



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

# CHURCH NEWS

Kingston United Reformed  
Church

[www.kingstonurc.org](http://www.kingstonurc.org)



## May 2024



Messy Church on Good Friday – more photos inside!

[www.kingstonurc.org](http://www.kingstonurc.org)

Charity No. 1131880

*Edited this month by Bron Robinson*

***A warm invitation is given to all who read this magazine to come and share in our services and activities, both in the building and on Zoom***

### **Our Sunday Services:**

**10.00 – Worship** – also live-streamed (with Communion first Sunday monthly)

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

**17.00 – 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

**14.00 – Messy Church** (monthly, but Sundays vary) e-mail Sally Butler – [youth@kingstonurc.org](mailto:youth@kingstonurc.org)

**Tea and Coffee** are served between the 10.00 and 11.30 services and before the 10.30 service on the second Sunday

During the 10.00, 10.30 and 11.30 services there are **group activities for children** of all ages.

#### **Weekly:**

##### **Monday:**

10.00 Jolly Toddlers (during school term)  
10.00 Prayers on Zoom  
12.30 Community Lunch

##### **Tuesday:**

10.00 Prayers on Zoom

##### **Wednesday:**

10.00 Tots' Praise  
10.00 Prayers on Zoom

##### **Thursday:**

10.00 Prayers on Zoom  
20.00 The Thursday Club on Zoom

##### **Friday:**

10.00 Prayers on Zoom

##### **Saturday:**

10.00 Prayers on Zoom

##### **Monthly:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday** 19.30 Elders' Meeting  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** 11.30 Church Meeting  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** 14.00 Crafternoon

**The Sanctuary** is open for private prayer, with access via the Foyer.

**Our Foyer** is normally open every weekday and Saturday from 11.00 until 14.00 for coffee and tea.

**A Problem or Concern?** There is sometimes a listener available in the Foyer; if not, please speak to the coffee server or contact Lesley Charlton.

#### **Events to look out for in May 2024:**

**Christian Aid Week** – lots of different ways for you to get involved and raise money for this important cause. See inside for more detail.

**Joint confirmation service at All Saints** on Sunday 12th May. Includes 2 candidates from KURC who will also be baptised at the service.

**Please also see the e-mailed Weekly Notices.**

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

## Letter from Lesley



Dear All,

Does God love you?

Love me? Of course not.

I have done some terrible things. I cannot manage my life. I drink too much, eat too much and exercise!- never. My housing situation is precarious. I do not know whether I will be allowed to stay in this country or not. I do not have enough money to thrive. I am always anxious. I am faithless and frightened. Of course God does not love me.

Does God love you?

Of course God loves me. Everyone loves me. Why would they not? I am successful. I am middle aged, white, straight, literate, my immigration status is secure. If I queue I will make sure the queue is orderly. I make things happen and I know I am loved and loveable. Sin? Well no more than a few minor slip ups. Every group would want me as a member. Of course God loves me.

Both wrong.

God loves us because that is God's nature. Not our right or pay. We may not be worthy of love. We will not have earned it but still God loves us. God is generous loving and merciful.

Some of us need to rest in that love and allow it to seep through to our bones. We need to let that love to transform how we view ourselves. How we treat our selves.

Others of us need to remember that love in our dealings with other people. That they are loved and lovely too. Everyone is precious in God's sight not merely a few chosen financially, intellectually secure ones.

It is a life changing truth that easily we take for granted. God the creator of the universe has a high regard for us. God thinks of us as precious and would pick us up and hold us close to God's cheek. We cannot earn this. We do not deserve it. It says more about God than it does about us.

Today in the living of this day remember that you are a person that God loves. That person you are talking to is also loved by God. They are worthy of respect...and so are you.

Yours  
**Lesley**

## Church Secretary's Chat



What a great Easter we had. It was good to see so many of you in person or on screen. Who would have thought that that sentence would be a thing a few years ago. People connecting is the best.

And so, we must remember that some people do not use any technology other than a landline phone. Some people connect through cards or letters and even by simple dropping by to say hello. Communicating just because you have been guided to by, yes, I will say it, the Holy Spirit.

We have just had our first meeting of the new elders' year. Again, it is a hybrid meeting, some people in the building and some people on zoom. In this way, more elders can attend more meetings, which allows for greater continuity as we manoeuvre our way through many topics throughout the year.

