

## 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 Caldly 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 (1st & 3rd 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

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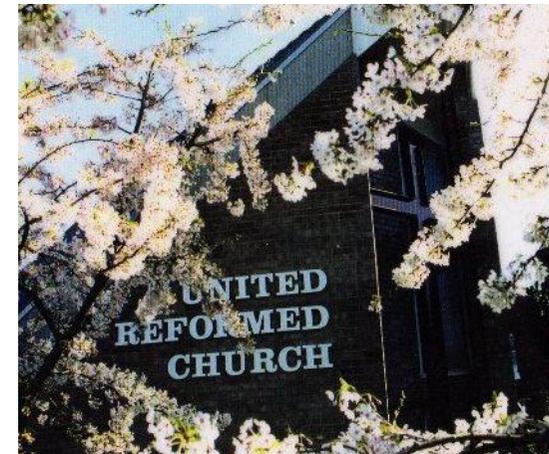
# Upton United Reformed Church

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

Heath Road, Upton, Chester, CH2 1HX

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MAY 2019

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

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## CHURCH ROTAS

### FLOWERS

May	5	Dorothy Carr
	12	Derek & Mary Carter
	19	Marion Gibbons
	26	Betty Steepe
June	2	Debbie Ormerod
	9	Christine Walsh
	16	Joan Peters
	23	Joan Perkin
	30	Richard & Anne Sykes

### CAR FERRY

May	5	Niall Ormerod
	12	John Hainsworth
	19	Phil Mason
	26	Keith Reading
June	2	Niall Ormerod
	9	John Hainsworth
	16	Phil Mason
	23	Keith Reading
	30	Niall Ormerod

### SUNDAY MORNING TEA / COFFEE

May	5	Jim & Beryl Frost
	12	Anne & Richard Sykes
	19	Eleanor & Stan Hornsby
	26	Debbie & Phil Mason
June	2	Vivien Ellis & Caryl Rose
	9	Margaret & John Hainsworth
	16	Brenda Bentley & Joan Peters
	23	Brian Stephenson
	30	Carole Mellor & Debbie Ormerod

## **Message from the Manse**

Having journeyed through penitence and pondering of Lent to Holy Week. We moved forward from triumphal entry to walk the road of crucifixion and resurrection on Easter Morning and we now find ourselves moving toward Pentecost.

Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. It also represents the birth of the early Christian Church.

So as Christians who have been resurrected with Christ and born anew, how do we find the Holy Spirit descending upon us?

If the Spirit is upon us, our lives will be aflame with the desire to speak the language of difference, diversity and most importantly of acceptance as we seek to show Christ's love in our broken and hurting world.

Our call is to discern how we, as individuals, as groups, as community and as church can show, share and live that love so that others – family, friends, neighbours and strangers - will see the Good News in a way that speaks to, and inspires, them.

We should not force our opinions or beliefs on others. Instead we must let our actions speak for us. Demonstrating God's unconditional love for all humankind.

In a world of quick-fix solutions we need to be demonstrating a different way – the way of patience and understanding; of loving and giving without expectation of reward; of humility and service to all God's children.

I'd like to close by sharing with you a poem that I found on the internet. It is from Malcolm Guite an English poet, singer-songwriter and Anglican priest who expresses the wonders of Pentecost beautifully.

### Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings  
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays  
Today the church draws breath at last and sings  
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.  
This is the feast of fire, air and water  
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.  
The earth herself awakens to her maker  
And is translated out of death to birth.  
The right words come today in their right order  
And every word spells freedom and release  
Today the gospel crosses every border  
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace  
Today the lost are found in His translation.  
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

(Malcolm Guite)

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/tag/pentecost-poem/>

Blessings and peace  
Ruth  
May 2019

- Prayer and Healing

Take part in our session on prayer and healing, build your confidence so you can hold similar services in your own church.

- Taizé

A Taizé worship service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, a period of silence and liturgical readings. No preaching.

- Lectio Divina (reflective reading) with Silent Communion

Using a Scripture passage, we read it, pray into it, and listen for what God is saying. Using symbols and actions, we spend time in Silent Communion, without words, and our souls are open to other possibilities of meeting with Christ.

