

## SUNDAY SERVICES

<u>Morning Service</u>	10.30 am	
<u>Evening Worship</u>		
1st Sunday in the month	6.00 pm	at Vicars Cross URC
2nd Sunday in the month	6.30 pm	at Upton URC
3rd and 4th Sunday in the month	6.30 pm	at Caldý Valley Neighbourhood Church
5th Sunday in the month		Ecumenical Service rotating between URC, Holy Ascension and St Columba RC
<u>Holy Communion</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday morning	
	2nd Sunday evening	(February, April, June, August, October and December)

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	10 00 am- 12 noon	Churches Together in Upton Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
	6.15 pm - 8.00 pm	Girls' Brigade
Tuesday	2.30 pm (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> weeks)	Friendship Group
	10.00 am (every 2 weeks)	NTG (New Tuesday Group)
Wednesday	9.45 am (1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday)	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk
	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thursday	10.00 am	WD 40's (Women's Discussion Group)
	3.30 pm - 5.30 pm	Messy Church
	(2nd Thursday of the month)	
	7.30 pm (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> weeks)	Thursday Home Group
	1.00 pm (last Thursday of the month)	Food 'n' Fun
Saturday	10.00 am - 12 noon	Church open for coffee
	10.00 am	Upton Amblers (dates vary)
	10.00 am (last Saturday of the month)	URC Saturday

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Saturdays	10.15 am	Church Meeting (dates vary)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	7.30 pm	Elders Meeting

20

# Upton United Reformed Church

GOD'S LOVE IS FOR ALL  
OUR MISSION IS TO SHOW IT, SHARE IT, LIVE IT

Heath Road, Upton, Chester, CH2 1HX

Tele: 01244 373854

NEWSLETTER



## MARCH 2019

visit our website at:

[www.uptonurc.org.uk](http://www.uptonurc.org.uk)

email:

[info@uptonurc.org.uk](mailto:info@uptonurc.org.uk)



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

**MINISTER**

Revd Ruth Wilson

01244 372622

revruthwork@gmail.com

**SECRETARY**

Mrs Carole Mellor

01244 381018

c.p.mellor@sky.com

**TREASURER**

Robin Hodgkins

01244 383038

WRHodgkins@aol.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS**

Mrs Margaret Hainsworth

01244 381396

jm@johnmarg.plus.com

Mrs Christine Beeston

01829 740556

c.beeston688@btinternet.com

**CHILDREN & FAMILY WORKER**

Terri-Ann Dudley

07756092779

Church - 01244 373854

urcchildrenandfamilies@gmail.com

**CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS**

Robin Hodgkins

01244 383038

WRHodgkins@aol.com



**COACH TRIP**  
Thursday 9th May

**VISIT The MUSEUM of PRIMITIVE METHODISM with GUIDED TOUR**

**VISIT to BRAMALL HALL (Self Guided)**

**TEA and SCONE at THE STABLES, BRAMALL HALL**

**CHORAL EVENSONG at MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL**

**LEAVE UPTON U.R.C./ St. COLUMBA'S at 10.00 AM**

**RETURN at 7.30 PM**

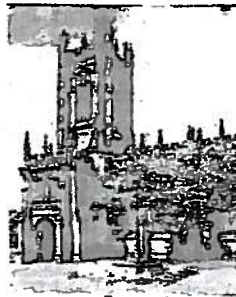
**COST £25** including admission, Coffee and guided tour at the Museum, Tea at Bramall Hall, and donation to the Cathedral.

Further Details and Booking from **JOHN BUTLER Tel: 383703**

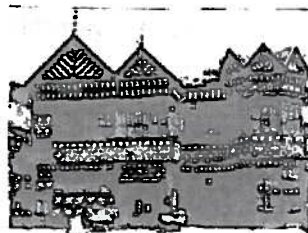
(Facilities for snacks at the Museum and Lunch at the Hall - or bring a packed lunch)



**ENGLESEA BROOK  
MUSEUM**



**MANCHESTER  
CATHEDRAL**



**BRAMALL HALL**

## **Message from the Manse**

I have to report that I am very impressed with the redecorated hall, bathrooms and vestry at the church.

The new colours have given each room a new lease of life, make them feel warmer and cleaner and, I believe, encourage building users to know they are welcome.

Spring is often the time when people begin to think about cleaning up and clearing out. A time to let go of the things that are: in need of replacing; no longer necessary or simply to create some space.

I don't like clutter, apart from on my desk at The Manse, so I love a good clear out! This got me wondering, should we take time in the coming months to give our spiritual lives a good clear out, or spring clean, too?