Stay connected, KURC friends and members, we are glad to spend time with you.

*Cathy Seymour*



### A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tip for May

#### **Say no to the mow**

Mowing your lawn less and letting parts grow long saves you time and helps give nature a home.

If you want to make an even bigger impact on wildlife, wait to mow your lawn or a section of it until August to support even more animals.

Contribute to citizen science and get to know what (and who!) lives in your church's green space - sign up to take part in Churches Count on Nature (8-16 June 2024) at [caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churchescount-on-nature-faqs/](https://caringforgodsacre.org.uk/churchescount-on-nature-faqs/)

## Sally's Stories

Messy Easter! 23 young people, 17 adults and some volunteers led the Messy Church session on Good Friday this year.

We focussed on the Resurrection and the children moved round the hall every 20 minutes to new activities: designing their own Easter Cross, making a Hot Cross pastry, designing a butterfly collage.

We then gathered together to make 'tunnels' from toilet rolls. The teams had to get three ping pong balls, with the words 'Jesus is alive' on, through the tunnel as fast as they could. They then watched this year's Easter film from Bible Society and we prayed together.

Finally, the Easter egg hunt...

Great fun!

**Sally Butler**, Children, Youth & Families Worker, [youth@kingstonurc.org](mailto:youth@kingstonurc.org)

And thanks to So Young for these photos ...



## Pastoral News as at 19 April 2024

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

### Prayer

*Loving God, as the tropical sun gives forth its light, so let the rays from your face, O God, enter every part of my being and drive away all the weariness within.*

*Amen*

***Ann Macfarlane***



## A Celebration of the Life of Liz Bartlett



A service to celebrate the life of Liz Bartlett was held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at KURC. There was a wide variety of readings, music and prayer, and the congregation heard about Liz's professional life, musical life, her family and friends and her contribution to the church and community in north Kensington and Kingston.

Liz was born in 1941 in Holbeach Lincolnshire; she was the oldest of four children. Her father John Mossop was a solicitor with a triple first from Cambridge, and her mother had studied violin at the Royal Academy of music.

Early life of the family was disrupted by the war because her father John was away in London. Liz was at boarding school from the age of seven, first in Bournemouth, and then at Wycombe Abbey School. She was interested in music (choir, piano and flute) and made a number of lifelong friends. One of these was Hillary Bartlett who invited Liz to stay for a promenade concert where she met Hilary's brother Ken. Liz was 18 and Ken was 23. They immediately became an item. Liz then read English at Royal Holloway College, while Ken was in Oxford.

They married in Holbeach in September 1963. Three months later, Ken was ordained by the Church of England and in December 1963 they moved into a flat in Paddington where Ken was a curate at St James Church, Sussex Gardens. They had three happy years in Paddington but Liz was clearly not looking forward to being a conventional vicar's wife, so Ken's appointment to manage a housing charity was providential. They moved to North Kensington and their world changed. They moved from a church flat in prosperous Lancaster Gate, bought a house in North Kensington which they thought was wonderful but their parents thought was somewhat slummy! They exchanged formal Anglican worship for an inspiring but sometimes chaotic Methodist Church with a majority of West Indian members: Rachel and Ben grew up, became streetwise, and loved living in a multicultural area.

This new world became Liz's stamping ground over the next 30 years. Her natural gift of friendship underpinned all her many activities. Wherever she was, she instinctively included any people on the fringe.

Liz and Ken moved to Kingston 20 years ago, to be nearer to Rachel and Ben and the grandchildren. They became members of the Kingston United reformed Church because it shared the values and social outreach of the Notting Hill Methodist

church – and because they had become unredeemably nonconformist! Over the last 10 years, Liz has contributed to building up the church's musical life. She was the prime mover in raising money to purchase our piano, encouraging church members to form a choir, and helped to support the purchase of our new organ. She even went on a conducting course to help in training the choir and gave regular support and encouragement to successive music directors such as Rhiannon, Sul Hee and Haeun. Without her personal encouragement many would not have joined the choir.

Liz also worked with other church members during the Covid lockdown. She saw the inability to have a standard Elders election process as an opportunity to diversify the elder membership. Liz chaired a group and worked with others with the result that our Elders' membership was diversified to include Korean members and younger members.

