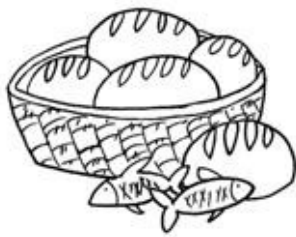
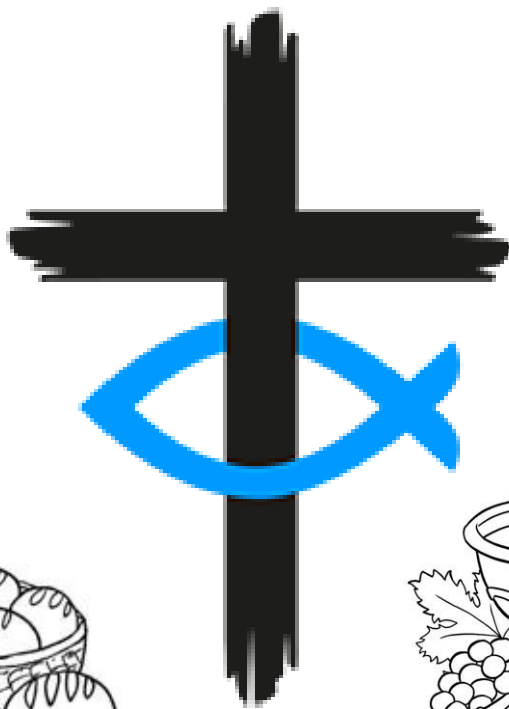


Wallington United Reformed Church



CONTACT

No. 346

February 2022

Wallington United Reformed Church



Dear Friends....

One thing that struck me last winter and has hit me again this year is the amount of mistletoe I see around. When I was growing up in Kent mistletoe was not all that common where I lived, even though the prevalence of apple orchards in the county provided plentiful hosts for the plant. Now as I am driving and walking around Wallington, Sutton and Cheam I am struck by just how much mistletoe there is, usually very high up in the branches of the host trees. It's in the winter months when I notice it although, as an evergreen, it must be in those same trees all year round. However it's when the leaves of the deciduous trees drop in the Autumn that it becomes visible and I am able to wonder at its abundance. If it wasn't for the Winter, with all its negative associations – cold, dark, lack of life, short days – then the wonder of the mistletoe would not be seen. The old stuff needs to fall away so the still living can be seen. No wonder our ancestors saw in mistletoe a symbol of enduring life.

As I thought about this I was reminded of a chapter in the book Bambi. (I don't know whether it made it into the Disney film as I have to confess that is a film I have never actually seen.) In the chapter two leaves hold a conversation about the changing times even bemoaning 'It isn't the way it used to be'. They are afraid of what the future holds and how none of those who have gone before them have come back to tell them what lies ahead. They are desperate to hold on and wonder which of them will fall first.

In this there is a wonderful sermon illustration about the death and resurrection of Christ, who does come back to tell us, and maybe that is an article waiting to be written some Easter. However what struck me this week was the need to let go of the things that have served their time, that seek to sap energy even when they can offer nothing life-giving. Unless the leaves fall from the tree there will be no new growth and in their falling and rotting the leaves provide something vital for the new life that will come.

What is there in our lives as individuals and as a church that we need to let go of in order that new growth will come? Are there things we are desperate to hold on to which actually sap more energy than they give? In these Winter months can we take some time to clear away the stuff that has built up which obscures the beauty that lies hidden for so much of the year, like the mistletoe in the branches of the plane tree?

Winter may seem a depressing time for many but it is essential if life is to go on being renewed and can be a time when we discover, or rediscover, hidden beauty. May you find beauty in the world and your life this month.

Craig Bowman

Our Wider Community

We remember all those who are teaching in Schools, Colleges and Universities where they have been helping their students to fulfil their potential, but have also been closer to the highly contagious new Covid variant.

We think of everyone who helps and works in Convalescence Homes, Care Homes and Hospitals. They have often been involved in emergencies during the pandemic, and we pray for them as they offer support and care.

We ask your prayers for all those who have been infected by the covid-19 virus in recent weeks. A large number of friends, relatives, and acquaintances have been in self-isolation during December and January. We pray for their speedy recovery and recuperation.

Also all friends, relations, colleagues and all those in our wider world that are feeling under the weather, lost, forgotten or just out of sorts.

May God grant you his peace.

**If you have any news of the church family to bring us up to date please contact Alan. 020 8274 2136
Or Email: pastoral@wurc.org.uk**

Names will only be shared in the version of Contact which goes to our usual fellowship and not put into the version posted on our website.

As we go through 2022 the range of greetings cards will be displayed on the last Sunday of the month, whenever possible.

