

CONTACT

introduces and welcomes

YOU

to

PENWORTHAM

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



*For everything there is a
season, and a time for every
matter under heaven. Ecc. 3:1 NRSV(A)*

4th October 2020

Web Site : www.penworthamurc.org.uk

PURC E-mail: penworthamurc@gmail.com

To contact Secretaries telephone - 07716129719

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

As we welcome the Autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colours of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the stream of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who gives us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the food we have been given.

Please help us to share with others.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen

Charlotte's school shared this prayer last week and I thought its simplicity was beautiful. It made me think that in this strange time of uncertainty we all need to take time to think, and be thankful, for the things we do have rather than focusing on the things that have been 'put on hold' for a short while.

Listening to the news, and reading social media, it would be easy to always focus on the negative. Everyone seems to be complaining about their liberty and freedom being taken away, of conspiracy theories about the government spreading 'fake news' to control us and about everything they have lost during the pandemic.

I prefer to think about all the things we still have and we can still do and find being grateful for these things stops me focusing on the negatives.

So what are some of the things I feel thankful for:

- Communication – that I can still speak to friends and family on the phone or at the end of their driveway! That I can still pick up a pen and write a letter to a friend – something I have not done in a long time.

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD cont'd

- Fresh air – that I can still get out in the fresh air – I have discovered more about my local neighbourhood in the last 6 months than I have in the last 16 years. We have found walks we never knew existed and pleasure in the simple things such as 2 wood pigeons nesting in a tree in the garden and slowly getting fatter to feed their 2 chicks.
- Technology – that at the click of a button I can watch 100's of different programmes, research all sorts of information on the internet and even have facetime or zoom calls with my family and friends (although I do not like seeing myself on the screen!!).
- Belonging to a community – even though we are currently not meeting it still gives me comfort that I belong to our church community. To know that we are all thinking of each other and that, should I need it, a friendly voice is just at the other end of a phone.

So as the nights draw in and the cold weather takes hold let's find warmth in our church community and in thanking the Lord for the things we do have, food on our tables, friends and family in our hearts and a beautiful world that we can see each morning just by looking out of our window.

God bless you all

Gillian Price



FRIENDS AND FAMILY



Again there isn't much to share with you about our friends and families this month, with the new local lockdown in place, we can't mix in our households for the time being, which must be quite difficult for some of you.

But we remain positive and like Gillian says in the 'foreword' this month, we have a lot to be grateful for and we must focus on the positive things in our lives at the moment.

My daughter turns 40 at the beginning of the month and we have had to change our plans for the day quite a few times recently due to the new guidelines, but we will make sure that she has and enjoys a wonderful day.

If you have managed some time away in the last month, we hope it was enjoyable, we live in a beautiful country and now might be the time to go and visit one of those places you've always wanted to go, (if you are able).

Our love and best wishes go to anybody who will be celebrating a birthday/anniversary in October.

And finally our love and prayers go to anyone who has on going hospital/doctors appointments in the next month.

Stay strong..
Stay safe...
Have faith...until we meet again.

With love from your Elders.



NOTICES AND INFORMATION

WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group send their best wishes to two of their number who have a birthday in October namely:

Fran Barker and Doreen Baker
Many Happy Returns (Jean Frew)



INTERNATIONAL AID COLLECTION 2020 /21

**International
Aid Trust**
Christian Compassion For A Hurting World

It isn't possible for us to make our usual Christmas shoebox collections this year BUT PLEASE don't forget them, they run their scheme year round. Worldwide there are people with very little comfort and basic

items to make life bearable. At the moment storage and distribution is at a standstill both at PURC and the depot in Much Hoole.

This year everything collected must be non -perishable, so NO sweets/food/ chocolate.

I would like to suggest that if you are able to put together a "Personal Hygiene Pack" which is a ziplock plastic bag or plastic box with lid or toiletry bag (for all age groups) filled with any of the following items :

Toothpaste and brush, face cloth, tablets of soap, comb, shampoo, antiseptic cream, E45 type lotion, small hand towel.

These would then be given out in the orphanages, homes, villages as and when possible.

Other items suitable for storage are...hats/gloves/ socks/underwear, sanitary goods, small mirrors, hair accessories, manicure sets, disposable razors, small cuddly toys. If you would rather fill a pack of pens /pencils/notepad etc then they will be appreciated.

I have to ask you all to be generous but to keep your items at home until I have heard from International Aid, Please look at the website if you would like to see what they are involved with.

Money donations are used for the large transport costs.

Thank you all for your past donations and for any help you can give in these difficult situations.