Liz and Ken were married for sixty years and close friends for three years before that. Ken thinks that this was some kind of miracle, because they were both free spirits with independent lives and interests. The standard claim that there was never any difficulty or cross word in their relationship is not a description of the marriage that they would recognise! They came through those times and emerged as the indivisible duo known as Ken and Liz. In this they leaned on the love and support they received from their close friends and family. Today is therefore not just a celebration of Liz's life. It is also a celebration of the love and friendship given by many people here today. Liz asked for a Shakespeare sonnet to be read at this celebration (Sonnet 116). It is about the love which is unmoved by any change.

Hymns included *Do shepherds stand tonight on Notting Hill?* by Geoffrey Atnger, sung by Frances Scott and *When in our music God is glorified*, sung by our KURC choir.

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## Barbara Fisher



A few of our older members will remember my mother Barbara who passed away peacefully at a nursing home in Solihull on April 12<sup>th</sup> aged 97.

Barbara was married to my father, Keith Fisher, minister of our church 1966-83, for 65 years and was a huge support to him. She taught in the Senior Group of the Young People's Departments every Sunday for 17 years.

**John Fisher**

## **FLOWERS FOR MAY 2024**



5th Wil Bryan

12th Flowers from the wedding of Linda and Graham

19<sup>th</sup> Margaret Golding

26<sup>th</sup> Jean Hughes (Lesley's Mum)

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**Linda and Graham would be delighted to see you at their wedding**  
at

**2.30pm on Saturday 11 May**

At the church or on line with the usual Zoom link.

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## **Next Dates - Crafternoons**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> Knit and Stitch**

**June 15<sup>th</sup> Bring your own craft**

**Saturdays 2-5pm**

**Kingston United Reformed Church**

**£3 per person or £5 per family**

**Tea, cake and conversation included**

**For more details speak to Carol Clack or Sally Butler**

## **Christian Aid Week activities 10<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**" Nothing brings more happiness than seeing your act of kindness being utilized in the world. This is what participating in Christian Aid Week is all about."** – quote from Christian Aid.

10 days, so many ways.....with your help, we can work towards a world where families can escape the trap of poverty and fulfil their ambitions.

The following are the activities planned for this year's Christian Aid Week. Please do what you can to support and fundraise for Christian Aid who, with local partners, provide real help and aid to overcome hunger and poverty.

**1 - 10th May - at 7pm. Our Christian Aid Quiz** - at the URC - see Poster below.

£10 per person pay at event, cash or card. There will be a light snacks and a paying bar and a cash raffle . If you have any unwanted gifts for the raffle please let Ray Charlton know.

**2 - 11th - 18th May - Drop Off Only Envelopes**

For your road, if you would like to drop off envelopes and be a Post Box for their return please speak to Ray – this is really easy to do!

**3 - 11th - 18th May – Lesley (and other clergy on our group) are to Walk 10,000 steps per day or 70,000 steps in the week whilst carrying a spade or garden fork/rake etc.**



Lesley has, with joy, grabbed the chance to walk 70,000 steps whilst carrying a garden fork. "Ooh I can't wait to start ", she said – "you know – this may get me into gardening!"

Christian Aid's theme for this year is 7 Days, so many ways to help and 70K in May. Which we are turning into 70,000 Steps for our Clergy and carrying a spade or fork, is a reminder of the active work Christian Aid do in providing many tools (financial and material) to transform the lives of the poor.

This year they highlight the plight of the poor in Burundi and in particular Aline as an example of what is possible with positive funding follow this link

[Christian Aid Week 2024 - Aline's Story | Christian Aid](#)

A promotional graphic for Christian Aid Week 2024. It features a central photograph of a woman, Aline, wearing a blue headwrap, a red top, and a green skirt, standing in front of a brick wall. To the left of the photo, there is a dark banner with the text 'Christian Aid Week 2024' and a red banner with 'Aline's story'. Below that, a white box contains the text: 'How Christian Aid helped Aline transform her life and climb out of extreme poverty.' To the right of the photo, there is a white box with the text 'Christian Aid Kingston's JustGiving Page' and a QR code.

#### **4 - Station Collection - At Kingston Station - 16th May 17:00 - 19:00**

If you would like to help with this speak to Ray.