What is there in our faith life that needs dusting off. The thing(s) that nourish - why not take time to carefully recover them and start using again?

Are there things in our religious practices that need to be recycled or re-framed in order to help us grow or learn? Perhaps, if there isn't, you might have something that can be up-cycled to help someone else.

Ever thought about a prayer life refresher?

Do we purposely read The Bible, or a book about faith, to challenge, encourage and inspire?

How hard is it to step outside our comfort zone for social interaction / community engagement in order to meet new people and meet them where they are?

Is there anything in our lives that takes us away from following The Lord? Something that needs putting in the "Spiritual Skip"? The things we know are sinful but can't bring ourselves to let go of?

The faithful Spring Clean is a life-long task but we have the best teacher and the rewards are priceless as 1 Peter 1:21-23 tells us:

*Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.*

*You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.*

*For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.*

Let us spring forth in doing God's will "For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust" (Psalm 103:14) and let us show, share and live His love to all humanity.

Ruth

**CHURCH ROTAS**

**FLOWERS**

March	3	John & Margaret Hainsworth
	10	Janet Cliff
	17	Lesley Parry
	24	Carole Mellor
	31	Girls' Brigade
April	7	Keith & Sue Reading
	14	Hazel Roberts
	21	David & Audrey Taylor
	28	Beryl & Jim Frost

**CAR FERRY**

March	3	Keith Reading
	10	Niall Ormerod
	17	John Hainsworth
	24	Phil Mason
	31	Keith Reading
April	7	Niall Ormerod
	14	John Hainsworth
	21	Phil Mason
	28	Keith Reading

**SUNDAY MORNING TEA / COFFEE**

March	3	Sue & Keith Reading
	10	Debbie & Niall Ormerod
	17	Margaret & John Hainsworth
	24	Vivien Ellis & Caryl Road
	31	Marian & Bob Cole
April	7	Lesley & Noel Parry
	14	Rose Harrison & Fergus O'Neill
	21	Betty Steepe & Brian Stephenson
	28	Carole Mellor & Violet Brickland



**Reform Refreshes .....**

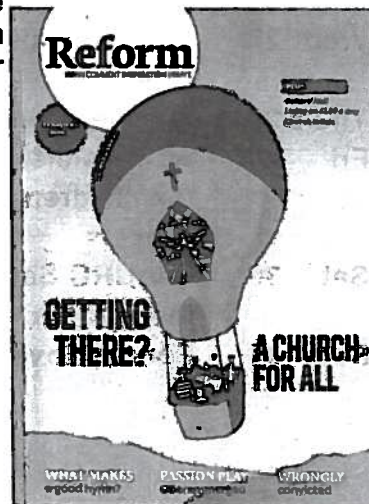
The United Reformed Church national magazine "Reform" expands your Christian horizon beyond the local to Synod, national and international Church happenings.

The February issue featured a full page portrait of a smiling, well-dressed mature lady in the Reform interview, entitled "Innocence and experience". Read it and you will see why the full page portrait is justified: you may also be appalled at the nature of the experience in a civilised country.

The current "Reform" is available at Church (the 'Church copy') or on loan from one of our ten subscribers. Back numbers are available on the lounge table and can be taken on loan.

"Reform" is subsidised by the URC and needs more subscribers. At £29.50 a year, (10 issues) or £18 on line (you need a device with email) it is good value and you can join the Church group subscription at any time - or order independently.

Brian Rose



**Bible Talk Lecture Series: Spring 2019**

In the Cloister Room of Chester Cathedral from 110pm until 2pm.

There is no charge for attending although donations towards the work of Education in the cathedral are encouraged.



**CHESTER CATHEDRAL EDUCATION**

The spring series of talks marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Kingsley (1819 – 1875) who was appointed as a Residentiary Canon of Chester Cathedral in 1869, 150 years ago. The Cathedral Library exhibition for 2019 is all about Charles Kingsley and his many contributions to national and local debates. Visits will be possible after most of the talks or at other times by arrangement.

