

THE RECORD

OF REIGATE PARK CHURCH (UNITED REFORMED)



OCTOBER 2009

No 860

REIGATE PARK CHURCH

(UNITED REFORMED)

Park Lane East, Reigate RH2 8BD

Registered Charity 1130103

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47 Abinger Drive, Redhill RH1 6SZ

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While our church is seeking a Resident Minister please inform a member of the Pastoral Committee if you hear of cases of need

Mavis Proctor (☎ 778430), Michael Ball (☎ 768348),

Liz Bullen (☎ 248421), Pat Denchfield (☎ 761275),

Brian Hoad (☎ 243720), Carol Nicholls (☎ 240372)



A QUIET LIFE

“Aspire to live quietly”

1 Thessalonians 4:11

Do you rush around trying to do too much, wearing yourself out? Most of us do. Especially, we may worry that there is not enough time for the really important things, such as helping other needy people around us. But if we stay close to the Lord, he will make known to us His will for each day. He knows our limitations, and He will ask of us only what we are able to do in His strength, as well as what He considers necessary for us to do. When we realise this, we can go forward in quietness and confidence.

If we ourselves feel the pressure of so much to be done, so many people to help, imagine how much more Jesus would have felt it - crowds waiting for healing, needing His teaching and His help. He had such a short time for such tremendous work - how could He ever achieve it? But what do we find? He moved about doing His work quietly - no panic, no nervous exhaustion. Physical tiredness, yes; and He would often go alone to a quiet place to speak with His Father. Sometimes He spoke to crowds, sometimes to only a few; but whatever He was doing, He dealt patiently with any interruptions that occurred and gave His attention to the need of the moment.

We can learn so much from this. God knows which lives we are to touch, which tasks are truly important in His sight. Jesus spent much time with only His twelve disciples in spite of the thronging crowds wanting His attention, and what fruit that has borne!

So let us walk quietly with Him who will direct our steps and cause us to bring forth fruit to His glory.

Sue Knight

JUNIOR CHURCH

We hope everyone has settled back happily into their groups; everyone has managed very well with limited space, but we are looking forward to moving into the wonderful new rooms on the stage!

Many thanks to all parents who completed the new registration forms so promptly. If you have not yet received one please let us know.

We are looking forward to our next Junior Church Theme Day on 1st November - details to follow.

Pat Denchfield and Angela Bolton

'CALLED TO BE ELDERS'

Nominations have been invited for the Elders' election which will take place at the November 22nd Church Meeting. We have six vacancies. Michael Ball, Angela Bolton, Sarah Coughlan (née Denchfield), Mavis Proctor and Barbara Wing have come to the end of their term of office and David Mercer has asked to stand down. Michael Ball has now served for three continuous periods and Sarah Coughlan has left the district on her marriage, so the nominations must include at least three who are not currently serving elders.

Any church member of six months' standing is eligible for election. I have nomination forms available, which should be completed and reach me by the Church Meeting on Sunday September 27th. All members have the responsibility of appointing elders to serve at Reigate Park Church. Please give careful consideration to the current and future needs of the church, and thought and prayer about those whom you think may be called to serve our church in this way. In the absence of a minister, the elders have responsibility for the pastoral care and leadership of the church.

Tess Brown, Church Secretary

URC PRAYER HANDBOOK 2010

There is a copy of the Prayer Handbook Gathered to the heart of God on the table at the back of the foyer. Please have a look at it. If you would like a copy (price £4.90) then please tick or add your name to the list that you will also find on the table, or come and talk to me about the book.

Eileen Charlton

URC DIARIES

If you would like to order a URC diary for 2010 @ £5.95 please let me know by Sunday 11th October, so that the order can be sent off quickly. Please say whether you would like a soft cover (red or green) or hard cover (blue or black).

Pat Denchfield

WINDOWS MYSTERY SOLVED

The mystery of the meditation about our memorial windows, included in last month's Record, was very easily solved. It was written by David Skitt for the thirtieth anniversary of Reigate Park Church. Thank you for owning up, David!

THANKS

'God's best gifts are often wrapped in the love of our friends.'

Thank you all for cards and messages of goodwill during this illness. As I am unable to attend church for the time being I feel the love of God surrounding me through the prayers of wonderful friends at RPC.

Rosemary

MONDAY MORNING GROUP

In September, we began a new topic entitled 'Journey into Faith through the Senses', plus one other area of interest. You are most welcome to join us on Monday mornings in the Park Room at 10.30 a.m. beginning with tea or coffee. The remaining programme is:-

5th October On the 37th Anniversary of the inauguration of the URC, we consider its importance today.

12th October Journey into Smell.

19th October Journey into Touching.

26th October Journey into Tasting.

9th November Journey into Imagination.

Each session includes lots of opportunities for discussion with appropriate Bible readings and prayer.

