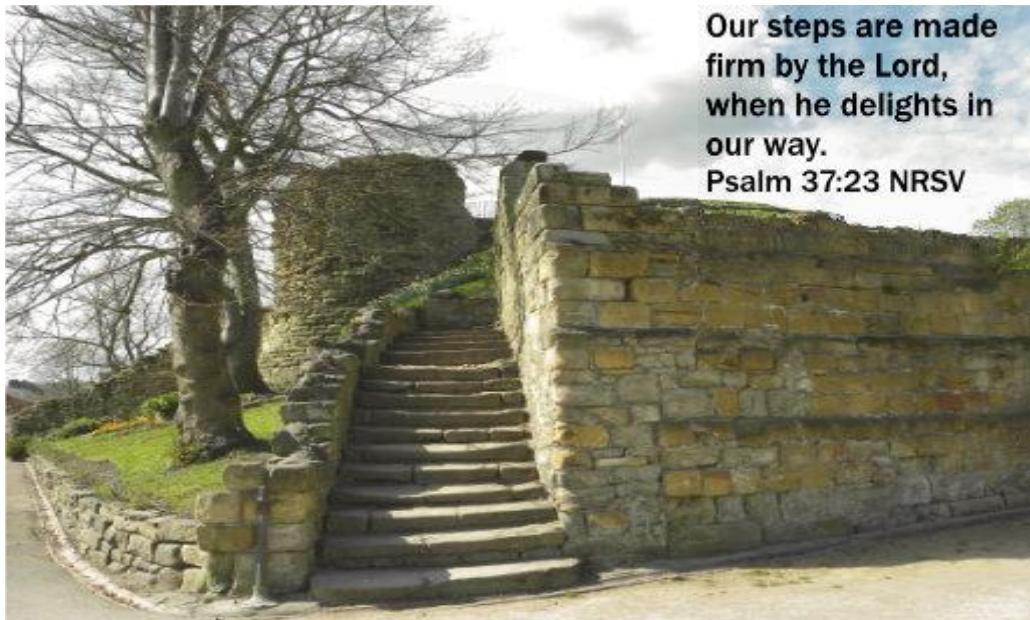


CONTACT

introduces and welcomes
YOU
to
Penwortham
United Reformed Church



Our steps are made
firm by the Lord,
when he delights in
our way.
Psalm 37:23 NRSV

FEBRUARY 2026

Web Site : www.penworthamurc.org.uk
E-mail: penworthamurc@gmail.com
Telephone - 07716129719

FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

Now all the bright lights of Christmas have gone. The days are getting longer, the snowdrops and daffodils are starting to show their heads, we can start and look forward to warmer weather.

Hopefully most of you have horrible flu virus. And if you starting to



managed to escape this did get it, you are feel better.



How many of you have broken your New Years Resolution already? I haven't made one this year. What are we going to give up for Lent?



Perhaps we'll do something that benefits others and helps us to come closer to God.

As we move into the each other and have meet when I am out, and welcoming. Hopefully, we can no matter what we are coming.



Spring, let us support faith. The people I tell me what a friendly Church we are. carry on growing and face, better days

I want to thank you all for your support when I have asked for help, it shows what a true family we are.



God Bless You All
Anne

Faith
FAMILY
friends

Uphold



It is with great sadness that the funeral of *Hugh D* will take place on Monday 2nd February. A Committal Service will take place at 10.30am at Preston Crematorium followed by a service of celebration at church from 11.30am. All are welcome to attend. Hugh has been an integral part of the church for as long as we can all remember and will be greatly missed. Please keep Jenny, Jemma, Joanne and all of Hugh's family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Mary L has asked us to express her sincere thanks for the cards, gifts and good wishes received on her 100th Birthday on 17th December 2025. Mary has subsequently been admitted a week ago into Chorley Hospital, and at the time of writing is very poorly. Please keep Mary in your thoughts and prayers.

Frank K has been moved from RPH to a care home.

Jack B has undergone major surgery in London on his knee. Robert was able to spend a short time with him between Christmas and New Year, and has confirmed that he is now recovering well.

It was good to see *Paul M* at church on 25th January, following a time in hospital due to problems with his fistula, required for his dialysis treatments.

Barbara & Peter E have not been well, and we send our very best wishes to them.