Wednesday 20 February The Two Books: Kingsley on Genesis and Darwin	Professor George Brooke University of Manchester University of Chester
Wednesday 27 February Christian Socialism and the Kingdom of God	Professor Philip Alexander University of Manchester
Wednesday 6 March Sermons for the Times: Kingsley as Preacher	Ven. Dr Michael Gilbertson Diocese of Chester
Wednesday 20 March Morality and the story of the early church: Kingsley as historical novelist and professor of history	Professor William Horbury University of Cambridge
Wednesday 27 March Meeting Mrs Down you would be: Kingsley's Water Babies and the Gospel of Christ	Professor Loveday Alexander University of Sheffield
Wednesday 3 April Sex, class and disability: why we can't read the Bible quite like Charles Kingsley	Dr Robert Evans University of Chester
To be added to the Bible Talk mailing list, please contact Helen Barber, Education Officer 01244 500957 or <a href="mailto:helen.barber@chestercathedral.com">helen.barber@chestercathedral.com</a>	

## CHURCH DIARY for MARCH 2019

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Fri	1	10.30 am	World Day of Prayer at Holy Ascension
Sat	2	10. am - 12 noon	Girls' Brigade Pancake & Coffee Morning
<b>SUN</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE with Ms Sheila Dunbar</b>
		<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>SUNDAY AT SIX at Vicars Cross URC</b>
Mon	4	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion
		6.16 pm	Girls' Brigade
Tues	5	10.00 am	NTG
		2.30 pm	Friendship Group
		7.30 pm	CTU Lent Meeting in Iona Chapel, St Columba
Wed	6	9.45 am	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk - Hoole area - Leaders Jean & George Coward
		6.45 pm	Ecumenical Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs	7	10.00 am	WD 40's - Bible Study with Liz
		7.30 pm	Thursday Home Group
Sat	9	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
<b>SUN</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by Revd David Hamblin</b>
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>No Evening Service here at our church but we are invited to Wesley Methodist Church 'Open Table Service' led by Revd Ruth Wilson</b>
Mon	11	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion
		6.15 pm	Girls' Brigade
Tues	12	7.30 pm	Lent Meeting at our church

<b>Sun</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Thank you God for the love of our families.</b>
Mon	18	For the elderly who are housebound and have no one to visit them.
Tues	19	For our housebound members and friends.
Wed	20	On the first day of Spring thank God for the beauty of the countryside.
Thurs	21	Pray for those attending the Thursday Home Home Group.
Fri	22	Pray for those who are unwell and known to us.
Sat	23	For our Church Meeting this morning.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>For the future of Upton URC.</b>
Mon	25	Pray for new folk coming to worship with us.
Tues	26	For the dedication and work given by the Emergency Services.
Wed	27	For the British Government at this difficult time.
Thurs	28	For the unemployed.
Fri	29	At the start of the school holidays, pray for the children and teachers in our local schools.
Sat	30	For URC Saturday, those who attend and the leaders.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>For the love of our mothers.</b>

## PRAYER DIARY – MARCH 2019


Please pray for:



- Fri 1** The work of Christian Aid.
- Sat 2** For the girls and leaders of Girls' Brigade as they hold their Pancake Morning today.
- Sun 3** **Pray for all who lead our worship this month**
- Mon 4** For the Food Banks and all who have to use them.
- Tues 5** For the people coping with mental illness.
- Wed 6** On this first day of Lent, we walk with Jesus to the cross.
- Thurs 7** For the work of the animal rescue centres and their volunteers.
- Fri 8** Those who are unable to attend church regularly.
- Sat 9** For the Street Pastors in Chester.
- SUN 10** **Our Church family who are not well.**
- Mon 11** For the homeless in our city
- Tues 12** and the charities that help them.
- Wed 13** Give thanks for all who help with Messy Church
- Thurs 14** and the children and families who attend.
- Fri 15** For the lonely.
- Sat 16** That all who use our premises will feel welcome and experience the love of Jesus.


<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Wed	13	6.30 pm 7.00 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry Churches Together in Upton Committee Meeting
Thurs	14	10.00 am 3.30 pm	WD 40's - Games Morning Messy Church
Sat	16	10.00 am 10.00 am	Church open for coffee Upton Amblers - Gwernymynydd - Leaders Jean & George Coward
<b>SUN</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>  <b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson</b> <b>EVENING SERVICE at Caldy Valley</b>
<b>Copy Date for April Newsletter</b>			
<b>All contributions to Margaret Hainsworth please</b>			
Mon	18	10.00 am 6.15 pm	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion Girls' Brigade
Tues	19	10.00 am 2.30 pm 7.30 pm	NTG Friendship Group CTU Lent Meeting in Iona Chapel, St Columba
Wed	20	6.45 pm 7.30 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry Elders Meeting
Thurs	21	10.30 am 12 - 1 pm 7.30 pm	WD 40's - Quiz with Pauline Lenten Lunch in the Hall Thursday Home Group
Sat	23	10.00 am 10.15 am	Church open for coffee Church Meeting
<b>SUN</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>  <b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson</b> <b>EVENING SERVICE at Caldy Valley</b>