You may not be able, or choose, to join us for every session, but you are always welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

Merle Nadal

BIBLE READING NOTES

I shall shortly be sending off the orders for the different Bible Reading Notes. At present I obtain notes from BRF, namely Guidelines and New Daylight; from IBRA with the titles Words for Today and Light for our Path; and the Scripture Union's Daily Bread and Closer to God. There is a list in the foyer for existing readers to tick if they wish to continue receiving their notes, but with spaces for the names of anyone else who would like me to order notes for them. If you have any questions please email Margaret Samuel at margaretannsamuel@hotmail.com or call me on ☎ 243308.

UNICEF - MITE NEWS

Unfortunately the plight of children in so many parts of the world does not improve. To us, sanitation and water supply are ordinary parts of our life but there are areas where there has been flooding and land is poisoned and cannot support farming for home consumption. We have had flooding in this country and some areas know how dreadful this can be. Lack of water is equally disastrous.

Hazel Arscott

WORSHIP IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

At 10 a.m. on **Sunday 4th October**, Dr Graham Campling, Southern Synod Clerk, will lead our Communion service. There will be no evening service.

At 10 a.m. on **Sunday 11th October**, Rev. Kathy White, the minister of Moat URC, East Grinstead, will lead our worship.

At 6.30 p.m. Sue Knight will conduct our Communion service.

At 10 a.m. on **Sunday 18th October**, Rev. John Joseph, the minister of Redhill URC, will lead our worship. There will be no evening service.

At 10 a.m. on **Sunday 25th October**, Rev. Stephen Thornton, the minister of Fleet URC, will lead our worship. There will be no evening service.

ZIMBABWE PROJECT

There was great rejoicing in a little corner of Zimbabwe when Laura Muzambi received her Braille writing machine on 17th September. 'Laura herself was so excited to have that Braille writer. She can carry it everywhere and use it'. The Muzambi family, their minister and friends are all very grateful for the help Laura has received. We too have been grateful to the RNIB who supplied and sent the machine for us.

It is interesting that the church these good folk belong to is a 'plant' from the mother church which Caleb served at one time, so a lovely link. Monica also says in her letter 'We have a bit better life these days, but what is next after this inclusive government? Elections again? It is a terror to think of it. Thank God for now, the future hopefully will be bright and free and fair to the people.'

I heard from Caleb this week. Life is not easy for him or for Christine. Caleb writes with thanks for the Junior Church materials but also says that some parcels of books arrive damaged and they charge for repacking in Forex (Foreign exchange). 'We do not have money of our own, but I

happen to get some money for this stamp.' He continues 'Remember us to the people of God, and say thank you for their prayers, we may fail to get Forex but our hearts are filled with the Spirit of God, this suffering will pass away. We shall meet again.'

We are now preparing to send a box of blankets and garments to the Fairfield Children's Homes at Old Mutare Mission. We trust they will arrive safely. Please continue to hold our Zimbabwe friends in your prayers.

Jean Bushby

TWO-WAY PRAYER

Most people practise some kind of prayer. The majority pray only when they are in definite need. Their prayers therefore are in the nature of petitions. All prayer begins in this way. It is the infant cry, 'Father give me'. But God does not want us to remain spiritual infants. Therefore prayer ought to extend its range and its quality. Praise and thanksgiving soon begin to find a place in the prayers of anyone who takes prayer seriously. We must go on in the practice of prayer till we get to the stage of real communication with God. This means not merely talking to God but also listening to Him. Everyone can cultivate this two-way prayer. At first when we listen to God, we are not aware of any message being given. Indeed we find most of the messages come through the day. This is as it should be.

But if we persist in our listening we shall be surprised at the messages God puts into our minds. There are difficulties of course, but patient practice in listening for God will be rewarded by a growing sensitiveness to His voice, We shall discover God has things to say to us that no one else dare say. Prayer is fellowship because we talk to God and God talks to us. Let us make sure we give God a chance to speak to us, for His words are spirit, and they are life.

Ron Talmey

WOMEN'S GUILD

At our September meeting we had a very enjoyable bring-and-share lunch, at which we were pleased to have the company of several gentlemen.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th October at 10.30 a.m. in the Park Room, when the speaker will be Mr Nick Stewart of Woodlarks Camping for the Disabled.

Liz Bullen

30 YEARS OF TRAIDCRAFT

SMOAT - St Mark's Overseas Aid Trust - is celebrating the 30th Anniversary of Traidcraft on Saturday 10th October when there is free admission to St Mark's Church Hall, Alma Road from 2 p.m.. At 2.30 p.m. there will be talks and a DVD from a visiting speaker about the SMOAT and Traidcraft exchange projects in Cambodia. At 4 p.m. there will be tea, and a birthday cake. There will be Traidcraft stalls, and Christmas gifts, etc. will be on offer.

MAKING AN ECO-HAVEN IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS

The Ecoteam need your help!

