

CONTACT

introduces and welcomes
YOU
to

PENWORTHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit

at **PENTECOST**

JUNE 2019

Cover - main image pixabay.com

www.penworthamurc.org.uk - for

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

If you were at the parade service I led in May, you will now know that I used to work at Hutton Grammar School and that I love superhero movies. Hopefully by the end of these ramblings, you'll know a little more about me than that.

My name is Steven and I've been member of Penwortham URC for a few weeks now. I've been married to Katie for fifteen years and have two children Owen, 10 and Quinn, 6.

We moved down to Penwortham seven years ago when I got the job as school chaplain at Hutton. I hadn't even heard of Preston before so it was a big leap into the unknown when I applied, and got the job. Sometimes we just have to take the first step and trust that God will be there in the midst of it.

Owen had another year of nursery in Scotland so we thought if we were going to move, now was the time to do it rather than wait until he started primary. Unfortunately we didn't realise that the school system worked differently in England. We moved on my 30th birthday, the 24th August and found out that he needed to start school in September. That first week in Penwortham was pretty crazy as we called around schools to try and find him a place. Whitefield Primary was the only school in the area with spaces so that's where he ended up. It's worked out pretty well I think.

I worked at Hutton for five years. It was a brilliant experience. I would lead daily collective worship in the school, run lunch clubs, visit the local primary schools to lead assemblies and speak to those boys who would be coming to Hutton in year 7. A great perk was the opportunity to go on school trips. I got to visit Auschwitz, Germany, Chester Zoo, and a number of theme parks.



FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD cont'd

Sadly the funding ran out for the position two years ago so I found myself again worrying about what was next. Thankfully there was another job around the corner. One of the lecturers at the Bible College I went to in Glasgow worked for the United Reformed Church and so when I saw the job advert for a Children's and Youth Development Officer in Mersey Synod, I asked him whether he thought it would be good to apply for. I knew nothing about the URC before applying for it. I've been involved in Youth Work for 18 years and in that time worked in just about every denomination there is, apart from the URC.

He said to go for it and I duly did. I've now been working for Mersey Synod for just over two years and it's been a brilliant experience. As a church I see how much they value children and young people and want their voices to be heard at every level. At times I'm sure we can look around at our congregations and worry about how long they will be around for but I can attest to the fact that across the country there are many young people who will be leading the church into the future.

Aside from children's and youth work, my other main passion is film, both watching and making. I could sit around and talk about movies all day and the different themes and values we can learn from them. I've also loved making short films since I was eight and have won a few awards for them. Thankfully in my current role I have the opportunity to create short films with different groups of young people so I get to bring my two passions together.

Now that I am a member of the church, I look forward to being more involved in the church and working with everyone to sense God's call for the future. I believe there is so much we can do as church to be a welcoming community for the people of Penwortham and I look forward to working that journey with you all.

Thanks so much for reading these ramblings.

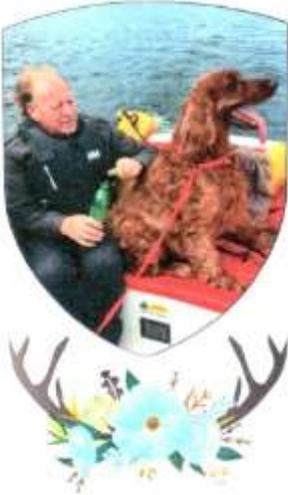
Steven



FRIENDS AND FAMILY NEWS - cont'd

A Message From Jean Henley: Jean has e-mailed as follows:

I would like to say a big thank you for the many get well cards, good wishes and flowers I have received over the last few weeks. They are very much appreciated. I am undergoing chemotherapy at the moment and hoping that will help. Love Jean H.



NEIL DUCKWORTH

Neil Duckworth, our cleaner, died suddenly on 27th April. It was a great shock to his family and all who knew him. He was a very private, lovely man who will be missed greatly. Our thoughts and prayers are with all who knew him at this sad time.