Gillian A & Robert visited *Martin O* in a nursing home in Oswaldtwistle, and found him looking well, despite his now permanent confinement to bed. Thank you to Stewart Taylor who has been over to see him twice in recent weeks.

We pray for others known to us who may not be so well, or are supporting family who are poorly and/or receiving hospital treatment.

If you know of anyone unable to attend church who would benefit from a home visit to receive communion then please contact one of the Elders.

Celebrate

Best wishes to *Stewart T* who himself has celebrated his 103rd birthday in late January.



Congratulations and best wishes to all those celebrating their birthday or other significant milestones this month, we hope that your special day is filled with love and happiness.

Connect

Our Christmas schedule saw the church well attended throughout the Christmas period. The Community Social was a great success, as always, and Katie's numerous events including Tiger Tots, Messy Church and the community choir invited a number of new people into the church. It was particularly lovely to see the church full for the carol service and we would like to thank Katie and the Choir for their performance and choral support.

For those of you looking for something to stave off the winter blues our new venture 'Creative Connections' commences on Monday 16th February and the Community Social returns on Monday 23rd February. Schedules for Tiger Tots, Community Choir and Messy Church have also been published and we would welcome anyone who would like to attend and support these activities. It is always nice to hear from anyone new visiting our church how welcoming they find the volunteers / congregation.

(Activities Details are on our [Facebook Page](#); in editions of "Contact", as well as on our [Website](#))

Best Wishes

The Elders

THANK YOU FROM RITA

I would like to thank everyone for your kindness and support over the last few months during the illness and passing of my brother, Keith.

I also have to say thanks for offering me help after my fall on Christmas Eve. My arm is healing well.

Rita T

ELDER'S MATTERS

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the Christmas services, decorations and arrangements.

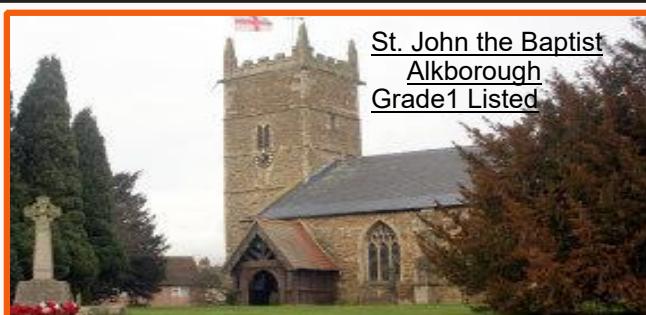
Further to, and as a part of our recent discussions with N.W. Synod, the Elders have arranged a visit to the Synod Office in Manchester on 25th February.

PURC SERVICES FOR - FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2026

| | | | |
|--------|----------------|---------|-----------------------|
| 01 Feb | Holy Communion | 10:30 | Rev'd Daleen Ten Cate |
| 08 Feb | Parade Service | 10:30 | Gillian Price |
| 15 Feb | Family Worship | 10:30 | Rev'd Brian Drury |
| 22 Feb | Family Worship | 10:30 | Alan Edward |
| 01 Mar | Holy Communion | **15:00 | Rev'd Martin Whiffen |
| 08 Mar | Parade Service | 10:30 | Beverley Strange |
| 15 Mar | Family Worship | 10:30 | Rev'd Clare Downing |
| 22 Mar | Family Worship | 10:30 | Rev'd Leo Roberts |
| 29 Mar | Family Worship | 10:30 | Darren Hollands |

** afternoon service 3pm

(Non T)



PURC ROTAS FOR - FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2026

| FLOWERS | DOOR | REFRESHMENTS |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 01 Feb Stewart T | | Beverley & Jenny |
| 08 Feb Jemma O | Viv | |
| 15 Feb Gill A | Cath | Kirsty & Alison |
| 22 Feb Barbara D | Gloria | |
| 01 Mar To Be Advised | Rita | Anne & Gloria |
| 08 Mar Mary L | Celia | |
| 15 Mar Gill T | Debra | Joyce & Rita |
| 22 Mar Pauline B | Graham | |
| 29 Mar Val T | Kirsty/Alison | |

(Jenny O) (Gillian P) (Gillian P)

Note: changes to Service and Rota details sometimes have to be made at short notice and are updated where possible in Sunday notices (Ed)

Creative Connections

Free art club for adults @
Penwortham URC

Monday 16th February

2:00pm-3:30pm with guest artist
Joey Cobb (collage making and
drawing workshop)

Monday 13th of April

2:00pm-3:30pm artist TBC

Fun, friendly art club welcoming all abilities
encouraging friendship and community. We will
have visiting artists teaching drawing, painting,
collage, ceramics, illustration and more. Tea,
coffee and refreshments will be provided.