(Rita Taylor)

URC NW SYNOD EVENTS - OCTOBER

**The NW Synod invites you to
Join a 2 Session Intro to ZOOM for
Hosts and Users with**



**Lawrence Moore and Dan Morrell on
7/8 October : Introducing Zoom
14/15 October: Getting the most out
of meetings**

**Choose a 2-3.30pm or 7-8.30pm slot.
Register : office@nwsynod.org.uk**

1. An introduction to Zoom

- a. Why Zoom? (Genuine meeting online: limitations and possibilities)
- b. A tour of the features (Speaker/gallery view; muting/unmuting; video; participants; chat; reaction buttons; polling; waiting room)
- c. Screen sharing (PowerPoint; using videos/music; whiteboard)
- d. Breakout rooms: Zoom's USP
- e. Security: creating a secure space online
- f. Licensing

2. Getting the most out of your meeting

- a. Using Zoom (services, Church Meeting, Elders' Meeting, coffee mornings etc)
- b. Setting up for hosts: (passwords; waiting rooms; breakout rooms; muting; polling)
- c. Preparation (camera set up; lighting; AV checks)
- d. Timetabling: "Less is more"
- e. Using presentations
- f. Streaming music/videos
- g. Maximising interaction/reading the virtual room
- h. Zoom etiquette
- i. Recording meetings

**You are invited to October's online Partnership Coffee Morning
hosted by Rev'd Daleen ten Cate via ZOOM
on Friday 23rd October at 10.00am**



If you would like to join us, and you haven't signed up before, please send an email to Daleen.TenCate@nwsynod.org.uk so that Daleen can email you an invite.

Institutional Violence Increases in Nicaragua

A recent report by Amnesty International has highlighted the government's strategy of repression, excessive use of force, extrajudicial executions and control of the media. Most recently, pro-government armed groups have been used to halt protests in the streets.



Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere after Haiti. It is one of the three countries in the world worst affected by weather catastrophes, and the UN has warned that storms here will only get worse. These emergencies push back the country's economic development.

Commitment for Life partners with Christian Aid in four countries in Central America – Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua. We are working with around 30 partner organisations, from community-based groups to larger organisations operating across the region and beyond.

Our partners include indigenous communities, small farmers' associations, development organisations, research institutions and faith-based organisations. Thank you for your ongoing support of Commitment for Life in support of global justice.

PRESTON XAVERIAN MISSION ONLINE RETREATS - OCTOBER

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL AND SUFFERING | This issue has caused many to question their faith. We explore this from various angles in order to think the whole subject through, understand various approaches and see how this does not need to be an obstacle to faith. **Thursday 8th October 6.30-9pm**

RESURRECTION ANGEL | Sitting on the tomb's stone, playing a banjo, laughter in her eyes... we explore the joy and humour in a Resurrection Gospel text and create our own resurrection angel. **Sat 17th October 2-5pm OR Mon 19th October 9.30am-12.30pm**

THE ABSENCE OF GOD | What is happening if we feel God is absent? Negotiating our way through this - for our own faith and also to help others going through this experience. **Tues 27th October 6.30-9pm**

INTRODUCTION TO THE ENNEAGRAM | Christian faith calls for self-knowledge; this tool, based on ancient wisdom, can be a superb way to know ourselves better. **Thursday 29th October 6.30-9pm**

All retreats cost £20, unless otherwise stated. For bookings, please contact Donna Worthington: drworthington@live.co.uk

South America

Brazil - Peace in Brazil

Brazil has abundant wealth, yet more than 16 million people live in conditions considered 'extreme poverty' – pray for these people. Brazil is also the country of the 'jeitinho': finding a way around things. In some cases this can reveal a sinful mentality which says it is fine to trample on others to get what you want and has led to an ethical crisis. Please pray against this and for Latin Link Brazil to grow as a sending and receiving team.

(Latin Link)

East Asia

Japan - Churches in Japan

Most churches are relatively small and there can be a tendency for members to view evangelism, discipling, pastoral support, and other essential roles as the responsibilities of the pastor or leadership team. Older pastors especially feel obliged to perform most of these roles themselves, but if a role is assigned, they may not always be assigned based on an individual's gifts. Please pray for leaders to have wisdom and servant-heartedness; for the younger generation to step forward; for the wisdom of one generation of leaders to be passed down to the next; for church members to recognise and make use of their gifts and for church leaders to support and encourage their members in this.

(Japan Christian Link)

East Asia

Taiwan - Mission workers return to Taiwan

Deaf unreached people groups

Praise God that Taiwan has passed over 100 days with no locally transmitted Covid-19 cases, although there have been a few imported cases recently. Several OMF workers have been able to return to Taiwan after home assignment in recent months and have been given the all clear to start back in ministry. Also, most churches have resumed and schools opened, with appropriate precautions in place

(OMF International UK)

above with permission of - www.globalconnections.org.uk

Penwortham United Reformed Church

There's a Church that's well loved in the District
By dozens of members and friends.
There's worship for adults and children,
And film nights, messy church, list never ends.

At present the Church has to close,
Because of this corona virus,
But the Church magazine is frequently read,
With news of good friends to inspire us.

Nine Elders can't meet in the flesh,
Still they make good use of ZOOM,
Making plans, discussing, sharing.
Their caring disperses the gloom.