Neil's family took the decision to donate his kidneys and liver to three people thus changing their lives forever, what a wonderful thing to do.

Beverley S & Jenny O

PENWORTHAM GALA- JUNE 2019

This year's gala will once again consist of a procession through the town culminating in a weekend of fun and festivity at Hurst Grange Park. ***The Gala will this year take place on the 8th & 9th June*** with lots of interesting things to see and be a part of.



The Ecumenical Service (with hopefully good weather) will be at 11.00am in the Park on 9th June, if inclement, the venue will be with us at

Penwortham United Reformed Church. Please bring fold up chairs to the park and for anybody needing a lift please see *Anne Hall*.

Can you assist in this year's Ecumenical Service. If you can, please speak to *Anne Hall* for details.

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - PENWORTHAM

MEN'S GROUP

Meets: Monday 3rd June at 12.30pm

For Summer Lunch

Next Meeting : September *(Nigel L)*

WOMEN'S GROUP

Meets: Wednesday 5th June at 2.30pm in the Guild Room

Topic: "Programme Discussion", led by : Brenda Kendall

Next Meeting: 3rd July *(Brenda K)*

THE BUTTERFLIES GROUP

Meets for Tea/Coffee & Chat and events discussion every 2 weeks at 1pm in the Church Hall.

Next Meetings : 6th / 20th June *(Pat D)*



Messy Church meets at

Penwortham United Reformed Church

Liverpool Road, Penwortham, PR1 0QB

2nd Saturday of the month 2.30pm - 4.30 pm

Messy Church is a fun family event aimed at 0-11 year olds.

PURCMessychurch@hotmail.com - 07

<http://penworthamurc.org.uk>

Coming Dates are: (Note : Jun 8th is Penwortham Gala/No Messy Church)

Next Meeting : July 13th

Penwortham Open Gardens event is this year being held at various locations around Penwortham on 23rd June from 13.00 hrs.

<https://penworthamautumsh.wixsite.com/penwortham/>

IN AID OF



UNICEF MITES SCHEME

www.unicef.org.uk/fundraise/

in the period 01 Jan to 31 Mar 2019 your

Mites (5p coins) reached a much appreciated total of £56.05p

Your donations have contributed to the purchase of Oral Re-hydration Sachets, the cost of which is now 8p each on the World Health Organization's "List of Essential Medicines"

Collection Boxes are on the stage at the back as you come into Church. Do keep your Mites coming. *(Ed.)*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - THANK YOU



A BIG "THANK YOU " to **Barbara Edmondson and Cath Addison** for all their hard work in the planning and organising once again of this year's Christian Aid Week for our church.

In an effort to bring something new to the mix, they arranged for a "Coffee & Cake" event in aid of the charity on the 18 May at the end of the collecting week, to add to the funds realised. This was very much enjoyed by all who attended, including Ruth Platt, the Lancashire Regional Coordinator for Christian Aid.

Thank you both for your regular reporting of local activity for Christian Aid in the Preston area and for keeping the charity at the forefront of our minds during the year. We look forward to your plans for next year!! This year's collection result will be announced after the June Contact is published (Ed.)

PASTORAL LINK

We had our first Pastoral link meeting on Wednesday 8th May, five people attended with apologies from three more.

If this is to work effectively I'd like four more to make a total of twelve, so each Elder would have two members/friends to help them with their duties.

If you think this is something you could help us with, please speak to Bev or myself.

Jenny

SUPPORT WITH CHURCH FLOWERS

Flowers – a wonderful "pick me up" or way to express thanks. We all enjoy receiving them however I am short of helpers to wrap and give out the flowers after Sunday Service. Unfortunately a couple of people are no longer able to do this and I'm hoping for volunteers to come forward. It doesn't take long and if I get enough help it will probably only be once a month.

Your help would be appreciated. Cath A



SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras – In early April, hundreds of Hondurans set out in a caravan for the Guatemala border, hoping to reach the United States. Some gathered at the San Pedro Sula bus station. Some said they could no longer support their families. Others walked through the rain. Many carried sleeping children in their arms or pushed strollers.

