

CONTACT

introduces and welcomes
YOU
to

PENWORTHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 2019

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www.penworthamurc.org.uk

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

90th Birthday Celebrations

This year is the 90th anniversary of our church being built. As part of our celebrations we are having our Birthday Party on the 21st September. We are sure you all know about this and have added your names to the list on the foyer notice board.

Worship Group 1 is leading the Service on the 29th September taking the anniversary as a theme. This has meant looking for and reading the archives that we hold in church. What a revelation !!! It is fascinating especially how things have changed even though we are worshiping in the same worship space as they did 90 years ago. We wonder if 90 years ago it was ever envisaged:-

the children would be such a part of Sunday Worship whether taking the collection, joining in a hymn, making us smile, leading services, taking communion, serving to the Minister and Elders on duty, the list goes on.....

we would not have our own minister but we would be part of the South Lancashire Partnership.

PURC would have the largest Scout Troop in the country

The list of changes is endless but some things have remained the same.

Our Worship space built 90 years ago may be decorated differently, the fittings changed but it was then, and is today, a very special space where we come to learn more about God and worship him. It's the special place we come to honour Him away from the distractions of the world where we sit quietly and listen respectfully just as happened in this place 90 years ago. So let's come to church, tune out any distractions so we can be quiet and still and focus on what God is saying to us. So when God is speaking to us – through the preacher, the hymns, the prayers and the Holy Spirit's “..still small voice of calm” let us listen as if our life depended on it just as they did in this place 90 years ago.

CAN YOU ASSIST? - PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED

Penwortham Congregational Church

I am looking for any photographs of our church before the extension was built. The Congregational Church building was "Opened" in 1929 and I cannot find any record of this event.

Have any of you, your relatives or friends got any photos celebrating this important event?

I would like to make a bookmark to celebrate the building, and at present we only have a drawing of the proposed church which is different from the actual building.

I hope someone will have photos of the original church.



Thank you.....Hugh Dawkins

(Many thanks to Hugh for the thoughtful and timely production of a recording of Andrew Clelland's organ recital with photographic disc labels and index. As multi-skilled as ever - **well done Hugh.** (Ed.))

PASTORAL CARE

When I first became an Elder many years ago, we had a minister, and with help, guidance and support from Dave and my fellow Elders I felt as though I was able to contribute to the smooth running of our church.

And when we needed a secretary, Bev and I thought we could again assist in moving our church forward.

But then Dave left us for pastures new and we were left with no prospect of a minister for quite a while, and our Eldership went from 12 down to 8 serving members.

The Elders manage the best they can, but with 80+ members and friends it hasn't been easy, so we decided to try something new with our Pastoral link volunteers, the idea being is that two people will support each Elder with either distributing 'Contact', our monthly magazine, a phone call or visit to somebody who we may not have seen for a while and might be going through a difficult time in their lives. This is sometimes all that is needed to let them know that we are thinking of them and they haven't been forgotten.

Beverley and Gill (our treasurer) won't have a pastoral list, so hopefully they will have more time to concentrate on their specific duties, as most of you are aware Beverley does the lions share of the secretarial duties in the church, I support behind the scenes as much as I can but I will now take full responsibility for the pastoral side of things with Celia's help.

I personally think we do a good job of looking after our members and friends, but occasionally someone might get overlooked for various reasons, but now with our Pastoral Link Volunteers in place, (and we thank each and every one of them for agreeing to try this) we can make sure everyone is cared for spiritually and emotionally.

Love and blessings

Jenny

P.S. We still need one more person to assist Rita with supporting Brenda, if this is something you think you could do, please speak to Bev or myself.



NOTES FROM THE ELDERS

Sunday Morning Service

It has been brought to the attention of the Elders that late arrivals have not always been able to gain access to Church because of the front door being locked and have actually left!! After much discussion the Elders have decided that the door should be left unlocked but closed.

The blue vestry door will be bolted by the duty Elder.

Pastoral Care

As part of our Pastoral Care it will be necessary to update our "Church Family Data" sheet which will be happening in September/October. One of the comments we keep receiving is "Oh I didn't know they were poorly." In part this is due to the Government's stricter guidelines on divulging personal details and our reluctance to mention a person's name when they might want some privacy. We all feel very differently about these things.

Your Elders are asking your permission to mention your name in the Sunday weekly notices. This information will NOT be in "Contact".

Please speak to your elder if you do not want your name mentioned.

Communion

The invitation to the Lord's Table:

"He welcomes us.....Old or young, rich or poor, joyful or in sorrow, Jesus invites us to share bread and wine with Him....."

To allow everybody to participate in this most Holy Sacrament we serve Gluten free bread.