#### **5 - Dancing and Street Collection - Saturday 18th May**

**Clarence Street. Starts 12:45**

**Singing 12:45 - 13:00 then Dancing 70,000 Steps 13:00 - 13:30pm** - we need over 25 people dancing to our "Macarena mash up" to ensure we do this. Please come and join in, if you can wiggle you can do this!

We need dancers and people to collect money.



#### **6 - Joint Service for Christian Aid - Sunday 19th May - All Saints Church, Kingston at 6pm**

We are fundraising through our dedicated Just Giving Page – please scan and use the **QR code above** or gave your donation to Ray. Many thanks, Ray Charlton - 07785220369

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

# CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ



**Friday 10th May 2024  
7 – 10pm  
At Kingston United  
Reformed Church,  
Eden Street.**

**£10/person  
pay on night  
(includes a light  
supper)  
Paying Bar  
& Cash Raffle**



Organised by Kingston Christian Aid Group . All monies raised go to Christian Aid (England and Wales charity no. 1105851) Part of CAW 2024

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

## Reports from our groups – Christian Aid



*Bron asked me to write a few words about this group so here is my reply.*

This group is there to support and raise funds for Christian Aid, who are an organisation supported by churches and people to share the vision that 'all are equal in the sight of God'. Their work is focused on fighting poverty, injustice and bringing dignity to those impacted by hardship and injustice. Christian Aid help people of all faiths and none, faith is not a barrier to receiving their help.

I have supported Christian Aid for over 40 years, where like most, I started delivering and collecting envelopes when I was in my early twenties. Our group is there to fundraise, primarily for Christian Aid week and at a few other times through the year.

I know that are many charities doing good work but Christian Aid is important to me as it says, Look we are Christians, we care about these people and we want to do something tangible to help. We are not just about good words BUT good deeds actions also.

The group has members from the URC, All Saints, Methodists, St Johns, Quakers Kingston and St Marks and St Matthews churches in Surbiton.

We need new members with new ideas, it is not a huge commitment and the results of our and others fundraising and the effect it has, can be life changing for those in need of our help.

Please speak to me if you would like to join or help.

**Ray Charlton**  
**Tel: 07785220369**

## I'm forever blowing bubbles

On Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> around a dozen of us attended a 'Breathing Workshop', expertly led by Rhiannon, who demonstrated how correct posture and breathing technique can help us sing (and indeed speak) more effectively, and contribute to general wellbeing.

We took part in some imaginative exercises, which included blowing cotton wool balls across a table and blowing slowly through straws into glasses of water. All this emphasised the need to control the way we expel air from our lungs. A big thank you to Rhiannon for organising this fascinating and most enlightening workshop.



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### Prayer for Commitment for Life by Christine McMillian

Creator God

We thank you for the wonderful world we inhabit.

We are sorry that we don't always share the good things we have.

We thank you for all the people;

those in our churches those working through Christian Aid

and those with Global Justice Now

who strive tirelessly to make things fairer for us all.

We know that it is not easy, that folk become tired and dispirited.

Loving God

Inspire us, renew our determination and commitment,

so that together we may all enjoy life in all its fulness.

Amen.

## Encounter, Year 1

I thought you might be interested to learn more about some of the topics which I have been learning about on my course with London Centre for Spiritual Direction.

We are being encouraged to keep a spiritual journal and regularly practice Examen and other types of contemplative prayer. Each week we spend half a session learning about the topic for the day and the rest is spent practising different listening skills/directing a fellow student.

The three years are divided as follows:

Encountering The Tradition (of Spiritual Direction)

Encountering The Self (which will incorporate some modern themes within psycho-analysis)

Encountering The Other (working with others; many of whom may be different from yourself)

Topics include:

### Old Testament Themes

Creation, the Fall, Covenant, Exodus, Exile

### Themes From The Tradition

Desert Fathers & Mothers, Monastic and Benedictine Spirituality, Celtic Spirituality, Mystical Spirituality, Ignatian Spirituality

### Going Deeper

Content & Process, Consolation/Desolation, Spiritual Direction in the Bible, Models of Spiritual Direction, Prayer in Spiritual Direction

### New Testament Themes

Incarnation, Paschal Mystery, Pentecost, The Body of Christ, Trinity

More info: [www.lcsd.org.uk](http://www.lcsd.org.uk)

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Here is something I was sent on the nature of spiritual direction that I thought would be useful.