Miguel Angel Reyes of San Juan Pueblo said his country's violent crime was one factor in his decision to leave. But mostly, he was looking for a way to provide for his wife and four children. "I'm going because the situation is really hard here in Honduras," said the field worker. "We can't take it. There's no work."

Climate disruption is thought to be a powerful factor in crop decline, leading to even greater poverty. Activist Jonathan Blitzer says, "In the last six or seven years, things really began to change. The weather patterns started to become erratic.

The rains didn't come when they were supposed to come. And increasingly, it became impossible for people to grow their staple crops - to grow potatoes, to grow maize. And as a result, they had not only nothing to eat but also nothing to survive on to sell. And so as a result, increasingly, people are abandoning their land and heading north."



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Christian Aid's partner Centro de Desarrollo Humano (CDH) works with vulnerable communities in the south of Honduras. This area is prone to drought. CDH coordinates efforts with local authorities to reduce communities' vulnerability.

WHAT'S ON JUN/JULY 2019

June 2019

<i>Saturday</i>	1st	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Side Rooms
Sunday	2nd	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Worship Group 2
Monday	3rd	12.30pm	Men's Group	Lunch Outing
Wednesday	5th	2.30pm	Women's Group	Guild Room
<i>Thursday</i>	6th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
Saturday	8th		Penwortham Gala (inc. Parade)	Hurst Grange Park
Sunday	9th	11.00am	Ecumenical Service Penwortham Gala	Hurst Grange Park
			<i>if wet at: Penwortham United Reformed Church</i>	
Sunday	16th	10.30am	Family Worship	Ernest Wrenall
Wednesday	19th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	Side Rooms
<i>Thursday</i>	20th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
Sunday	23rd	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev'd Shirley Farrier
Sunday	23rd	13.00	Penwortham Open Gardens	
Sunday	30th	10.30am	Junior Church Anniversary Service	Junior Church

July 2019

Wednesday	3rd	12.30pm	Women's Group	Lunch Outing (time tbc)
<i>Thursday</i>	4th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
<i>Saturday</i>	6th	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Side Rooms
Sunday	7th	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Rev'd Daleen ten Cate
Saturday	13th	2.30pm	Messy Church	
Sunday	14th	10.30am	Family Worship	Rene Kendall
Wednesday	17th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	Side Rooms
<i>Thursday</i>	18th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
Sunday	21st	10.30am	Family Worship	Songs of Praise
Sunday	28th	10.30am	Junior Church Anniversary Service	Rev'd Frank Kendall

All Services have a Junior Church & Crèche *(Pulpit Supplies: Brenda Kendall)*

OFFERINGS AND ROTAS

Weekly Offertory

Gill T

TBC
Next Edition

Flowers

Cath A/Robert B

2 nd	Jun	Alan & Gill Turner
9 th	Jun	Penwortham Gala
16 th	Jun	Jean Frew
23 rd	Jun	Val Tiffin
30 th	Jun	Gemma Strange
7 th	Jul	Hugh & Freda Dawkins
14 th	Jul	Basil & Hylda Hurst
21 st	Jul	Jean Henley
28 th	Jul	Rita Taylor

Sunday Coffee

Robert B

2 nd	Jun	Rita Taylor and Joyce Boreham
9 th	Jun	Pen. Gala (if wet: Anne Hall & Gemma Strange)
16 th	Jun	Viv and Graham Moore & Sue Bushell
23 rd	Jun	Joan Kidman and Celia McCartney
30 th	Jun	Maureen Whitlock, Margaret & Alan Edward
7 th	Jul	Linda Coppin & Barbara Baird
14 th	Jul	Rita Taylor and Joyce Boreham
21 st	Jul	Anne Hall & Gemma Strange
28 th	Jul	Viv and Graham Moore & Sue Bushell

Closing date for the July "Contact" is Sunday 23rd June
Issue date for the July "Contact" is Sunday 30th June

URC COMMITMENT FOR LIFE EXTRACT - BANGLADESH



Peter Musgrave, a member of Vine URC in London, has visited Bangladesh many times.