ALL ARE WELCOME YOUNG AND OLD

EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

MEN'S GROUP

Meets: 2.00pm Monday 2nd September in the Guild Room
Topic : "Metallic Miniatures" (with Noel Bracewell)

Next Meeting : 7th October *(Nigel L)*

WOMEN'S GROUP

Meets: 2.30pm Wednesday 4th September in the Guild Room
Topic : Group "Bible Market"

Next Meeting: 2nd October *(Brenda K)*

THE BUTTERFLIES GROUP

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

Next Meetings : 5th / 19th Sep *(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: September 14th / October 12th

(Gillian P)

CHURCH 90th ANNIVERSARY BIRTHDAY PARTY



We are soon to celebrate our 90th Anniversary in this building, which opened in 1929.

A "Birthday Party" will take place at:

3pm on Saturday 21st September 2019.

To assist with the arrangements, you will find a list on the foyer notice board to register your attendance

Do come along if you can.

EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER cont'd

PENWORTHAM AUTUMN SHOW

Saturday 28th September

12.00 noon – 4.00pm

at PURC

Admission: £1 adult 50p child £2 family

Those of you who came along to last year's show will know what splendid items were on display. The church building was bursting with artwork, crafts, baked items, preserves, wonderful flower arrangements, homegrown fruit and vegetables and lots more.

And we expect a similar display this year

There will be a good variety of outside stalls too, including a children's craft table run by PURC, plus the chance to get up close to some birds of prey, meet some local beekeepers, taste BBQ goodies, browse crochet and sewn items and enjoy our well stocked tea-room.

You will have an opportunity to watch a willow weaving demonstration and learn how to make a broken pot fairy garden.



This is a not-for-profit community event with something to interest and entertain all ages. If you wish to know more about the classes you can enter, there are schedules in the Church entrance hall, or you can check the Autumn Show Facebook page or look on the South Ribble BC website or speak to Maureen Whitlock

A THANK YOU FROM INTERNATIONAL AID RECEIVED IN JULY

Dear Friends at Penwortham United Reformed Church,
Just writing to say a big thank you for all the many knitted goods that were kindly dropped off (in July). Please pass on our thanks to all the knitters for all their hard work. These lovely items will make a great difference to the lives of people in need, especially poor communities our teams support in Ukraine, Moldova and Transylvania, who struggle through very harsh winters. Jean Rowlandson, Community Ambassador

WHAT'S ON SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	1st	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Worship Group 2/Elders
Monday	2nd	2.00pm	Men's Group	Guild Room
Wednesday	4th	2.30pm	Women's Group	Guild Room
Thursday	5th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
Saturday	7th	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Side Rooms
Sunday	8th	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev'd Frank Kendall
Wednesday	11th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	Side Rooms
Saturday	14th	2.30pm	Messy Church	
Sunday	15th	10.30am	Parade and Family Worship	Jeff Brailsford
			Scouts bringing gifts for the Foodbank	
Thursday	19th	1.00pm	Butterflies	Main Hall
Saturday	21st	3.00pm	PURC Birthday Party	Main Hall
Sunday	22nd	10.30am	Harvest Family Worship	Rev'd Nigel Lemon
			please bring gifts for the Foodbank	
Saturday	28th	12.00 noon	Penwortham Autumn Show	at PURC
Sunday	29th	10.30am	Family Worship	Worship Group 1

OCTOBER

Wednesday	2nd	2.30pm	Women's Group	Guild Room
Saturday	5th	10.30am	Coffee Morning	Side Rooms
Sunday	6th	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Rev'd Daleen ten Cate
Monday	7th	2.00pm	Men's Group	Guild Room
Saturday	12th	2.30pm	Messy Church	
Sunday	13th	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev'd Geoff Tolley
Wednesday	16th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	Side Rooms
Sunday	20th	10.30am	Parade and Family Worship	George Grime
Sunday	27th	10.30am	Family Worship	Rene Kendall

Note: Butterflies dates to be confirmed for October

All Services have a Junior Church & Crèche

(Pulpit Supplies: Brenda Kendall)

OFFERINGS AND ROTAS

Weekly Offertory

Gill T

23	Jun	£508.00	19 th	Jul	£496.00
30	Jun	£662.00	4	Aug	£548.00
7	Jul	£566.00	11	Aug	£527.00
14	Jul	£445.00	18	Aug	£497.00
21	Jul	£476.00			

Flowers

Cath A/Robert B

1	Sep	Marjorie Smith
8	Sep	Bill & Celia McCartney
15	Sep	Martin & Kirsty Mills
22	Sep	Harvest
29	Sep	Bill & Sue Bradley-White
6	Oct	Pat & Colin Whalley
13	Oct	Margaret & Alan Edward
20	Oct	Rita Taylor
27	Oct	Barbara Johnson

Sunday Coffee

Robert B

1	Sep	Margaret & Alan Edward
8	Sep	Viv and Graham Moore & Sue Bushell
15	Sep	Joan Kidman & Celia McCartney
22	Sep	Linda Coppin & Barbara Baird
29	Sep	Rita Taylor & Joyce Boreham
6	Oct	Anne Hall & Gemma Strange
13	Oct	Viv and Graham Moore & Sue Bushell
20	Oct	Joan Kidman & Celia McCartney
27	Oct	Margaret & Alan Edward

Closing date for the October "Contact" is Sunday 22 Sep,
Issue date for the October "Contact" is Sunday 29 Sep.