### **What is Spiritual Direction?**

As in all relationships, our learning to know Christ better develops and deepens, is challenged and changes, as we experience life.

Spiritual directors (SD) or Accompaniers offer themselves to be companions on the way, guides on the pilgrimage. It helps people to see for themselves how their relationship with God can be strengthened and their prayer deepened.

The starting point for people who come to a SD varies enormously. Some need to discern God's calling to a life change, others have lost their former comfortable way with God and want to explore what their faith means now.

Some have a long story of God's love in their lives' others have never put their prayer and life with God into words out loud to a stranger.

Direction is not counselling and it is not one person telling another what to do and how to live. SD's do not direct! They are trained and experienced in sensitive, patient listening, trying to help people see more clearly and understand their own experience of God. They offer a safe, confidential place for people to find their own ways to come closer to Christ. The Holy Spirit is the true Director.

### **Who is it for?**

Anyone who wants to deepen their relationship with God.

Please pray for me as I learn!

***Sally Butler***

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## **Golden Wedding celebration**



Thanks to Linda for this lovely photo of Georgina and Finlay Forbes celebrating their Golden Wedding at St Neots URC on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Many congratulations to you both!

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

## These are amongst the 10 most dangerous places in the world to be a Christian

### Nigeria



*Pray for the work of Open Doors and many other groups, as they call for international pressure on Nigeria's national and regional government, to ensure that they actively protect Christians from continuing slaughter.*

In Nigeria, Christians and their communities continue to be [attacked in many parts of the country](#), with the violence score at the maximum level possible. Although 2023 saw the installation of Bola Ahmed Tinubu as president, replacing Muhammadu Buhari, it is as yet unclear what this might mean for freedom of religion or belief in Nigeria.

### Pakistan



*Pray for Christians who live in fear of the country's blasphemy laws, which are frequently used against them - with a potential death sentence if found guilty.*

Similarly, violence against Christians in Pakistan has remained at a very high level, and the extremely high pressure on Christians remains constant. The blasphemy law's high potential to provoke violence was illustrated in the city of Jaranwala in August 2023, where up to [21 churches were burned or damaged and hundreds of Christians were forced to flee](#) their homes.

Taken from <https://www.opendoorsus.org/>

## Archive of the Month - The Guild

Between 1906 and the start of the Second World War our church organised weekly evening public lectures in the church hall on a varied range of subjects. This enterprise was known as 'The Guild'. You could purchase season tickets (initially two shillings, i.e. 10p) which guaranteed you a seat. It was run by a committee of twelve, and there were two 'honorary lanternists' who presumably operated the projector.

Our archives hold all the annual programmes, each printed to a high standard and often containing photos of the lecturers. What is remarkable is that the committee managed to attract such eminent speakers. For example, I have spotted the following names: Millicent Fawcett - campaigner for women's rights; Capt. Edward Evans – second in command on Scott's ill-fated polar expedition; Julian Huxley – evolutionary biologist; John Logie Baird – inventor of television; Countess Tatiana Tolstoy – Tolstoy's eldest daughter; G K Chesterton; Alan Cobham - pioneering aviator; Rev G A Studdert Kennedy or 'Woodbine Willie', and John Masefield - the Poet Laureate.



Popular Lecture.

Monday, November 11th, 1907,  
at 8.30 precisely.

The Committee have pleasure in announcing that

**Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.,**

has kindly consented to Lecture upon one of the foremost questions of the day—

**“Women as Citizens.”**

The Lecturer is eminently fitted to deal with this important subject, as for many years past she has been prominent in Political and Social Movements. Well known as the widow of the late Rt. Hon. Henry Fawcett, M.P. (Postmaster-General, 1880-4), she has achieved high repute both as authoress and as a cultured and effective speaker. During the late war, Mrs. Fawcett was one of the Commission sent to South Africa by the Government to enquire into the condition of the “Concentration Camps.”

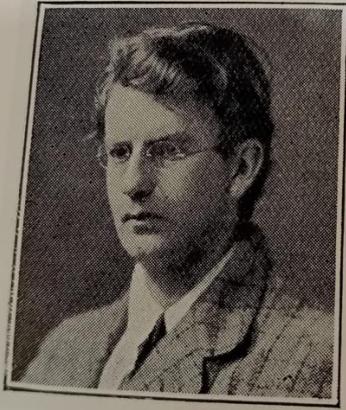
November 18th, 1907.