Enjoy a lovely finale to the day with closing worship with contemporary music

Steven Mitchell, Children's and Youth Development Officer, said, "The whole day is going to be really exciting to see different perspectives of worship. It will enrich, and people can take ideas back to their local church."

Book early to ensure your place at this free all-day event - free lunch and refreshments are also included.

For more information and to download a booking form visit [www.urcmerseysynod.org.uk/festivalofworship2019](http://www.urcmerseysynod.org.uk/festivalofworship2019).

For catering purposes, the closing date for bookings is 21 July 2019.

## URC MERSEY SYNOD

Join us for a fabulous Festival of Worship in August

For the first time Mersey Synod is running a whole day of different creative worship sessions - so don't miss out.

You'll be able to take part in five taster groups throughout the day and see what you like. It's free, it's fun and it's family friendly. Most of the sessions will be open to children but for any which aren't appropriate we'll be running activity sessions for the youngsters.

It's your opportunity to experience HOLY ENCOUNTERS.

When: 3 August 2019 10.00 am - 4.30 pm

Where: Caldby Valley Neighbourhood Church

### Sessions:

- All Age - Family Worship

All age worship seeks to bring the entire church together and offers a space where everyone can learn from each other, regardless of their age. You will enter a space that recognises that all voices are valid and be inspired and challenged for your own church services.

- Folk Music

Encompassing a wide variety of music, the Folkus Gallery Band creates acts of worship which, together with the use of modern technology and expressive word, seeks to open a space in which God and people can meet. The perfect tool to create reflective, interesting and thought provoking worship.

## REMEMBERING PETER

### AFTERNOON TEA

8 June 2019 at 2.30 pm

There is still time to contribute any anecdotes or memories you have of Peter. Please pass them to Ruth or Carole Mellor.

If you will be attending the afternoon tea, please sign the sheet on the notice board at the back of church so we have an idea of numbers for catering purposes.

## CALAMITY JANE

11 May 2019 at 2.00 pm

Come and join us in Room 3 to watch this musical romance set in the Wild West which will be followed by coffee and cake.



## CHURCH DIARY for MAY 2019

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Wed	1	9.45 am	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk (Leaders Michelle Heald and Pat Caney)
		6.45 pm	Ecumenical Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs	2	10.00 am	WD 40's - Planning Meeting
		7.30 pm	Thursday Home Group
Sat	4	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
<b>SUN</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson</b>
		<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>SUNDAY at SIX at Vicars Cross URC</b>
Tues	7	2.30 pm	Friendship Group - Northumberland with Brian Stephenson
Wed	8	6.30 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
		7.00 pm	Churches Together in Upton Committee Meeting
Thurs	9	10.00 am	WD 40's
		10.00 am	Churches Together in Upton Coach Outing
		3.30 pm	Messy Church - The Ten Commandments
Sat	11	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
		10.00 am	Upton Amblers Walk (Leader Robin Hodgkins - Caerlog Valley)
<b>SUN</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson</b>
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>EVENING SERVICE led by Revd Ron Reid</b>

**Copy date for JUNE Newsletter**

## PRAYER DIARY FOR MAY 2019

Wed	1	For the Amblers as they walk through the countryside
Thu	2	For the ladies who meet at WD40 (Women's Discussion Group)
Fri	3	For the animals at the zoo and those who work with them
Sat	4	For those who have no home to call their own
Sun	5	For those who share bread and wine at communion
Mon	6	For those who have time off from work
Tue	7	Pray for those who do you wrong
Wed	8	For those who care for the sick
Thu	9	For all who attend Messy Church
Fri	10	For those around the world who live in war zones
Sat	11	For those who come to learn Spanish in our church
Sun	12	For those who must work on Sundays
Mon	13	For the fellowship found at the Pavilion coffee mornings
Tue	14	For asylum seekers who look for peace in other countries
Wed	15	For the children who enjoy music and dance in the church hall
Thu	16	Forgive those who have done you wrong
Fri	17	Give thanks for the food you eat
Sat	18	For those who meet for morning coffee at church
Sun	19	Show love to others through your actions
Mon	20	For the girls who attend the Girls' Brigade
Tue	21	For those who suffer from illness
Wed	22	For those who work in the emergency services
Thu	23	For those who meet at the Thursday Home Group
Fri	24	Do not judge others too harshly. Put yourself in their shoes
Sat	25	For those who give their time freely for others
Sun	26	Pray for those churches who do not have a minister
Mon	27	For those who must work when others are off
Tue	28	Show tolerance to others
Wed	29	May Your presence be felt at the prayer meetings
Thu	30	For those who enjoy lunch and fun together
Fri	31	Give thanks for all those work unseen for the church