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AND WORLD HISTORY

“God of time and of history”. These words of invocation opened the prayer through which was constituted the 2019 AGM of the United Reformed Church History Society at its brief Study Conference last month in Cambridge. We meet like this every two years: this year’s gathering numbered about twenty-five people, comfortably housed at the URC’s Westminster College.

As usual, we were a mixed bunch of the ordinary alongside the great and the good of the URC. The latter included one current Moderator of General Assembly; two previous Moderators of Assembly, two previous Synod Moderators, and the present Clerk to General Assembly. Three participants had held posts with the World Council of Churches; another had been General Secretary of the Free Churches Council and then the Free Churches Group within Churches Together in England”. Among that foregoing list were the Revds Nigel Uden and Tony Burnham, both of whom had served on the Fylde: they were interested during our personal conversations to hear about ourselves at Penwortham.

For the more ordinary members of the Society, hailing from places as well distributed as Aberdeen, Bideford, North London or Nottingham in addition to PURC, it was as always good to know that our shared interest in the past ran alongside a continuing involvement in our denomination’s life. From elsewhere, the Baptists, Congregationalists and Welsh Presbyterians each contributed one attendee. And for me came the surprise of meeting someone who long ago had preached in Cheshire village churches which I knew, and a retired couple now in membership at the Sussex church where my mother once belonged.

The subjects of this year’s lectures ranged across the worlds of place and time: the small, ancient and resilient Waldensian Church of north Italian valleys; the effect on African Missions of the Great War and the Treaty of Versailles; the ecumenical relationships of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), not least with the URC; and how differently have historians of different decades viewed eighteenth century Religious Dissent in Britain. Implicitly or explicitly, these topics impinge on the present life of the URC: past experiences have their more recent parallels,.....cont’d on next page

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AND WORLD HISTORY *cont'd*

individual local churches know themselves part of a worldwide family through correspondence or exchange visits, our challenge to live individually and communally as Christians in a hostile environment is a daily test.

I read recently that someone had characterised the church historian as “the prophet looking backwards”. Many of us have only a relatively limited experience of the wider church: so it was stimulating to be reminded how great was the wealth of experience, perception and insight brought by my fellow History Society members. It encourages me to think that those of us who are interested in our church’s past history, and whose written work in the Society’s *Journal* charts widely differing aspects of that past, perhaps include some whose contributions to today’s church life may later have their own and honoured place in the recorded history of Britain’s religious dissent

Nigel Lemon

ORGAN RECITAL BY ANDREW CLELLAND ON 30 JULY 2019

On 30 July, PURC enjoyed an immensely Pleasant Tuesday Afternoon (a P.S.A, or Pleasant Sunday Afternoon meeting, was long a feature of many Congregational and Baptist churches) when Andrew entertained on the organ with the widest range of pieces from across four centuries: his solos were joined by some enthusiastic sing-alongs. Grand numbers by Karg-Elert and Widor opened and closed the programme; other serious but more reflective pieces came in between; the Cliff Richard’s Eurovision “Congratulations” engaged a noisy audience of a certain age; football supporters asserted that they were never alone; from a 20th century composer of especially Church of England choral pieces, CS Lang, came his Tuba Tune, showing how a solo stop is used; and we felt the quiet intention of a twenty-first-century Mass for Peace. A half-time break gave the opportunity for conversation, accompanied by kindly provided refreshments: we were much indebted to members who proposed the occasion and worked hard for its success. So after our real enjoyment but as Andrew leaves for two further years of study abroad, we might send with him a message to his newly adopted compatriots: “Russia, with no tradition of organ building or organs in churches: You really don’t know what you’re missing!”

Nigel Lemon

60th CELEBRATION

On Sunday 21st July, Basil and I were privileged to be invited to Chorley URC to a service celebrating the 60th anniversary of Rev. Michael Storr as Organist and Choirmaster there.

It was a wonderful service of hymns of praise and thanksgiving. It included an anthem by the 20 strong choir, "Give me a song" and another, a great arrangement of "Give me joy in my heart" with a powerful harmony by the men. There was also an item by the 15 or so ladies in the Music Group "Go forth with a song".

