

CONTACT

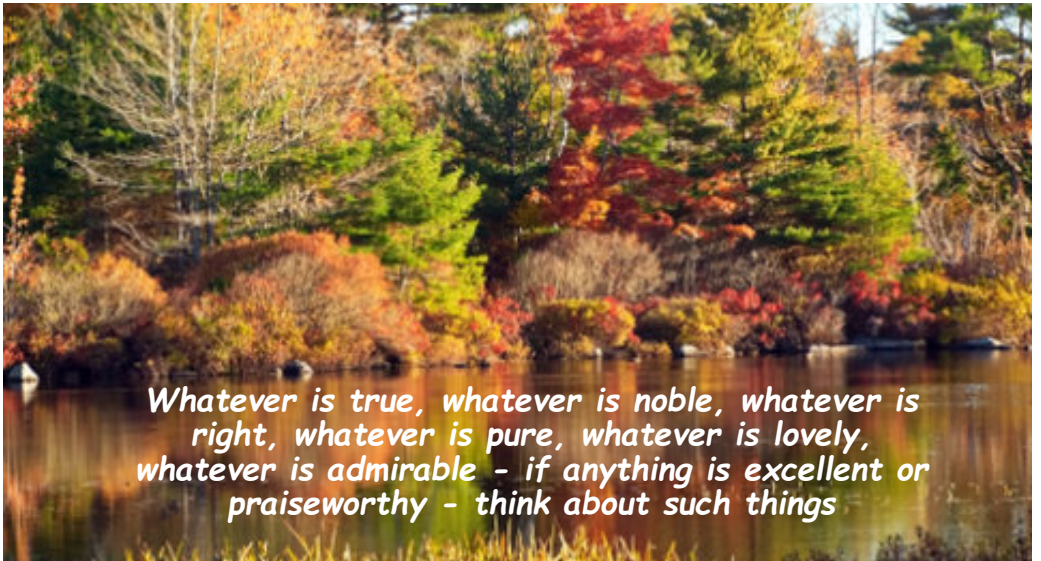
introduces and welcomes

YOU

to

PENWORTHAM

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things

OCTOBER 2022

Web Site : www.penworthamurc.org.uk
PURC E-mail: penworthamurc@gmail.com
For contact telephone - 07716129719

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

The year rolls on, our summer becomes autumn and the long daylight days shorten. Harvest is here and the farmers are busy. However, this year is a year of problems and change

On the 8th of September our Queen Elizabeth II passed away leaving her family and the nation despairingly saddened.

Our Monarch of over 70 years was greatly admired for her Christian faith, steadfastness and ability to treat everyone with ease.

Royalist or not, we can learn from her majesty's approach and conduct ourselves with respect, compassion and understanding with one another.

Let us all wish King Charles III a long reign and happiness.

With all that is happening around, the worsening energy crisis, increased food prices etc, the strength of our personal faith becomes more important in our daily life within the church community and close friendships. These days will pass, so let us all look forward to happier times with confidence.



God bless us all.

Bill

FAMILY AND FRIENDS NEWS

This month has been a busy month. It was good to have the scouts back with us and to see the church so full.

We must thank everybody who gave a donation for the Foodbank. These have been taken to Kingsfold Community Centre.

The Junior Church are back in the fold after their Summer Break.

We are looking forward to the coming together event on the 1st of October where we will have an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the family of Margaret T at this sad time.

Congratulations to Cath and Ken An on becoming proud Grandparents to Harris Maxwell A, a son to Karl and Caroline A .

Our best wishes go to anybody who is celebrating a birthday or Anniversary and anybody who might be feeling under the weather.

Love and Blessings Anne.