There are Anniversary Cards, Children's Cards (ages up to 8), Sympathy Cards, Get Well Cards, Teenage Cards, 18th Birthday Cards, and general Birthday Cards as well as a selection of wrapping paper for children and adults.

Cards from 70p, paper 40p per sheet, 3 sheets for £1

If you need a card on any Sunday, please do ask.

**Look out for greeting cards and wrapping paper
(and Marmalade) on 27th February 2022.**

Our pre-Christmas outside sales raised a total
of **£855**
for **Christians Against Poverty.**

A very **BIG** thank you to everyone
for their support.

Following the success of the outside sales we are planning a few more sales to raise money for

(Carshalton based) **Nickel Support**

A chance for people with learning disabilities to shine.

The second Friday of the month (term time).

1.00pm-3.30pm

Do come along for Books, DVDs, Greetings Cards, Wrapping Paper, Marmalade & Home-Made Cakes

Friday 11th February

Moving through 2022

2022 Prayer Handbook

Edited by Karen Campbell and Ian Fosten

It is fifty years since the United Reformed Church came into being.

(This is something that is likely to be a re-occurring theme throughout the year.)

Recognising this significant milestone, 'Jubilee' is the theme for the 2022 Prayer Handbook.

This Jubilee is not so much a time for looking back, but can give us an opportunity to look honestly, carefully and prayerfully at where we are encountering God in everyday events today.

Taken from: **God Comes Calling**

In the 2022 Prayer Handbook, by Tony Burnham

Usually you send a messenger but, unlike the Bible stories,
Not many of us see angels in white, or hear from the
clouds, that you have chosen us.

Still, we thank you for the person you sent to bring
us into the Church who, if you were calling us to some task,
would tell us what you wanted us to do next.

We thank you for someone in the family prompting us; or a
minister, wise woman, an old man, or a friend, sowing the
seed.

Tell us, God, what work you have for us to do now.
Open the door to a new opportunity in our home, in the
church, at school or college, in the way we earn our living,
in voluntary work, or politics; choose us, we are ready.
For we know that there is no task, however ordinary, that
cannot be done in Jesus' name.

What are we looking to achieve in 2022?

Later in the year will be the fiftieth anniversary of URC,
fifty years since the United Reformed Church came into being...



Should we celebrate?

How should we celebrate?

Where should we celebrate?



Is this just for WURC to celebrate, or can we find a way
to reach out into the local community to help us to celebrate?

Faith - Hope - Love - since 1972



What would you like to do?

What would YOU like to achieve in 2022?

What would you like

Wallington United Reformed Church to achieve in 2022?

What are you ready to help us to achieve in 2022?

Free tickets to the Anniversary Service of Celebration and
Thanksgiving on 1 October 2022, at Methodist Central Hall
Westminster, London, are now available.

Book your tickets- Eventbrite booking system at: **bit.ly/urc50**.

Please let us know your thoughts....

and more to celebrate

In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 when she was 25 years old.



An extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June, will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone.

It is likely to be very busy at the beginning of June, but maybe a little later we could be part of '**The Big Lunch**' which has been running since the idea began in 2009. This year 'The Big Jubilee Lunch', which can be big or small - street party, picnic or tea and cake.

Could it be part of a Celebration Summer Fete ?

What would you like to do?

Please let us know your thoughts....



 **FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2022**
21st February - 6th March
We are trying to be a Fair-Trade
Community... choose the world you want.

Scouting Reflections

Seeing some scouts and guides and the flags at the Remembrance Sunday church service reminded me also of the many happy years I spent involved with the Scout Group which was sponsored by our church and previously Wallington and Carshalton Congregational Church together with the former Wallington Presbyterian Church. Over many years the church newsletters detailed so many groups associated with the churches, including but not only the Badminton Club, Holmwood Players and the Women's Fellowship. Whilst enjoying the present we must not forget the importance of the past and what it meant to so many people.

I joined what was the 10th Wallington (Holmwood) Wolf Cubs in 1958 and continued as a Scout and Senior Scout through to adult leadership for many years in what became the 8th Wallington following amalgamation with the Group at Christ Church. I spent some 36 years as a warranted leader, including periods at 1st Belmont and 6th Carshalton.

When I was Scout Leader at 8th Wallington I definitely put the "out" into Scouting and whilst membership was held together by the weekly meetings it was the camps and youth hostelling trips which the boys will always remember, plus some other varied activities, such as ice skating, ten pin bowling, caving, hiking and even trips to Croydon's Fairfield Halls for all in wrestling in the days of Big Daddy and Mick McManus. Together with many other adults involved in leadership, fund-raising and administrative roles we provided a lifetime of memories. Sadly, many of those adults are no longer with us but the same can be said of some of the boys I had in the Troop who, when I first became a leader, were very much of my generation. I am now 71 years old!!