For more info please contact Katie at:
penworthamurcfamilyworker@gmail.com

Tiger Tots
Music Club

@ United Reformed Church,
Penwortham - FREE
Tuesday 3rd February 2-3pm
Tuesday 10th February 2-3pm
Tuesday 3rd March 2-3pm
Tuesday 17th March 2-3pm

Fun music sessions for babies and toddlers with live guitar and instruments. Free play, snacks, tea and coffee. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For more info contact Katie: penworthamurcfamilyworker@gmail.com

Messy Church
@ Penwortham URC

Saturday 14th February
Saturday 14th March
Saturday 11th April
Saturday 9th May

2:30pm-4:30pm
Free of Charge

Arts & crafts, music, play and snacks. Family fun for all ages from age 0-100+. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Any questions contact Katie: penworthamurcfamilyworker@gmail.com



Community
Choir

Tuesday 24th February 6:45-8:00pm
Tuesday 31st March 6:45-8:00pm
Tuesday 28th April 6:45-8:00pm
Tuesday 26th May 6:45-8:00pm

United Reformed Church Penwortham

Community choir, singing fun and contemporary pop for health and well-being. All abilities welcome. There will be tea and biscuits too. For more information contact Katie: penworthamurcfamilyworker@gmail.com

Penwortham
United Reformed Church
www.unitedreformed.org.uk

NOTICES cont'd

ECO CHURCH - PENNIES FOR WATER AID

Thank you to everyone who has put their loose change in our WaterAid jar. We sent a cheque for £55.00 in January which will go towards transforming lives by making sure that everyone everywhere has clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

In support of
WaterAid

(Gillian A)

OPEN SESAME - DOOR KEYS

If anyone has a key to the Blue Door, near to the Vestry, which they no longer use, the Elder's would be grateful if they could be returned to them

Thank You

NEXT COMMUNITY SOCIAL AFTERNOON

COMMUNITY SOCIAL AFTERNOON

at

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

Monday 23rd February 2026 at 2.00pm

*Welcome Back to
Jemma Oliver
who will be presenting a talk about
**How to Move Well
with
Arthritis***



*The event will be followed by
Tea, Coffee and Biscuits
The cost will be £4.00
Do come along and bring a friend*

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS!



5th PENWORTHAM URC SCOUT GROUP

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS!
SHARE YOUR MEMORIES – BIG & SMALL!
HELP US BUILD OUR HISTORY

Calling all former and current leaders, members, and families! Do you have photos of your time in 5th Penwortham? From Investitures to expeditions, campfires to community events. We want to see them all!

DIG OUT YOUR ALBUMS!
SCAN YOUR SHOEBOXES!
SHARE YOUR STORIES!

Please send your photos to history@5thpenscouts.org.uk

1951 - 2026

PRACTICAL SUPPORT FOR PENWORTHAM FOODBANK (sponsored by Churches Together in Penwortham)

We have a loyal band of volunteers who work with the Churches Together in Penwortham Foodbank. Some, but not all of these are "church people." We are interested in recruiting volunteers and would welcome volunteers from the local churches. In particular, we would like to hear from car or van owners who would be willing to help with collecting stock from local shops to bring to our stores. If you or anyone you know is interested, please email:

penworthamfoodbank@gmail.com

(Foodbank Secretary)

EACH DAY OF YOUR LIFE IS A GIFT

'Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.'
Psalm 90:12 NKJV

Motivational speaker Denis Waitley describes an experience that marked his life forever. He was trying to catch a flight for a speaking commitment and was running through the airport terminal. He reached the gate just as the agent closed the door. Denis explained his dilemma, but the agent didn't re-open the door. That's when his annoyance turned into anger. He stomped out of the boarding area and returned to the ticket counter to lodge a complaint and reschedule his flight. His anger increased as he waited for over twenty minutes in a line that hardly moved. Right before his turn at the ticket counter, an announcement over the intercom changed his life, because he realised that by missing that flight, his life had been saved. The flight he missed, Flight 191 from Chicago to Los Angeles, had crashed on take-off with no survivors. Denis never lodged his complaint. He also never returned his invalidated ticket for Flight 191. He brought it home and tacked it on a notice board in his office. In the aftermath of that experience, anytime he felt irritated or upset, all he had to do was look at that ticket from Flight 191. It was an unforgettable reminder that life is a gift that should not be undervalued. The psalmist wrote:

'The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years...it is soon cut off, and we fly away. So, teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom'.
(Psalm 90 vv. 10, 12 NKJV).