Monday, December 5th.  
REAR-ADMIRAL E. R. G. R. EVANS,  
D.S.O.  
"WITH CAPT. SCOTT IN THE ANTARCTIC"  
(Illustrated).



The epic story of Capt. Scott and his companions in their attempt to plant the British Flag at the South Pole will long be remembered. Admiral Evans was one of the party to make the final dash, and has a thrilling story to tell of hardship and perseverance, culminating in the heroic sacrifice of Capt. Oates.

Monday, January 30th.  
JOHN LOGIE BAIRD.  
"TELEVISION."  
(ILLUSTRATED).



When Mr. Baird lectured on this subject, of which he is the greatest British authority, at the Albert Hall, an overflow meeting was necessary to accommodate the audience.

Monday, October 25th.  
COUNTESS TATIANA TOLSTOY.  
"TOLSTOY: HIS LIFE AND AIMS."



We count it a valuable privilege to be able to hear at first hand the life and work of one who counted so much with many of us in those pre-war years: "So sad, so strange, the days that are no more." The Countess is Tolstoy's eldest daughter and therefore has an exceptional knowledge of his life, character and ideals.

**John Fisher**

### An inspiring video



Michael Sheen is interviewed by a group of 35 autistic, neurodivergent or learning disabled individuals in a remarkable session that covers a very wide range of topics. Sheen's sensitive and thoughtful handling of each question make it truly heartwarming viewing.  
Click this link: [BBC One - The Assembly](#) (or find the video on BBC iPlayer)

## Are you ready to vote?

Did you know that, if you vote in person at a polling station, you will not be able to vote if you do not have **photo ID with you**, even if you are registered to vote.

If you are not already registered to vote, it is too late now for the upcoming local elections in May, but it's a good idea to register for future elections now, especially if you have recently moved house.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

There are also faith-based resources online if you want to find out more, e.g.



<https://jpit.uk/elections>

The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) is a partnership between the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church. The purpose of JPIT is to help the churches to work together for peace and justice through listening, learning, praying, speaking and acting on public policy issues. Click the link on the left for information on voting in elections.

## URC News Update

Remember that the URC publishes a monthly email news update. If you have an email address, you can subscribe to the news update via this link:

<https://urc.org.uk/news-updates-sign-up-form/>

### And for those of you who like a Podcast ...



In the latest episode of The United Reformed Church Podcast, flame bearer Isaac Harvey MBE talks to Stephen Tomkins and Ann-Marie Nye about coming through tough times and finding his role as a disability advocate. Meanwhile, can special tea really help Steve stop losing his wallet? [Tune in to the latest episode of the podcast.](#)

### Mission and Vision monthly newsletter

Another really interesting publication is the monthly Mission and Vision newsletter, which includes news articles from across the Synod, training opportunities and more. Access via this link: <https://southern-synod-urc.org.uk/category/mission-and-vision/>

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



2024

Charity No 1187454



# Cycle of Change

Take on one of our cycling or walking challenges

## Our goals this year include:

1. **Improving the health and wellbeing of more families** by expanding BRITE Box (our healthy family meal kits) to new areas and schools
2. **Supporting adults recovering from cancer** by running our Active Breathing Course in partnership with local hospitals and charities
3. **Increasing our impact in minority communities** by increasing the hours of our minority outreach worker

Event Details...

Saturday, 11th May 2024

Robin Hood Gate, Richmond Park

Sign up...

[voh.org.uk/cycle-of-change-2024](https://voh.org.uk/cycle-of-change-2024)



Donate...

[voh.org.uk/appeal/donate](https://voh.org.uk/appeal/donate)



Charity No 1187454



# Cycle of Change Fun Day

Join us for a bit of fun and to cheer on the participants!

## What to Expect?

- **Fire Brigade:** Our local fire brigade's fire engine will be onsite!
- **Face Painting:** Add some colour to your day with fantastic face painting!
- **Professional Bike Mechanics:** Bring your bike for a tune up!
- **Bike Safety Marking:** Get your bike safety marked by a local PSCO!
- **Cakes & Refreshments:** Cheer on the participants while enjoying a cake!

**FREE!**



Free Event Details...

12-4pm, Saturday, 11th May 2024   
Robin Hood Gate, Richmond Park 

Cyclist Sign Up...

