-4 yrs

Monday morning 9.30 – 11.30am. 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@lrurc.org.uk

Who to Contact

Revd Ruth Dewis : minister@lrurc.org.uk

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Revd Martin Legg: martin@lrurc.org.uk

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