Christian Aid Week 2019  
12-18 May

Christian Aid is the official relief and development agency for 41 British and Irish Churches, and works to support sustainable development, stop poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief in South America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

We are taking part in the Annual Christian Aid Week street collection again this year. Packs of envelopes for distribution and collection will be available in the church foyer from Sunday, 28 April. If you can carry out a collection in a road in Upton please take some envelopes, sign the form to show which road you will be covering and return the filled envelopes to church on Sunday, 20 May.

You may not receive a Christian Aid Week envelope at your house, since it is no longer possible to collect from all roads in Upton, but envelopes will be available in church on Sunday, 12 May, which you can use if you wish to donate to Christian Aid. They can be returned with your offering on Sunday, 19 May.

*John Hainsworth Saving to Share Committee*

**Contributions to Margaret Hainsworth please**

Mon	13	10.00 am	CTU Coffee and Chat at the Pavilion
		6.15 pm	Girls' Brigade
<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>SERVICE / MEETING</b>
Tues	14	10.00 am	NTG
Wed	15	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
		7.30 pm	Elders Meeting
Thurs	16	10.00 am	WD 40's
		7.30 pm	Thursday Home Group
Sat	18	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
		10.15 am	Church Meeting
<b>SUN</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by</b>
			<b>Revd Mark Godin</b>
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>EVENING SERVICE at Caldly Valley</b>
Mon	20	10.00 am	CTU Coffee and Chat at the Pavilion
Tues	21	2.30 pm	Friendship Group - Clumps
Wed	22	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs	23	10.00 am	WD 40's
Sat	25	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
		10.00 am	URC Saturday
<b>SUN</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>MORNING SERVICE led by</b>
			<b>Mrs Liz Warrington</b>
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>EVENING SERVICE at Caldly Valley</b>

Contributions to our Newsletters are always welcome - the next copy date is Sunday, 12 May and Margaret Hainsworth will be editing the June Newsletter.

Message from Cheshire Police - Fake TV Licensing emails  
Information sent on behalf of Action Fraud

An ongoing TV Licensing phishing campaign, first identified by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) in September 2018, continues to be reported to Action Fraud in high numbers. Fraudsters are sending the public fake TV Licensing emails that are designed to steal their personal and financial information. Since April 2018, Action Fraud has received over 900 crime reports with victim losses totalling more than £830,000.

How you can protect yourself:

- Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.
- Don't assume a phone call or email is authentic, even if someone knows your basic details (such as your name or address). Remember, criminals can spoof phone numbers and email addresses to appear as companies you know and trust, such as TV Licensing.
- Your bank will never call and ask you for your PIN, full banking password, or ask you to transfer money out of your account.

What to do if you've fallen victim:

- Let your bank know as soon as possible and monitor your bank statements regularly for any unusual activity.
- If you suspect your identity may have been stolen you can check your credit file quickly and easily online. Use a reputable service provider and follow up on any unexpected or suspicious results.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk), or by calling 0300 123 2040

There is a lady, who has two small children with her, going around Chester saying that she has left her bag at home and is locked out with no money or phone and no fuel in her car. She then asks for help (money) to buy fuel to get her home.

She has been to our church twice in the last few weeks and also a church member was approached by her in the car park at Waitrose.