Michael played an organ voluntary "Highland Cathedral". He also gave the address reflecting on his 60 years and the formation of the choir.

The minister read letters of congratulation from Rev. Tony Burnham and Rev. Nigel Uden.

Michael's wife Joyce was presented with flowers.

After the service a buffet lunch was served.



At Penwortham members of our choir will remember Michael coming to help us to learn new music, especially at the time of the District Choir. Michael's father was minister at Chorley for 38 years, Michael said they have 98 years between them, he plans to achieve 100.

Hylde Hurst

PENWORTHAM FOODBANK - SUPPORT

Many of you support Penwortham Foodbank through your donations, your volunteering to help when the Foodbank is open on Fridays and by assisting sorting and transferring for immediate distribution or for temporary storage.

There is now a need for additional help from 12 noon on Fridays at the Kingsfold Community Centre. This to assist the coordinator, Julie Clowes, to check donations for immediate allocation or storage and transport to storage.

If you think you could help, please speak to myselfAnne Hall

PRAYER TOPICS

China - Surveillance of Christians

The surveillance and influencing of Christians by the government is increasing. Alongside churches that have been forced to close, there is a clear message: 'religion will damage your education, your career, and your future prospects'. Please pray for teachers, lecturers, and civil servants who are being told they should have no religious affiliations, and that active Christian life could mean they lose their job and apartment and prevent them getting any other good job. Pray also for children who are being taught that religion is anti-communist and therefore against all that China stands for. Pray that they will understand they can be a good citizen while also being a faithful Christian. *(Chinese Church Support Ministries -CCSM)*

India-Shortwave radio reaching rural communities Shortwave radio programmes have been broadcast into Central India for many years in local languages, along with the distribution of radios and solar powered lights into remote villages. As a result, one whole tribe that lives 80 miles from the nearest town, came to know Christ, including the tribal leader. As an act of thanksgiving, the leader set aside a parcel of land to build a community church. The desire is to make this a flourishing community space providing healthcare for the people who live there. Pray for the Stream of Life Community Church as they become a beacon of light to the surrounding region, and for the gospel to spread further into remote parts of the country.

(Reach Beyond)

Myanmar- Relationships with Theological Colleges

Give thanks for the developing relationships with theological colleges in Myanmar, who have been open to working with The Leprosy Mission. Pray that plans to add teaching modules about leprosy to their courses will soon be in place. Pray that students will be inspired to see the importance of mission through the local church, and that the Holy Spirit will soften their hearts to serve people affected by leprosy. *(The Leprosy Mission England and Wales)*

www.globalconnections.org.uk



UNICEF MITES SCHEME

www.unicef.org.uk/fundraise/

Period 01 Apr to 30 Jun 2019

your Mites (5p coins) total realised £57.85p

Keith Garner, the coordinator says "Please pass on my thanks to all at Penwortham for the generous donation of £57.85 and also for the wonderful support that you all give. I often assume that you know just how much this means to those folk who have so little, and I'm sure you do, but none the less I just want to say thank you on their behalf."

Keep the mites coming !! Ed.

Bible Word Search: CALLED TO BE MERCIFUL

N	C	O	Q	B	T	X	D	T	P	S	U	J	L	S
O	E	O	O	F	F	N	U	B	A	J	C	J	N	T
I	C	A	M	S	U	O	E	L	U	E	L	O	S	R
T	N	O	L	P	V	Q	V	M	G	L	I	R	I	E
A	E	V	O	L	A	A	P	A	G	S	D	W	N	S
I	I	X	U	D	T	S	R	J	S	D	E	V	N	P
L	T	R	W	I	S	U	S	E	O	Q	U	T	E	A
I	A	A	O	D	O	V	R	I	Q	Z	H	J	R	S
C	P	N	K	C	F	G	P	E	O	S	M	D	S	S
N	P	W	B	N	S	J	W	D	V	N	L	N	R	E
O	A	W	E	N	E	M	I	E	S	E	D	P	M	S
C	F	O	A	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S
E	P	R	Z	B	N	R	C	X	O	T	R	G	K	S
R	T	N	E	R	H	T	E	R	B	C	E	G	E	B
J	M	P	N	X	R	B	M	J	Y	M	B	E	J	G

BRETHREN

COURAGE

COMPASSION

ENEMIES

FORGIVENESS

JUDGMENT

LOVE

MERCY

PATIENCE

RECONCILIATION

REVENGE

SALVATION

SINNERS

TRANSGRESSIONS

TRESPASSES

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CARTOON PAGE

With permission Tim Walburg



The conga line collection was not a hit.

With permission Tim Walburg



"At least we got him to quit wearing jeans and a leather jacket."

God made
the plants.

