

# CONTACT

*introduces and welcomes*

**YOU**

*to*

**PENWORTHAM**

**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**



Flowers appear on the earth;  
the season of singing has  
come, the cooing of doves  
is heard in our land.

*Song of Solomon 2:12 (NIV)*

**2021-APRIL-2**

Web Site : [www.penworthamurc.org.uk](http://www.penworthamurc.org.uk)

PURC E-mail: [penworthamurc@gmail.com](mailto:penworthamurc@gmail.com)

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# PURC's EASTER MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY





## PURC INFORMATION

### THE FELLOWSHIP AT PURC



Let us particularly remember in our prayers those of our fellowship who are finding life difficult as a result of all the constraints that the pandemic has inevitably brought. Not least those who have had to endure bereavement, illness, family issues, social isolation and insecurity. Our Father knows everyone's needs so much better than we do. When we have done the little we can do (or are permitted to do), we know that the Lord is our provider. May we grow in faith and in the assurance of God's presence and sovereignty in all things - even pandemics! (Ed.)

### ZOOM JUNIOR CHURCH

Nearly a year ago, when we went into the first lockdown, Steven Mitchell very kindly offered to run a Junior Church session on Zoom and it was great. I had never heard of Zoom and had no idea how important it would become to enable us all to stay in touch. Steven, Gillian, Gemma and I lead the sessions which take place every two weeks. It is so lovely to see the children in their own homes - parents and grandparents too! As an adult, I really enjoy joining in when someone else is leading and doing the activities.



The format usually consists of a chat and news. The good thing about the children being at home is that they can show us things. We have been joined by pet rats, a cat and guinea pigs! We do activities such as scavenger hunts (or some sort of activity that they can do physically and includes moving around), spot the difference, Kim's game and hang man.

We usually have a short film clip, a story/message, a craft or colouring activity and a closing prayer. We use the Pilots scheme for our weekly sessions and also cover the major festivals - Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.

We think about the Christian message and what we can do to help others. The children and adults enjoy the fellowship and take something away with them. (Gillian Ashurst)

*The spiritual welfare of our Junior Church is of paramount importance and so we all say a big Thank You to everyone involved in continuing the work with Junior Church during these difficult times. (Ed.)*

## PURC NOTICE

### URC NW Synod -Support for Missional Partnerships in Lancashire

#### You are invited to the Partnership Online Communion in April 2021

Please join me for communion and fellowship around Jesus' table.

**30th April @ 10am- Lancashire South Missional Partnership**



If you would like to join us, and you haven't signed up for the Coffee mornings/ Communion before, please drop me an email, in order for me to send you an invite [Daleen.TenCate@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:Daleen.TenCate@nwsynod.org.uk)

## A REFLECTION

### TRY BIRD WATCHING!

**‘Look at the birds.’ Matthew 6:26 NLT**

You may not like the political party that's in power, but you're much better off than the Jewish people Jesus was speaking to here. Their country was occupied by the Romans, and they paid extortionate taxes to keep them in power. They lived as slaves so they worried a lot. Then Jesus came along and said: 'Look at the birds. They don't plant...harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?' (w. 26-27 NLT). In other words, if you worry a lot-try bird watching! Birds don't know where their next meal is coming from, yet you never see one sitting on a branch having an anxiety attack. So here's the question: 'Aren't you far more valuable to

God than they are?' A man who was out of work, despondent, and worried about feeding his family noticed some birds eating strawberry shortcake from a bin. All at once it dawned on him - 'If God can feed the birds strawberry shortcake, surely He can take care of me too!' Even if you suffer from a poor self-image and think you're not worth taking care of, aren't you still more valuable than a bird? So look at how well your heavenly Father takes care of them, and remind yourself that He will take care of you too. If anxiety is robbing you of happiness during the day and sleep at night, make up your mind to live by this Scripture: 'Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you'd Peter 5:7 NLT

*above with permission United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST64JF and taken from UCB 'Word for Today' - free copies are available for the UK at this address or online at [www.ucb.co.uk/read](http://www.ucb.co.uk/read)*



**Land of Coffee and Honey, Nicaragua** is the second poorest country in Latin America and deeply affected by climate change. 80% of the population depends on agriculture. Our partner Soppexcca is an umbrella organisation representing 650 farmers and 18 coffee cooperatives.

Changes in weather patterns are affecting crop yields. Also, recent drops in the price of coffee, have forced farmers to diversify.

**Arlen Joel Lopez Pineda**, a young honey farmer (25) near Jinotega who works with Christian Aid's wonderful partner Soppexcca, writes:

'We started with four young farmers in 2014 with support from Soppexcca for a project specifically for young people who are family members of farmers. I had seen beekeeping before so when Soppexcca contacted us with the idea of the beekeeping project, I said yes.

The next year, we had good honey production. The next year, more farmers joined us, and we helped train them. From 20 hives in the community, it went to 50. We also make honey products that help with coughs, shampoo and honey chocolate, creamy honey mixed with chocolate and honey and peanuts.

The beekeeping is part of a strategy to diversify the farm. Climate change is affecting the coffee, with half the bean being ripe and other half not. With the beekeeping we can see the effects of climate change. In the summer, it's raining and then it's too hot and sunny, when it's dry you have the flowers and when the flowers are ready to be harvested by the bees, it rains, and the bees don't come out of the hives. In the future we want to grow and have our own trademark and a certificate of hygiene from the government. We can then start selling in supermarkets. Producing honey is something pretty. We aren't polluting, and we are helping to pollinate the flowers and it's another means of diversification for our farm. We want to thank Soppexcca for supporting us with hives and technological support.'