*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
www.ucb.co.uk/read*

(Margaret E)

WORLD PRAYER NEWS

This page focuses on just a few of the world prayer articles on the website of Global Connections

Europe - United Kingdom: Navigators

God is currently doing an amazing work across the Western church over the past few years, as there has been a significant increase in the number of people coming to Christ, especially among the younger generations. As Navigators UK we feel called to help this wave of new Jesus followers to continue to journey with him long into the future and to help others around them to do the same. With that in mind, we are currently developing an online video resource focused on jump starting the relational heart behind making disciples - it is called The Alongsider Course!

Caribbean- Haiti - World Share

With over half the population in Haiti facing severe food insecurity and violence, pray for provision so families can access food and for protection for teachers and students as schools remain open amid instability. Ask God to strengthen the PiFò Haiti team as they support vulnerable groups and sustain essential programmes despite poor roads and security risks. Give thanks for the community garden producing crops like corn, okra, pineapples, peppers, onions, cassava and papayas, and pray that these efforts will bring nourishment and hope to many families. Pray for wisdom for leaders and for hope to take root in every community they serve.

Europe - United Kingdom: 2:19 Teach to Reach

Pray for 2:19 Teach to Reach who support UK churches encouraging them to embrace the nations locally through English language teaching and outreach. Give thanks that we are still able to share freely about God in UK; that seeds planted in learners' hearts at Christmas outreach events will be watered; that language barriers would be broken to share the gospel further; give thanks for new church contacts from recent events and pray for energy, capacity and financial provision for staff in meeting the needs of as many churches and learners as possible.

Europe - Macedonia: Transform Europe Network

Pray for the preparations of the Night to Shine Event for which Dragan and Biljana Manevi are the lead organisers on the 13th February 2026. It has a great impact on the local community of Resen. It is an event hosted by a local restaurant for children/ young people with special needs. It is a fun and celebratory event where the children receive a warm welcome and a red-carpet entrance.

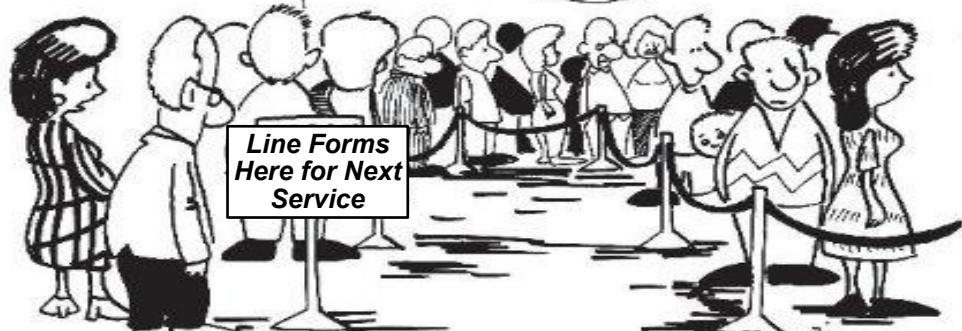
above with the permission of Global Connections

<https://globalconnections.org.uk/>

(Ed.)

CARTOONS AND COLOURING

with permission - Tim Walburg



I'm going to start attending another church

with permission - Tim Walburg



"My aptitude testing showed I was good in sales, entertaining and diplomacy. So I went into the seminary."

“CONTACT” PUBLICATION

*The next “CONTACT” will be the **March** issue.*

It is also published on our website, minus any personal/pastoral information advised to the Editor. See: <https://penworthamurc.org.uk/> If you have anything you would like to contribute to “Contact”, it will be most welcome. Either send it by e-mail to purcmagweb@talktalk.net :

speak to Alan E or deliver to 27 Hazel Close

Thank you for your contributions

Next submission date will be *Sunday 22 February 2026*.

Next issue date will be *Sunday 01 March 2026*