If she approaches you, refuse to give her any money. The police are

News from the Children & Families Office

Phew! How have we got to May already? Lent is all but forgotten, we are bursting from all of the treats we consumed while celebrating Easter, days are so much longer and we are all (potentially) finding it a little easier to be positive when assisted by a little sun and warmth.

Easter has been a particularly busy time for the C&F office with copious amounts of glue, paper and paint being used over the past few weeks. We have had three large events, two Wacky Wednesdays and our very first Easter Explored. May 29<sup>th</sup> is Wacky Wednesday for May Half Term, there is a sheet on the notice board in the Lounge for volunteers and I would be very grateful if you could let me know if you are available to volunteer, we are unable to run any of our events without your help!

Summer is fast approaching and we again have four Wacky Wednesdays planned:

31<sup>st</sup> July

7<sup>th</sup> August

14<sup>th</sup> August

21<sup>st</sup> August

The sheets for these dates are also on the notice board in the Lounge if you could possibly sign up.

Thank you all again for your support

Terri  
Children & Families Worker

Our next Messy Church is Thursday, 9 May

'The Ten Commandments'

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.



*THANK YOU*

It was a really special weekend and lovely to be at Church to remember our wedding day there 25 years ago. It was very thoughtful and generous of the Church to give us a card.

It was so kind of the Church to mention us in the notices too. We really appreciated it.

Alistair and Clare

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Thank you all for your good wishes and cards on our Diamond Wedding Anniversary and especially for the beautiful flowers.

Len and Gillian Moore

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Anticipating a successful and enjoyable Organ Concert on the 27th April, I am saying a big thank you to all who contributed in any way, especially our ladies and John Bowdler.

Jim Frost



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON

CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH

HOLY ASCENSION CHURCH KEMPE ROOM

WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY

12 noon - 1.00 pm

## UPTON AMBLERS

Our first Saturday outing of 2019 was to Northop, and the leader was Phil Jones. The weather forecast was for heavy rain to appear at 3 p.m., so we didn't dawdle on our 6½ mile route, and in fact the rain started at 2.50 p.m., as we were returning to the car park, so we were very lucky. It was a very enjoyable walk, through woods, quiet lanes, and a track up to a Jacobean mansion house. We did have one faller, but no injuries (just to pride). 14 of us plus 1 dog had an excellent day.

In February, of course, the UK enjoyed amazing weather, and our Saturday walk on the Wirral was another dry warm day, with some sunshine, but rather hazy views. 14 of us started out from the Wirral Country Park car park at Little Neston, and walked along the Wirral Way to arrive at Parkgate, for our coffee stop (and ice creams for some). The views of the birdlife on the marsh were spectacular. Then, after watching a wedding party arriving at the church in Parkgate Square, we followed quiet lanes and footpaths to reach Raby village, where we ate our lunch outside the attractive thatched Wheatsheaf Inn. Then it was a pleasant easy return, skirting around Willaston. We passed some very splendid properties on our route, and this is certainly a very affluent area in which to live.

March saw a very definite change in the weather, and the decision was made to delay by a week our North Wales walk, as the forecast was for very high winds and heavy rain. This proved to be an excellent plan, as the following Saturday was

warm and dry. Jean and George Coward led us on a beautiful route, starting from Gwernymynydd, and climbing up and around, until we came down a steep slope to arrive at the entry to Loggerheads Country Park, where we had our lunch stop in the riverside gardens. It was the day of Jean and George's 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary and they had carried around home-made flapjacks and a bottle of Prosecco as a treat for us all. Afterwards we had a long climb up 108 steep steps, which was quite a challenge for some of us (to quote Raymond Chandler - "It was a nice walk, if you don't mind grunting"). We then crossed the road and returned to our cars by quiet lanes and field paths. Many congratulations to the Cowards on their anniversary, and many thanks for organising such a beautiful outing.

Wednesday walks in 2019 have been to Elton village, Norton Priory, Hoole, and Willaston, and the numbers of walkers attending has been very encouraging.

CELIA JONES tel. 381387.

Wednesday, 1 May

Leaders - Michelle Heald and Pat Caney

Saturday, 11 May

Leader - Robin Hodgkins - Caeriog Valley