PURC SERVICES FOR OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2022

2 nd Oct.	Holy Communion	3.00pm	Rev'd Martin Whiffen
9 th Oct.	Family Worship	10.30am	Rev'd Angela Robinson
16 th Oct.	Parade Service	10.30am	Steven Mitchell
23 rd Oct.	Family Worship	10.30am	Alan Edward
30 th Oct.	Family Worship	10.30am	Rev'd Nigel Lemon
6 th Nov.	Holy Communion	10.30am	Margery Pitcher
13 th Nov.	Remembrance Sunday Family Worship	10.30am	Linda McLanachan
20 th Nov.	Family Worship	10.30am	Rev'd Frank Kendall
27 th Nov.	Family Worship	10.30am	George Grime (Brenda)

PURC FLOWER ROTA OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2022

2 nd Oct.	Bill & Sue B-W
9 th Oct.	Colin W
16 th Oct.	Margaret & Alan E
23 rd Oct.	Rita T
30 th Oct.	Jack & Margaret T
6 th Nov.	Barbara D
13 th Nov.	Gill T
20 th Nov.	Marjorie S
27 th Nov.	Alan & Beverley S



(Jenny)

NEW STYLE STAMPS



Many of you will have seen stamps like this by now – purple for first class and green for second. In future, stamps will carry these barcodes, except for specials.

If you have any of the simple stamps we were used to, you have until the end of January to use them – or swap them for new-style ones.

If you can't manage to use them by the dead-line, you need to go on-line, type in "swap-out form", and print one off. Fill in the form, enclose the stamps, and send it to FREEPOST, SWAPOUT.

Easy really, but don't leave it too late.

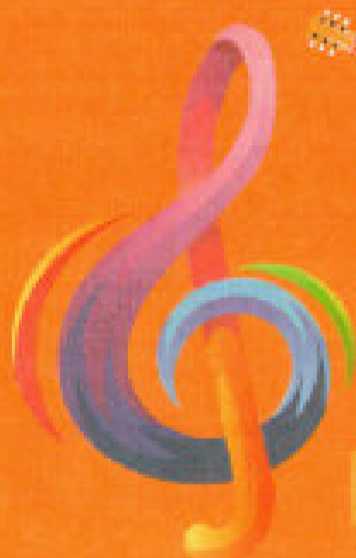
(Brenda)

COME TOGETHER

DATE: 1ST OCTOBER 2022

TIME: 1PM- 4PM

PLACE: PENWORTHAM URC



COME ALONG AND
ENJOY THE UKELELE
BAND, FOOD AND A QUIZ!



**RSVP BY THE END OF AUGUST -
PENWORTHAMURC@GMAIL.COM**

COMMUNITY SOCIAL AFTERNOON

at

PENWORTHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
Liverpool Road, Penwortham, PR1 0QB

Monday 24th October 2022 at 2.00pm

EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

A PRESENTATION OF
CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATIONS
BY

LINDA McLANACHAN



*The event will be followed by
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits
The cost will be £4.00*

Do come along and bring a friend



PURC CHARITY NEWS - INTERNATIONAL AID TRUST



The shoebox appeal is now in full operation. I have leaflets with information and a poster in the foyer plus a very good website to look at. <https://internationalaidtrust.org.uk/>

I am placing a box on the stage for any items from the lists in the leaflets, (please note no aerosol cans); these will then go to places of great need , either in a shoebox or a reusable bag. If you would like to donate a filled shoebox and bring it to church I will make sure that they are taken to the depot for distribution .

I am aware of the cost of items to fill a box but if we all just give whatever we can then we will be helping people who maybe can't even access basic hygiene products or a pen,pencils or paper never mind a treat .

Please ask me for any more information about the scheme.
Thank you. (From Rita)

“CONTACT” AND WEBSITE MAINTENANCE 2023

Most of you will be aware that Alan & Margaret will be taking a year out from calendar based tasks in 2023, which creates a vacancy (or vacancies) for the maintenance of our “**Contact**” **magazine** and our **Website**.

We already know that the Elders have much on their plate, particularly in the continuing absence of a Minister and it would be most helpful to have a volunteer (or volunteers) to cover these tasks outside of the Elders team.

“**Contact**”. Anyone comfortable using a word processing software (e.g. Microsoft Word) should find “Contact” fairly straightforward, (note: it need not be in colour or illustrated for the coming year). The importance is to provide the basic news of the fellowship and upcoming activities, the sources of this information are those who organise the activities and who will also provide the data. Support will be available to help you get started for the February 2023 edition.