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Mon	25	10.00 am 6.15 pm	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion Girls' Brigade
Tues	26	7.30 pm	CTU Lent Meeting at our church
Wed	27	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs	28	10.00 am 1.00 pm	WD 40's at Mallard Court Food & Fun
Sat	30	10.00 am 10.00 am	Church open for coffee URC Saturday
SUN	31	10.30 am 4.30 pm	<b>MORNING SERVICE</b> led by Revd Ron Reid <b>CTU Joint Service in our church</b> led by Revd Ruth Wilson



**GIRLS' BRIGADE**  
**PANCAKE AND**  
**COFFEE MORNING**

Saturday, 2 March  
10.00 am - 12 noon  
there will also be a Cake Stall



**ORGAN CONCERT**  
**BY JOHN BOWDLER**

SATURDAY, 27 APRIL (time to be confirmed)

Mr John Bowdler, resident organist at the Tower Ballroom, Blackpool, will be paying us a return visit to perform, in his inimitable style, a varied programme of light classical music, marches, popular numbers from stage and screen, some golden oldies and a bit of ragtime for good measure.


John is much appreciated wherever he plays, whether it be for organ enthusiasts or ballroom dancers or for those who prefer to just sit and listen and enjoy the occasion. Of one thing we can be certain, his aim will be to entertain.

At the interval our ladies will be serving tea, coffee and confectionary.


Please come along and bring a neighbour, or a friend or two, for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening. You will not be disappointed.

**Admission by ticket only**  
**Price £7.50 (including refreshments)**

Tickets will be available from 17 March from church members or group leaders or from Beryl & Jim Frost.







**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
(A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL,  
ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT)

**'COME - EVERYTHING IS  
READY !'**


FRIDAY, 1 MARCH 2019 at Holy Ascension Church  
Coffee from 10.00 am with service at 10.30 am

Everything is ready and the invitation is for everyone - men, women and children of all ages to join this Day of Prayer. Women of Slovenia, one of the smallest and youngest countries in Europe, have prepared this year's service and they encourage us to reflect on the barriers they have faced since the end of the Second World War when their country was a part of Yugoslavia, a Marxist socialist republic. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future.

Our next Messy Church is Thursday, 14 March  
'Big v Small - David and Goliath'

Messy Church is from 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm and we are always pleased to see our regular families and also any new friends who can come along.

Why not come along and have a look at what we do in Messy Church and if you feel you can help in any way, that would be wonderful! Have a word with Terri if you want more information.



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON

Thursday, 21 March  
12 noon - 1.00 pm  
Lenten Lunch in our church hall  
Homemade soup and sandwiches  
Donations to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd

Sunday, 31 March  
at 4.30 pm  
5th Sunday Service in our church  
Tea and coffee after the service

### St Columba's Lent Services/Talks

#### Stations Of The Cross

The following are the details of The Stations of the Cross, which are held each Friday in Lent starting at 7.30pm (following on from the 7pm Mass). CTU members are warmly invited to join them for both Mass and The Stations or just for The Stations:

March 8, 15, 22 (Youth Footsteps to the Cross),  
March 29  
April 5 (7 Last Words of Christ),  
April 12

St Columba's, Chester

# LENT

A series of short talks and discussions led by David Savage on the background to the Lent Sunday readings for the Year of Luke

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> March: 'Temptation in the Wilderness'  
(Iona Chapel, St Columba RC Church)

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> March: 'Jesus is Transfigured'  
(URC)

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> March: 'Repent or Perish'  
(Iona Chapel)

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March: 'The Forgiving Father'  
(URC)

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> April: 'The Adulterous Woman'  
(Iona Chapel)

7.30 p.m.

A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO PARISHIONERS  
AND FRIENDS

Bring a Bible and/or Sunday Missal

More information from David Savage 01244 380626

## PASTORAL

It is with much sadness that we have to report the death of Peter Sowerby. Peter died suddenly on Sunday, 13 January and his funeral was held at the Crematorium on Monday, 28 January. We send our prayers and condolences to his sister, Janet, and his family at this very sad time.

On Sunday, 3 February we welcomed into membership by transfer from Faversham Baptist Church, Len and Gillian Moore. It's lovely to have them worshipping with us and hope that they will be very happy in their new spiritual home.

Thank you all for the cards, prayers and good wishes received during Stan's recent stay in Hospital and for the many offers of help and support given to Eleanor during this stressful time. Church flowers received on my return home were also much appreciated.

Love

Eleanor & Stan

We send our love,  
best wishes and many  
congratulations to  
Stan and Eleanor Hornsby  
who celebrated their  
*Diamond Wedding*  
*Anniversary*  
on Thursday, 7 February