A ten day annual Summer camp living together in a farmer's field and cooking over wood fires was the highlight of the Scouting year – we rotated round farms in North Wales, Derbyshire, Cornwall, Somerset, Yorkshire, Kent and the Isle of Wight. I prided myself on taking the boys on youth hostelling trips throughout Britain, to Wales, Derbyshire, East Anglia, the Malvern Hills and several times to Scotland, even via the Kyle of Lochalsh chain ferry to Kyleakin on the Isle of Skye. Hiring minibuses and bikes in Scotland, following a lengthy train trip was not uncommon.

I am bound to say that Scouting was more “relaxed” in those days. I have many photos to prove where we went, such as the attached photo taken at the end of the railway line at Kyle of Lochalsh. Scout Leader John Parkin is seen with Anne Witney who attended many youth hostelling trips. We had just completed a roughly 750 mile rail trip from Wallington, using Family Railcards

where the child fare was just £1 each for the 1500 mile round trip. This was June 1989.



Talking of photos, a few years ago I set up a private facebook site, which has attracted a number of

former members and I have posted to date over 1000 photos of the activities enjoyed by the Scouts, Beavers and Cubs. I have more to post. I am happy to get more people on board. The site is “8th Wallington Scout Group” and I am the owner and my email address is ‘trolleybus654@aol.com’. I also have the negatives and many photos taken by former Scout Master “Skipper” Wright, which show the activities enjoyed by the boys in the 1940s and 1950s.

***Walk and Talk into
2022!***

**As often as the
weather will allow!**

First Saturday of each month.

**If you'd like to join in or know more please
talk to Elaine or Chris.**



Commitment for Life

Prayer Partners resource
offers prayers based on 'Life-
giving faith, defiant hope,
generous love'.

The prayers can be used to help people focus on generosity of mind and spirit.

Prayers by Children and Young People for Climate
From Christ Church URC, Petts Wood

Nathanial 8yrs old

Dear God, Thank you for this lovely world. We are very sorry for not taking care of it. We will make it a better place. Amen.



Jasmine 13yrs old

Dear God, we are sorry for all the wrong we have done, especially destroying the amazing planet you created for us. You gave us a home and we are mistreating it. Please forgive us. As individuals we will try our hardest to protect and preserve Earth so all generations after us will be able to enjoy all the amazing things you have given us. Amen.

Anna 14yrs old

Dear Father God, We pray that you protect our children and keep them safe so they can grow healthy in mind and body. Please give them strength and wisdom to save our planet. Please help them to grow in their faith of you and help us to change our ways for a healthier, more considerate and kinder future. We pray for our world leaders, that you guide them to make good decisions for the future of our children and our planet. Amen.

Diary Dates			
February			
Sunday	6th	10.30am	Morning service...with the Sacrament of Holy Communion...to be led by Revd Craig Bowman
Sunday	13th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Phil Hyde
Sunday	20th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Revd Craig Bowman
Sunday	27th	10.30am	Morning service to be led by Dr Alan Cruchley
March			
Sunday	6th	10.30am	Morning service...with the Sacrament of Holy Communion...to be led by Revd Craig Bowman

PLEASE NOTE...Articles for the March 2022 issue of Contact should be given to Janet or Robin Willis by **Sunday 20th February** unless a later date has been agreed by prior arrangement. Contributions are very acceptable by e-mail: [jmw321wmj @ yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jmw321wmj@yahoo.co.uk).

Sudoku Answers for December/January:

5	8	4	7	3	2	6	9	1
6	2	3	9	5	1	4	8	7
7	9	1	6	8	4	2	5	3
9	3	2	5	6	8	1	7	4
1	6	8	4	2	7	5	3	9
4	7	5	3	1	9	8	6	2
3	5	7	2	4	6	9	1	8
8	4	6	1	9	3	7	2	5
2	1	9	8	7	5	3	4	6

Puzzle Corner

Bible Names from Old and New Testament:

Aaron, Abigail,
Abraham, Adam,
Bathsheba,
Caleb, Daniel,
David, Elijah,
Elisha, Esther,
Gideon, Goliath,
Jeremiah, Jethro,
Job, John,
Jonah, Joshua,
Josiah, Judah,
Judas, Lazarus,
Leah, Mark,
Mathias,
Matthew, Miriam,
Moses, Naomi,
Noah, Paul,
Peter, Philip,
Rebekah, Rueben, Ruth, Samson, Sardis, Solomon, Stephen,
Thomas, Timothy, Titus, Zacchaeus, Zipporah

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

A sudoku puzzle consists of a 9 by 9 grid. This grid is subdivided into nine 3 x 3 boxes.