“On 1st Jan 2019 the Mayor of London announced a clean air policy. Within 2 days of being in Dhaka, I had got a bad cough. I wondered what air quality in Dhaka had to do with that, as I walked through dust and fumes from traffic and brick factories.”



Brick kilns in and around Dhaka are responsible for a much of the capital's air pollution, according to research. Altogether there are more than 1,000 brick kilns in and around the capital. The kilns produce nearly 60% of Dhaka's air pollution, with the rest coming from dust and vehicles, along with other sources.

“Shifting the Power”

One of Christian Aid's innovative projects in Bangladesh is called “Shifting the Power.” Its goal is for local organisations to have greater representation, voice and recognition to create more effective humanitarian responses. Issues such as air quality may be addressed through programmes like Shifting the Power.

Through Christian Aid, **Commitment for Life** is making a difference in ordinary people's lives. Every action for justice makes an enormous difference. Thank you for your efforts.



(extract from Stories for Change-April)



73 Jewish Tombs Desecrated in Romania

Early in April 2019, yet another Jewish cemetery was vandalised, this time in Huși, with over 73 tombstones destroyed. The

Federation of Jewish Communities of Romania immediately condemned this inhumane and atrocious act. Israel's President Reuven Rivlin also spoke out: *"Once again, we are faced with the terrible sights of Jewish graves defiled, destroyed. "I know the Romanian government is working hard to counter Antisemitism."*

*The reasons for a spike in anti-semitic across Europe are complex, but never justifiable. **Commitment for Life** opposes to all forms of anti-Semitism, xenophobia and hate. We pray and work for a world where differences in culture, religion and race are nurtured and celebrated.*

UK Bill: Palestinian Statehood - London:

Following recent elections, Benjamin Netanyahu is likely to push through with his promise to annex illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank. This may further jeopardise hope for a workable peace deal. Liberal Democrat MP Layla Moran – the first UK MP of Palestinian decent – recently introduced the Palestinian Statehood Recognition Bill. It would require the UK government to recognise the State of Palestine within three months of the Bill being passed.

137 countries recognise Palestinian statehood, according to the Palestinian mission to the UN. Along with the US, the UK recognises only the state of Israel.

The Bill has support from Lib Dem, Labour, SNP, Plaid and Green MPs, including Vince Cable and the Green's Caroline Lucas.

Commitment for Life supports people like Noura Amin Sa'ad. Noura lives in the occupied Palestinian village of Beit Skariya in the West Bank. Noura's home is surrounded by illegal Israeli settlements. Noura, and other Palestinians like her, find themselves almost completely cut off from access to essential services such as healthcare and education.

PRAYER TOPICS

Russia -Bible translation in one of the Menshevik languages

Russia is the largest country on earth. More than 140 million people from nearly 100 people groups, and speaking 97 languages, live there. Bible translation is ongoing in dozens of languages throughout Russia, including ten minority people groups who are known by the cover term 'Menshevik' which comes from the Russian word for 'minority'. Praise God that the Bible in Cache*, one of the Menshevik languages, has now been published. Many Cache speakers consider it taboo to possess a copy of the Bible – pray that attitudes will change and interest will grow in reading the Cache Bible. Pray that an audio recording of this Bible will soon be completed, providing another way for Cache speakers to access the Scriptures. *Name changed for security reasons. (Wycliffe Bible Translators)

Jordan -Christian students experience isolation

In Muslim majority countries, heavy restrictions, isolation and fear can lead to Christians feeling that they are very much in the minority, yet God is at work and followers of Christ show great courage and boldness. For Christian students, loneliness can cause them to feel isolated, and with that comes discouragement. Pray that Christian students will find places where they can meet, and that those who are truly alone will know God's presence. In Jordan, showing hospitality to students is an important witness. Pray for Jordan Universities Christian Students as they seek to find 'father' and 'mother' figures who can open their homes to students. (IFES)