One day when this outbreak is over,
We'll have Church again as of yore,
With singing, and offertory without spacing,
And coffee and fellowship and more.

The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will meet,
Weddings, Communion, Coffee mornings.
With hope and with prayer we'll get there,
In God's time when new days are dawning.

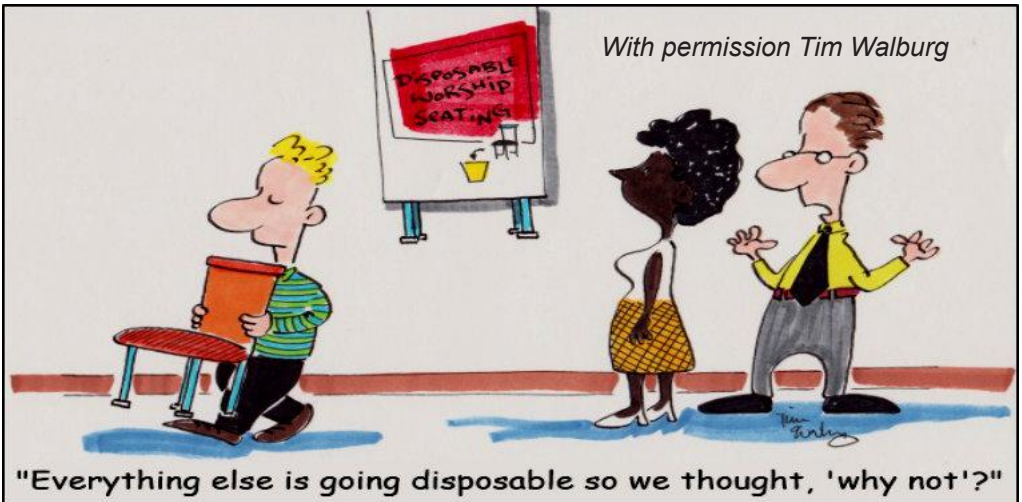
Hylða Hurst



WOMEN IN THE BIBLE - WORDSEARCH

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

Abigail	Esther	Jezebel	Mary	Rahab
Deborah	Eve	Miriam	Naomi	Rebekah
Elizabeth	Hannah	Martha	Priscilla	Ruth
<i>Words may be Horizontal, Vertical, Diagonal. Back to Front -</i>				<i>Ed.</i>
<i>For solution contact Ed.</i>				



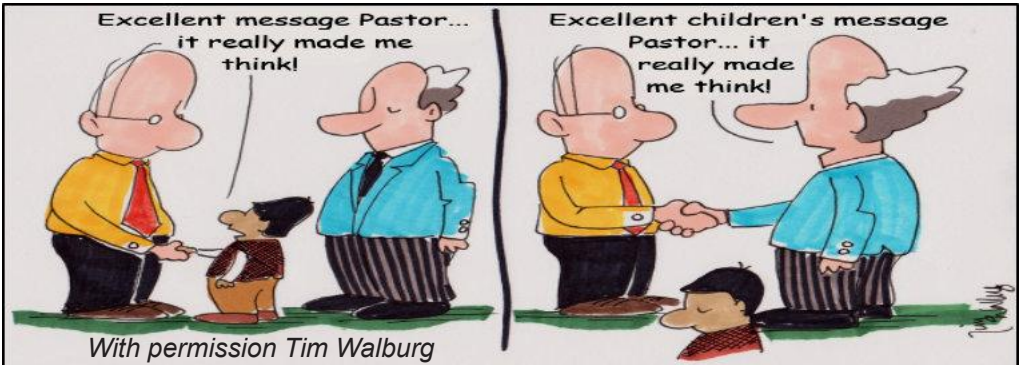
"Everything else is going disposable so we thought, 'why not?'"

BIBLE RIDDLES FROM THE INTERNET

1. *What animal could Noah not trust?*
2. *I was appointed but wasn't expected;
swallowed whole what I did not eat
I was a place of prayer out of sight
And when I was sick, God approved!
I am in the Bible - what am I?*
3. *I kept him steady and others away
I kept them safe and showed the way
Once thrown down upon the ground
I came alive with a hissing sound
I hit the rock as he was told
And that was when the water flowed
I am in the Bible - what am I?*

Answers

1. The cheetah
2. The fish that swallowed Jonah
3. Moses staff



Dear Reader

“Contact” is being published as usual on our Website (minus any personal/pastoral news not confirmed for general publication) :

see: www.penworthamurc.org.uk

If you have anything you would like to contribute to “CONTACT” it will be most welcome - send by e-mail to purcmagweb@talktalk.net or a text to 07538976140 or call Alan Edward on 01772740129; or deliver your contribution to the church through its letter box or to 27 Hazel Close. **Many thanks to all those who are contributing.**

Next submission date will be : 11 October. It is hoped to get

“Contact” to you by the following dates:

this issue by 04 October then on 18 October

With best wishes to you all. Ed.

AUTUMN PREVIEW