Can you spare just an hour to help us build and put up bird/bat/insect boxes around the church grounds? All ages welcome. Bring a hammer! If you can't come on the day we still need help with materials, so if you have any bricks, stones, shells, twigs, branches, fir cones, slate or any other materials that could be used to provide shelter we would be grateful for them. Please leave them on the grassed area at the Priory Drive entrance.

Saturday 3rd October 11.00 until 12.00.

Contact Sonia Christie for more information, sonia.christie@ntlworld.com or ☎ 270095.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The last Men's Fellowship day trip of the season was to the Amberley Working Museum just outside of Arundel in Sussex. The weather was kind and a wonderful day was spent examining the exhibits, chatting with the crafts people, and lunching in the Limeburners restaurant.

It should be said that all of this year's trips were organised by George Orr who certainly did a most wonderful job, and on behalf of all our members I would like to say 'George, thank you very much'.

Our first lunch of the fall season will be held on 8th October, and our guest speakers will be our local constabulary, so do come along. The charge for your first meal will be £12 - twice the normal - but the last meal will be free! If members are unable to attend would you please notify us in good time.

I look forward to seeing you soon

Ralph Bristol, Chairman

PRAYER CALENDAR

This month's prayer cycle of Churches Together in Reigate and Redhill is:

- 4th October** *St Joseph's Church (RC), Ladbroke Road, Redhill.*
18th October *Reigate Society of Friends, Reigate Road.*
25th October *East Surrey Chaplaincy Service.*

GAS MASKS AT THE READY!

Whether you want to swing along or sing along or just sit back and enjoy the nostalgia we do hope you will join us at 'Connect' for our *BIG BAND FORTIES NIGHT* on Saturday Nov 14th in the church hall. A 20-piece band will provide the sounds and songs to get your feet tapping. The hall will be transformed into a wartime venue and it would be great if you feel able to dress in forties style but it is in no way obligatory. The event costs £10 per person and your ticket will be your own personalised Ration Book for the buffet and one free glass of wine. These will go on sale late September but you can reserve your places now by emailing me at lindachandler580@googlemail.com or calling ☎ 763328. Do tell your friends and family and let's make it a night to remember!

If anyone has any wartime posters we can use, please get in touch. We could also do with some more red white and blue bunting (not plastic !). And finally we need a few people to make sandwiches. Please let me know if you can help. Thanks.

Linda Chandler

TRADCRAFT - HELP NEEDED URGENTLY!

Help is urgently needed with the Traidcraft stall; sadly, Sharon Quinn can no longer help either picking up goods at Nutfield or delivering the unsold items back again, because of extra work commitments, and would therefore like to stand down, as soon as a replacement can be found, and certainly after Christmas. I would thank her hugely for the tremendous help she has given us - absolutely brilliant!

Just to explain what is required, if you feel it might be possible for you to help...

About six times a year you would need to be available to take back the goods after the Sunday sale (on the following Tuesday morning) and pick up the new stock on the Wednesday before the next sale. The stock is held at Robert Denholm House in Nutfield. You would also need to be available to help with the alternate monthly sales, although if you have to

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miss the odd one it won't be the end of the world! Sharon has kindly agreed to be on hand still, alongside Sarah, for the sales, if needed. Sales are not usually held on half term weekends or in the school holidays so those with school age children who fear they might be unable to commit to a Sunday during school holidays needn't fear.

Liz Bullen, Sarah Brown or myself very much look forward to hearing from you.

Tricia Hughes (☎ 222244)

CHURCH OFFICE

Church & Community Manager : Susan Stanley

Tuesday to Friday, 9.15 am to 1.00 pm

Administrative Assistant : Linda Cockerill

Monday to Thursday, 9.15 am to 1.00 pm

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or e-mail: susan@reigateparkchurch.org

or linda@reigateparkchurch.org

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THE RECORD

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Contributions should be with the Editor:

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at least two weeks before publication date.

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Sunday, October 11th

If you wish to receive a regular copy of *The Record*, please contact the Distributor:

(post currently vacant - can you help?)

e-mail: record.distributor@reigateparkchurch.org

OCTOBER DIARY

Sunday	4th	10.00am	Dr Graham Campling. Holy Communion. Traidcraft Stall after service.
Thursday	8th	12.30pm	Men's Fellowship. Surrey Constabulary.
Sunday	11th	10.00am	Rev. Kathy White.
		6.30pm	Sue Knight. Holy Communion.
Tuesday	13th	10.30am	Women's Guild.
Sunday	18th	10.00am	Rev. John Joseph.
Wednesday	21st	10.30am	Community Coffee.
Thursday	22nd	11.00am	Zimbabwe Working Party at 1 Evesham Road.
Sunday	25th	10.00am	Rev. Stephen Thornton.

In addition to those mentioned above, our weekly activities normally include Junior Church and Crèche at 10.00 a.m. each Sunday, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Busy Bees Playclub, Monday Morning Group, Choir, Conquest Art, Playgroup, Toddlers Plus Group and Short Mat Bowling.