[voh.org.uk/cycle-of-change-2024](http://voh.org.uk/cycle-of-change-2024)



Donate...

[voh.org.uk/appeal/donate](http://voh.org.uk/appeal/donate)



Charity No 1187454



## International Bible Reading Association - [www.ibraglobal.org](http://www.ibraglobal.org)

### Bible Readings for May 2024

#### **LETTERS TO TIMOTHY (1)**

Wednesday 1 May	1 Timothy 4
Thursday 2 May	1 Timothy 5:1-16
Friday 3 May	1 Timothy 5:17-25
Saturday 4 May	1 Timothy 6:1-10

#### **LETTERS TO TIMOTHY (2)**

Sunday 5 May	1 Timothy 6:11-21
Monday 6 May	2 Timothy 1:1-14
Tuesday 7 May	2 Timothy 1:15 – 2:13
Wednesday 8 May	2 Timothy 2:14-26
Thursday 9 May (Ascension)	2 Timothy 3
Friday 10 May	2 Timothy 4:1-8
Saturday 11 May	2 Timothy 4:9-22

#### **CAMELS ARE USEFUL FOR...**

Sunday 12 May	Genesis 24:15-27
Monday 13 May	Genesis 32:9-21
Tuesday 14 May	Judges 7:9-14
Wednesday 15 May	Isaiah 60:1-6
Thursday 16 May	Matthew 3:1-10
Friday 17 May	Matthew 19:16-26
Saturday 18 May	Matthew 23:13-24

#### **BRINGING GOOD NEWS AND BUILDING THE CHURCH (1)**

Sunday 19 May (Pentecost)	Acts 1:12-26
Monday 20 May	Matthew 16:13-20
Tuesday 21 May	Acts 6:1-8
Wednesday 22 May	Acts 8:26-40
Thursday 23 May	Acts 9:10-18
Friday 24 May	Acts 17:22-34
Saturday 25 May	Acts 18:1-4, 18

#### **BRINGING GOOD NEWS AND BUILDING THE CHURCH (2)**

Sunday 26 May	Titus 1:1-5
Monday 27 May	Romans 16:1-2
Tuesday 28 May	Romans 16:3-15
Wednesday 29 May	1 Corinthians 1:11-17
Thursday 30 May	Philippians 4:1-3
Friday 31 May	Philemon 1:1-7

***This is taken from prayingeachday.org***

In Korea there is a story told, a legend, about a man who dies and goes to Heaven. Before he enters Heaven, he says to the gatekeeper, "Before I go into Heaven, I'd like you to take me on a tour of Hell." And so, the man is taken, first of all, to visit Hell. When he gets there, he is surprised to see a long table piled high with the finest food anyone could ever want. But he saw that the people in Hell were starving, and he asked his guide: "Why is everyone starving?" "It's like this," said the guide. "Everybody who comes to Hell is given a pair of chopsticks - two metres long, and they have to hold them at the end at mealtimes. Of course, no-one can eat with chopsticks that long. Look at everyone lifting their chopsticks, trying to feed themselves - they miss their mouths every time. How miserable they all look!"

The man agreed that this really was Hell, and he asked to be taken straight back to Heaven. When he arrived in Heaven, he saw the same kind of table piled high with the very same food. But here the people looked so very happy. "No chopsticks, I suppose?" asked the man. "Oh yes," said his guide. "They have the same chopsticks, two metres long, and they must be held at the end: the same as in hell. But, here in heaven, these people have learned that as they feed their neighbour with the long chopsticks, their neighbour feeds them."

**Prayer**

*Lord, inspire us always to have genuine care and concern for others, and may people be as generous to us as we are to them.*

Amen



## 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**

### **Ministers:**

Rev Lesley M Charlton, tel: 020 8399 4423 e-mail: [minister@kingstonurc.org](mailto:minister@kingstonurc.org)

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### **Premises Assistant:**

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### **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 June is Friday, 10 May 2024**

**Editor: Vaughan James, e-mail: [vaughanrjames@gmail.com](mailto:vaughanrjames@gmail.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.

We also now have a digital collection plate (card reader) at the back of the church

***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)*

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**You can also keep in touch with worship and activities at our church through our website:**

**[www.kingstonurc.org](http://www.kingstonurc.org). You can also follow us on Facebook and X.**

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