Website. Whilst a knowledge of Wordpress would be useful it is not essential. Again, help will be available to get you started and the URCs “iChurch” can provide training and support if required. This may well be a novel challenge for anyone interested in how websites work. (Note: the URC “host” the website; no technical issues involved).

Please do consider if you would like have a go at either of these and perhaps try something new.

Please speak to Alan at anytime about either of these. Thank you.

A REFLECTION

'WHATEVER'

'If anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.'
Philippians 4:8 NIV

To instruct us about how to feed our minds, the apostle Paul writes: 'Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.'

John Ortberg writes: 'The striking word in that command is whatever. Our minds are being shaped all the time, but we have great freedom to pursue minds that flourish. As a bee that can find nectar in all kinds of flowers, we are now free - even commanded - to feed our mind on noble thoughts wherever we find them.'

The Bible itself commands us to look beyond just the Bible to feed our minds. Let us meditate for a moment on that phrase "whatever is lovely". Think of something that is "lovely" to you. A sunset. A favourite novel...The face of someone you love. Music that makes you dance. Let your mind dwell there for a moment. Give it directed mental focus. You just obeyed the Bible. That "counts". You just opened your mind a bit to the flow of the Holy Spirit...

The Holy Spirit's goal is not to get you really good at suppressing angry behaviour. It is for you to have a mind characterised by an ever-increasing flow of Spirit-guided, truth-based, life-producing thoughts and feelings. When we read about what is noble, when we see something praiseworthy, we experience what psychologist Jonathan Haidt called "elevation". We actually feel a slight expansion in our chest; we feel lighter in our bodies. Our emotions are inspired, and we want to become more excellent ourselves. That counts as obedience to Scripture. That is spiritual.'

*'If anything is
excellent or
praiseworthy - think
about such things.'
Philippians 4:8 NIV*

*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*

(Margaret)

WORLD PRAYER NEWS

TIMOR-LESTE The Bible in a New Language

MAF recently flew a team of missionaries from KuLIT and Wycliffe Timor-Leste to deliver the Book of Ruth in the Mambae dialect to Same. This is the first book of the Bible to be translated into this dialect. The translators are hoping to work on the Gospel of Mark next, pray that it won't be long before it is also available, and that people will be hungry to read more of God's Word (*MAF International*)

UNITED KINGDOM - Sight Loss Friendly?

Please pray for people with sight loss in the UK, particularly those struggling to find a church which is inclusive and accessible for them, and that the *Sight Loss Friendly Church* initiative will continue to expand and support this need. (*Torch Trust for the Blind*)

JAPAN - Christian Leadership

Many churches in Japan have either no pastor or are being led by a pastor who would like to retire but there are no successors available. Please pray for all those involved in training Christian leaders in seminaries and other training organisations in Japan. Pray that many candidates will come forward for training, that their course fees and living expenses will be met and that God will raise up a vibrant new generation of Christian leaders to guide his people and enable every-member ministry within Japanese churches. (*Japan Christian Link*)

MALAWI - Bible Training

How would you prepare to preach if you had no Bible, no study books or formal theological education? This is the reality for many in Malawi. Worse still, rural communities are often steeped in animistic culture and traditions. Zambesi Mission runs 'bookset conferences' each summer to address these challenges. They provide elementary biblical training for rural church pastors and elders. At the end, each participant is given a set of study books including the Bible in Chichewa. Please pray that everyone attending this year's conferences would be blessed by God and fully equipped for their church ministry.



*above with permission of
global connections.org.uk*

URC COMMITMENT FOR LIFE EXTRACT

THE DEBT CRISIS IN ZIMBABWE AND BANGLADESH

Debt is strangling the poorest people in both Zimbabwe and Bangladesh, and in any sane world would immediately be cancelled.

In 2019 Zimbabwean total debt stood at US\$17.69 billion with US\$7.7 billion of that being external debt. Only 25% is the principal amount, with the rest being interest accrued because of utterly insane, indeed immoral, interest rates. The global north, we note, is the primary beneficiary of a rabidly unjust, global financial and economic architecture.