Malawi-Bible Explorer programme official

Praise God that the Bible Explorer (BX) programme has been formally acknowledged by the Ministry of Education so that BX presenters are officially allowed to teach in all schools in Salima, Malawi. Pray for God's strength and good health to all BX presenters so that they are able to continue delivering the message and not miss classes due to health problems. Pray that God will help the team to identify nine additional schools so that it reaches the 50 targeted schools(SaltMalawi)

www.globalconnections.org.uk

HUMOUR AND POETRY PAGE

A Different Poem! (Sauce unknown! – via the parish window.co.uk)

OR “How I Prove Reed “CONTACT”

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a quay and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee four two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me sew.

=====

CHURCH NOTICES (NOT REALLY!)

The music for today's service was all composed by
George Friedrich Handel in celebration of
the 300th anniversary of his birth.

During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the
rare privilege of hearing a good sermon
when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.

(from the internet-public domain)

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(Ed.)

BIBLE QUIZ by Ron Graham

1. Hebrews 10:31 speaks of a fearful thing to happen to a person. What is this fearful thing?
2. Hebrews 7:14 mentions the tribe of Israel from which Jesus came. Which tribe does Jesus belong to?
3. Titus 3:9 tells us to shun a certain kind of activity. What is this activity that we should avoid?
4. Ephesians 5:19 commands Christians to sing, accompanied by music or melody on a certain instrument. What instrument?
5. Acts 2:1 mentions a special religious festival day for the Jewish people. What is the name of this day?
6. Acts 17:7 records an accusation made against Christians. What were they accused of?
7. Romans 1:16 tells us that Paul was not ashamed. What was it that Paul was not ashamed of?
8. Romans 4:3 and 9 says that Abraham had something which God counted as righteousness. What was it?
9. 2Corinthians 9:7 describes the kind of person God loves. What kind of person does God love?
- 10 1Corinthians 10:23-24 improves on doing whatever is lawful or allowable. What is the nobler principle?

(produced with permission of Ron Graham from simply bible quiz 701

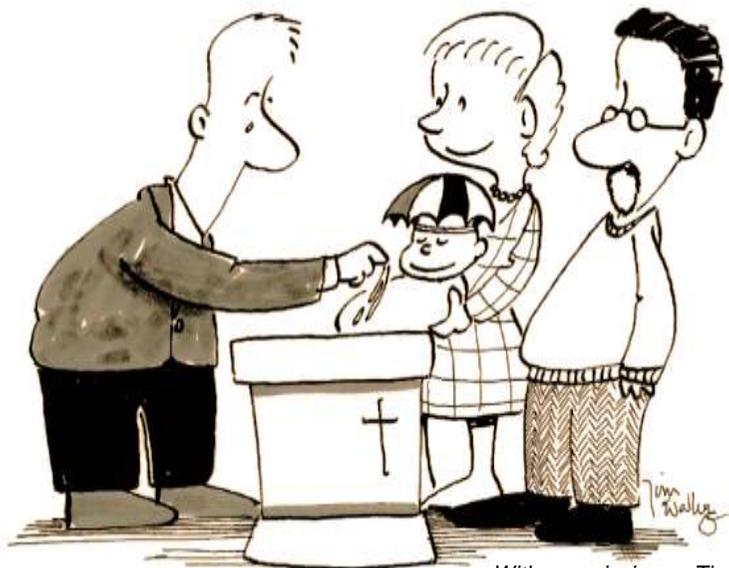
www.simplybible.com)

**be still
and know
that I am
God**



Psalms 46:10

CARTOON PAGE



With permission - Tim Wallburg

With permission - Tim Wallburg



"We had to go through a few design changes before we found the perfect stackable chair."



DAVID AND GOLIATH

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