



Feb - May 2013

outlook

Newsletter of **Highgate United Reformed Church**

Enjoyment of God



Enjoyment is not a word normally associated with religion. Religion is often associated with restriction and guilt. This is a pity, since the real purpose of religion is the enjoyment of God.

One of the most influential theologians and philosophers, Thomas Aquinas, wrote that the goal of the religious life is the full enjoyment of God. Even the dour Presbyterians and severe Puritans, who occupied Westminster Abbey from 1643 – 1653 and banned the celebration of Christmas, when asked the question: 'What is the purpose of human life?' came up with the answer: 'To enjoy God.' The possible reason why this theme has been neglected is that life is often difficult. There are many things that spoil our enjoyment of life and of God, such as strain, illness, and loss. What is remarkable about the biblical writers is that they are often very realistic about these spoilers of enjoyment. Indeed, they protest to God about them: "How long, Lord, will you forget me? How long will you leave me in anguish?" (Psalm 13:1-2) At the same time, many of these psalms of protest are notable for their eventual expression of trust in God and joy: "Yet I will trust in your unfailing love; I will rejoice when I am brought to safety." (Psalm 13:5) When we loosen our grip on the need to be 'in control' and open ourselves to God's presence, a measure of joy can be experienced.

The Apostle Paul believes that one of the fruits of the Spirit is joy, but in order to produce this and the other fruits we must first

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let the Holy Spirit direct us, which involves crucifying our old nature with its unspiritual tendencies (see Galatians 5:22-25). The Christian tradition believes that God is the ultimate source of joy. This is because Christians understand the one God to be a Holy Trinity of love and joy. The Father loves and delights in the Son, who loves and delights in the Holy Spirit, who loves and delights in the Father, and so on. The Gospel According to John indicates that humans may share

in something of this circular communion of love and joy. When we trust in Christ, the Holy Spirit comes and indwells us: who is the Spirit of the Father and the Son. This indwelling is the source of joy, since Christ promises: ". . . my joy is in you, and your joy complete" John 15:11. When humans love and delight in God and in one another we become sharers in the joy of God.

Julian Templeton

The Bridge

Friday 26 April, 8:00 pm

St John's Church

Corner of Somerset and Mowbray Roads,
New Barnet, EN5 1RH

Premier of a new Cantata

Entry is free with a retiring collection

Julian has written the libretto, based on a poem and drawing from the Bible and spirituals. Richard Harvey, the Director of Music – who, as organist, has exchanged with Robert Manning on a few occasions – has composed, and will direct, the music. It will feature choir, soprano and baritone soloists, and a chamber ensemble of instrumentalists. Actor, Rachel Snider, is the Producer, and will project images to complement the themes. It explores and celebrates Jesus Christ as "the bridge between despair and hope." The Bridge will launch a weekend of celebrations marking 50 years since Presbyterians and Congregationalists in New Barnet united to become St John's Church.

Please include the following in your prayers:

- 1. Pray for our ministry and outreach to children and their parents.**
- 2. Pray for the Elders and Ministers in their ministries of leadership, pastoral care, and worship leading.**
- 3. Pray for those in our community experiencing loss and ill health.**
- 4. Pray for God's guidance as we continue to worship, serve, and witness to the Gospel in Highgate and beyond.**
- 5. Pray for Members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords as they consider legislation that could significantly redefine marriage.**



THE SCAMMELL TOMB

Did you know that one of the finest tombs in Highgate Cemetery has an interesting connection to Pond Square Chapel? Did you know that a former church secretary is one of the few people to have been inside the tomb (and come out)? And did you know that Patricia is planning a church visit to view the tomb one sunny day this summer? (And other Pond Square Chapel connections in the Cemetery?) If the answer is “No to all of the above”, read on.



View of Highgate cemetery

To nerdy boys in the thirties and forties Scammell meant lorries – big noisy ones with strong engines. Think Leyland. Indeed, predictably, Leyland took them over eventually. But way back, Alfred Thomas Scammell, the son of a Dorset miller, had started a wheelwright and coach building business in Spitalfields, moving on to building combustion engines. When his son was invalided out of the trenches in the First World War, using what he had seen working in the mud, they began to develop articulated six wheel haulage vehicles, and soon with such success that they built new works in Watford. In the fifties their transports carried the tanks used by the British Army in Germany. The Scammells had made enough to live in one of Hampstead's finer houses.

By 1922, however, Alfred Thomas was dead and in the tomb he had already had built. After his death who was to look after the tomb? He had had the foresight to set up a Trust fund whose income was to be used to keep the tomb in good repair. First, his married daughter, a Mrs Wheeler, – she clearly chose her husband for his name – saw to things, but she died in 1950. The Trust deed then provided that Pond Square Chapel should take it on, for no better reason, it is supposed, than that we were

the nearest Nonconformist church to the cemetery. (Alfred was a Baptist). The Trust was accepted. When rough sleepers broke into the tomb and slept there in the sixties, David Harker, the then church secretary, remembers inspecting the damage inside the tomb and having repairs done. Interestingly, David says the Chapel trustees used the spare income not for the church but for the minister, as part of his leaving gift when he moved on.