Debt servicing has become a rising concern for Bangladesh, its economy battered by Covid-19 and global economic instability due to the ongoing war in Ukraine. Government revenues are slipping and its debt service to revenue ratio has rocketed to 81%, up from 56% pre COVID. There is less available for priority spending on health, education, and public investment. The IMF and World Bank encourages 'restructuring' or the privatisation of public assets to pay off debt, to the detriment of the poorest.

In fact, the global financial system beggars belief. Take the British foreign aid budget. The majority goes not to poor people but to a colonial-era investment firm called CDC that invests in luxury hotels, malls, and restaurant chains. In the end, only 3% of this aid goes to suppliers in the global south, with over 90% being paid to British firms. "This is the real scandal," says economist Jason Hickel. "Aid money is taken from the pockets of British taxpayers and sent straight into the already-gilded coffers of the British business elite. It's a shameful abuse of our most compassionate impulse," he concludes.

Together with Global Justice Now, Commitment for Life works to cancel the debt of the highly exploited nations. Thank you for all you do to bring about justice in our world through effective debt cancellation.

Commitment for Life Prayer : God of Abundance, help us find alternatives to debt. Give us the wisdom, means, courage to forgive debt, thereby subverting empire's economics for the sake of your kingdom.



POETRY PIECE



God has given us a book full of stories,
Said the hymn a century past,
It's a volume of sixty six books,
These readings forever will last.



So many stories of teaching or history,
Some of them simple to tell,
Or great sagas like Joseph's "Dreamcoat",
And brief ones like the woman at the well.



Great epics; think of Moses
leading a nation away from slavery,
Or Daniel in the den of lions,
With trust in God he found bravery.



The hymn says the best is the story
of Jesus from His birth in a shed,
To the man pledged to preach of God's love
And his miracles, as when five thousand were fed.

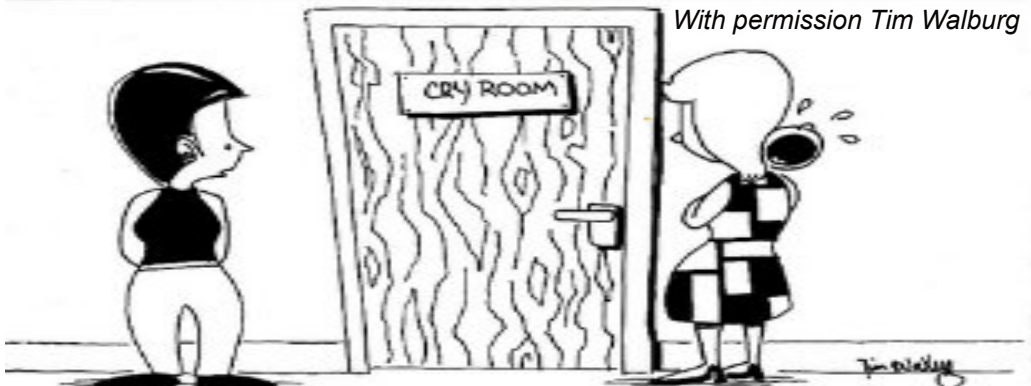


The man sent from God to bring thinking
of status, justice, so all men are equal,
The tales of old which will never grow cold,
An unending story with its own sequel.



Hylde

CARTOON



With permission Tim Walburg

"No, that's for the Pastor after people criticize his sermon."

A WORDSEARCH FOR NATIONAL DICTIONARY DAY - 16th OCT

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

Collins	Grammar	Oxford
Definitions	Language	Spellings
Dictionaries	Meanings	Study
Education	Nouns	Verbs
English	October	Words

*Words may be Horizontal, Diagonal, Vertical or Back to Front
For solution contact Ed.*

CONTACT MAGAZINE INFORMATION

Dear Reader

The next 'Contact' will be the November 2022 issue

'Contact' is also published on our Website (minus any personal or pastoral information not 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 on 01772740129 or deliver to 27 Hazel Close. **Many thanks to those contributing.**

Next submission date will be 23 October

Next issue date will be 30 October

Ed.