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - ADVANCED NOTICE

### Christian Aid Week : Can you help?



Hello Everyone,  
Just a reminder that Christian Aid Week is May 10-16th this year.

Barbara and I have received our stack of “ delivery only” envelopes and are asking for volunteers to help us deliver them. That is all that is required, a team of “ distributors” as no collecting involved this year. There will be collection points for people to take their own donations to themselves. So far the local Post Office and Spar have agreed to be collection points and we are waiting to hear from Tesco and Booths.

Of course online giving may be more convenient [caweek.org](http://caweek.org)  
CAid Preston now has a Facebook presence and JustGiving page too.

<https://www.facebook.com/christianaid.preston>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/christian-aid-preston>

Please help Barbara and I to support CAid in Penwortham by contacting us to confirm that you are willing to deliver “ delivery only” envelopes. We need to allocate roads and the amount of roads we can deliver to depends on your help.

Do give us a call or drop us a line as soon as possible so arrangements can be made, ideally before the next CAid meeting on 14th of this month.

Barbara Edmondson: phone 01772 746443 or email

[6muirfield@talktalk.net](mailto:6muirfield@talktalk.net)

Cath Addison: phone 01772 744505 ( answering machine) or email

[catherineaddison@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherineaddison@hotmail.co.uk)

Thank you in anticipation ?Barbara and Cath

## URC COMMITMENT FOR LIFE - ADVANCED NOTICE

Dear Friends

Commitment for Life in partnership with Christian Aid are organising during Christian Aid week, on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm ‘Zoom to Zimbabwe’. We do hope that you are able to join us for an afternoon of updates, music, fellowship and more. Please do put this in your diaries and circulate the attached poster amongst your congregation.

Suzanne Pearson

URC Commitment for Life

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/93023982876?pwd=QIRhTStDcGhtQ29vWUMyYFdWLYs4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 930 2398 2876 Passcode: 750863



## WORLD PRAYER NEWS

### **Indonesia - South East Asia- Outreach to the Bonai People**

*Please pray for the Bonai people of Indonesia. One of the WO teams has made an exploratory prayer trip to visit this group. Pray for workers who feel a distinct call from the Lord to reach them. Pray that the Lord would open the hearts of the Bonai to receive the gospel. Pray for creative ideas for our team planning to reach them. Pray that, in years to come, there would be a thriving church planting movement among the Bonai (World Outreach Int.)*

### **China - North & East Asia - Evangelism to the Uyghur People**

*The Uyghur church largely survives in secret. Small groups of believers pepper the vast land, three times the size of France. Squeezed on both sides by Muslims who consider defection not only a religious but a cultural betrayal, and Communism that insists there is no God. Praise God for stories emerging from the camps of believers having led others to faith, and others who have come out stronger, inspired to build the church. A Bible translation project nears completion, and an app has had hundreds of thousands of scripture viewings and many enquiries (People International)*

### **West Asia - Translators in this region.**

*This is an opportunity to pray for the 2.2 million Zam\* speakers in a part of West Asia that is hostile to the gospel. Many Zam speakers also speak their West Asian national language, but not all do. Pray that the gospel will especially capture the hearts of those people who only speak Zam. Pray that the translation team will know God's guidance as they translate portions of the Old Testament to record and dub a film version of the lives of the prophets. \*Name changed for security. (Wycliffe Bible Translators)*

### **Scotland - Western Europe - Help for addicts in Scotland.**

*Scotland has the worst drug-related death rates in Europe. Pray for Betel which focus on those with addictions. Betel in Scotland would like to open a women's centre, and also another men's centre as their Motherwell property has limited capacity. Pray for the men currently there, for each one to come to freedom in Christ (WEC International)*

above with permission of - [www.globalconnections.org.uk](http://www.globalconnections.org.uk)

A WARTIME GARDEN



From nineteen forty onwards  
Gardens took on a new look,  
Flower beds and lawns were dug up,  
People planted things they could cook.



Potatoes, carrots, onions, leeks,  
Were the norm and also large cabbages,  
Dig for victory, was the slogan,  
To combat the enemies ravages.

Not just the domestic gardens,  
Local parks were treated the same.  
All who could played their part  
It didn't seem much of a shame.

Lettuce and mustard cress were grown,  
Where once the proud lawns were mown,  
Salad stuff was not very filling,  
And children were taught to show willing.

The children were taught how to plant.  
Many things could be grown from seeds,  
They could have their own plot to tend  
And keep it all clear from the weeds.

With hard graft, sacrifice and good cheer,  
We managed to keep from starvation,  
Largely self sufficient in essentials,  
For six years fed the whole nation.



*Hylfa Hurst*





## CARTOONS

With permission Tim Walburg



"That's what caused your blowout."

### BE THANKFUL

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

- COLOSSIANS 3:15 NIV

www.joyfultoons.com © 2013 Michael D. Waters

# WORDSEARCH - WORLD MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - K-M

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

Kabosy

Kanteke

Laruan

Lyre

Marovany

Kadlong

Kazoo

Lesiba

Mandolin

Mellophone

Kalimba

Langeleik

Likembe

Maracas

Melodica

Words may be Horizontal,Vertical,Diagonal,Back to Front - Ed.

For solution contact Ed.

## CONTACT

### Dear Reader

"Contact" is being published as usual on our Website (minus any personal/pastoral information advised as not for general publication). See [www.penworthamurc.org.uk](http://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](mailto:purcmagweb@talktalk.net) or a text to 07538976140 or call Alan Edward on 01772740129 or deliver to 27 Hazel Close.

**Many thanks to those who are contributing.**

**Next submission date will be 25 April**

**Next issue will be 2 May**

**Ed.**