Some of the cells in the grid are prefilled with a number between 1 and 9, while many other cells are blank.

Your job is to determine the correct number to be entered in each of the empty cells.

The numbers 1 to 9 must appear just once in each row, column, and 3 x 3 box.

3	6						7	
7		1	6		5			
		8			3	1		9
8		4					5	1
		7	8		9			
6	5			2		8	3	7
		5	7			3		
	8			1	2	7		6
9			4				1	2

Bible Quiz: The Miracles

1) Jesus performed many miracles during His ministry, and they served as signs that the Kingdom of God had truly come. What was Jesus' first miracle?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Walking on water | <input type="radio"/> Turning water into wine |
| <input type="radio"/> Feeding 5000 with the loaves and fishes | <input type="radio"/> Cursing the fig tree |

2) Whose mother-in-law did Jesus heal when she had a fever?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Martha's | <input type="radio"/> Mary Magdalene's |
| <input type="radio"/> Matthew's | <input type="radio"/> Simon Peter's |

3) As Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, a terrible storm arose and threatened to drown them. Jesus rebuked the wind and waves and the storm disappeared. What was Jesus doing when the storm arose?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Praying | <input type="radio"/> Sleeping |
| <input type="radio"/> Eating a meal | <input type="radio"/> Explaining the parables to His disciples |

4) Whose daughter did Jesus bring back to life?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Jairus' | <input type="radio"/> Herod's |
| <input type="radio"/> Simon Peter's | <input type="radio"/> Martha's |

5) Jesus miraculously broke just a few loaves of bread and fishes and fed 5000 men, plus women and children. How many loaves and fishes did he start with?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> 3 loaves and 2 fishes | <input type="radio"/> 2 loaves and 3 fishes |
| <input type="radio"/> 5 loaves and 2 fishes | <input type="radio"/> 2 loaves and 5 fishes |

6) Which disciple walked on the water with Jesus?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> James | <input type="radio"/> Matthew |
| <input type="radio"/> Peter | <input type="radio"/> Thomas |

7) Which disciples were with Jesus at His transfiguration, when "His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light"?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Andrew, James, and Matthew | <input type="radio"/> Peter, James and John |
| <input type="radio"/> Thomas, Peter, and John | <input type="radio"/> Philip, John, and Peter |

8) When Jesus healed the man who was blind from birth, He made mud with His spit and put it on the man's eyes. What did He tell the man to do then?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Go pray in the synagogue. | <input type="radio"/> Go show himself to the Pharisees. |
| <input type="radio"/> Wash in the Sea of Galilee. | <input type="radio"/> Wash in the pool of Siloam. |

9) What man did Jesus raise from the dead, after he had been dead four days?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> John the Baptist | <input type="radio"/> Lazarus |
| <input type="radio"/> Elijah | <input type="radio"/> Moses |

10) What was Bartimaeus' affliction that Jesus healed

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Leprosy | <input type="radio"/> Lameness |
| <input type="radio"/> Deafness | <input type="radio"/> Blindness |

EVERY WEEK AT WALLINGTON U.R.C.

Times of Worship

Sunday 10.30am Family Service

Activities you can find on our Premises

Monday - Friday 9.15am-1.15pm *Holmwood Pre – school*

Monday	10.00-11.00am	Yoga
	2.00-4.00pm	Bananas Art
	4.15-7.30pm	Reigate Academy of Dance
	7.45-10.00pm	Explorer Scouts
Tuesday	9.15am-1.20pm	Hartbeeps (mother and baby activities)
	5.00-6.00pm	Rainbows
	6.00-7.30pm	Brownies (10th Wallington)
	8.00-10.00pm	Epsom Downs Badminton, Winter(Sept-May)
Wednesday	7.30-10.00pm	Chess Club
Thursday	11.00-12.00noon	Senior Movers Exercise
	2.00-4.00pm	Ladies' Badminton, Winter(Sept-May)
	2.00-4.00pm	Fallen Angels Drama
	7.25-10.00pm	Carshalton & Wallington Art Group
Friday	9.30am-12.30pm	NAS Coffee morning
	10.30-11.30am	Baby Massage
	6.45-8.30pm	Guides(8th Wallington)
Saturday	8.15-9.45am	Fitness
	9.00-10.00	Yoga
	10.00-12.30pm	Zumba



South London Tamil Church (SLTC)

SLTC are now regularly using our premises for their Sunday services. Their service starts at 3pm, and everyone is very welcome to join them.