Then it gets boring. Chapel trustee duties passed first to the London Congregational Union, and then to the URC Synod. They now have the responsibility of looking after the tomb and of course they have the money. But Alfred Thomas will be well pleased, I guess. His tomb is still one of the finest in Egyptian Avenue and when the guides pause there to talk to their group of visitors, his once typical British business enterprise is remembered with pride.

(Thanks to Andrew Yeo, a cemetery guide as well as Patricia's husband, and David Harker, now living in Hampton, for all the information above)

John Thompson

**Inscription on the tombstone of
Dr Jeremy Cohen in Highgate Cemetery:**

“Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.”



Women's World Day of Prayer in England, Wales & Northern Ireland

'I was a stranger and you welcomed me'

Friday 1st March

Women's World Day of Prayer

All around the world, Women's World Day of Prayer services will be taking place on the first Friday of March. A different country prepares the outline each year, and in 2013 it's France.

The services are at:

Muswell Hill United Reformed Church
Tetherdown/Queen's Avenue, Muswell Hill N10 1ND
10.30 am

and at **All Saints Church,**
Talbot Road, Highgate N6 4QH
2pm

Come and support this service and if you would like to participate as a reader let me know. Also note, for the first time, the change from a morning service in Highgate to 2pm in the afternoon. This change is due to the Highgate parking restrictions in the morning.

The speaker, Jennie Waterman, is a British missionary in Kenya and Nepal who lives in France. The theme is close to her heart, it will be interesting what she will share with us from her challenging experiences as a missionary and her life as a Brit in France.

Hope to see you at All Saints on 1st March.

Christa Keeler

Opportunities to serve in Amsterdam

The Mission House in Amsterdam is currently searching for a new team of volunteers for the period of September 2013 to June 2014. Participants live as a Christian community and working in a range of projects in Amsterdam – including working with terminal hospice residents, homeless shelters, children's and young people's clubs, asylum seekers and the seaman's mission. Visit the website <http://missionhouse.nl/> for more information

February

- Sunday 24 10:30 am Lent 2, Worship led by Rev'd Julian Templeton
 10:30 am Fun Sunday in Hall
- Wednesday 27 7:45 pm Home Group Lent Study, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
- Thursday 28 7:30 pm Management Committee

March

- Friday 1 10:30 am Women's World Day of Prayer, URC, Tetherdown/Queen's Avenue, Muswell Hill N10 1ND
 12:30 pm Christian Meditation for Lent
 2:00 pm Women's World Day of Prayer, All Saints Church, Talbot Road, Highgate N6 4QH
- Sunday 3 10:30 am Lent 3, Worship led by Susan Chinn
- Monday 4 2:00 pm Open Door Gathering, Trees, 2-4 Broadlands Road, N6
 7:30 pm Elders' Meeting
- Wednesday 6 7:45 pm Home Group Lent Study, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
- Friday 8 12:30 – 1 pm Christian Meditation for Lent
- Sunday 10 10:30 am Lent 4, Mothering Sunday, Shorter Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev'd Julian Templeton, followed by a short **Church Meeting**
- Wednesday 13 7:45 pm Home Group, Lent Course, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
 8:00 pm HASM Discussion Group, War Child, Sophie Hug Williams, 61 Fordington Road, N6 4TH
- Friday 15 12:30 – 1 pm Christian Meditation for Lent
- Sunday 17 10:30 am Lent 5, Worship led by Rev'd Roger Orme
- Monday 18 2:00 pm Open Door Gathering
- Wednesday 20 7:45 pm Home Group, Lent Course, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
- Friday 22 12:30 – 1 pm Christian Meditation for Lent
- Saturday 23 10:30 am HASM Elders' and Deacons' Meeting, Union Church, Totteridge, N12
- Sunday 24 10:30 am **Palm Sunday** Worship led by Rev'd Julian Templeton
 10:30 am Fun Sunday in Hall
- Wednesday 27 7:45 pm Home Group, 1 Brookfield Park, Dartmouth Park, NW5 1ES
- Thursday 28 7:00 pm **Maundy Thursday** Service, Union Church, Weston Park, Crouch End, N8 9TA

CHURCH MEETING Sunday 10 MARCH

After a shorter service on Sunday 10 March, a short Church Meeting will be held at which the Elders will present revised proposals for focusing a greater proportion of the church's income and energy on mission and ministry. The meeting will be finished by 12:30 pm, allowing any with plans for Mothering Sunday to pursue them.
Julian Templeton

Open Door Gathering

It was wonderful to see Sylvia Hurst well enough to attend the "Open Door Gathering" on Monday afternoon. All are welcome to join us, anytime between 2 - 4 pm, on the 1st Monday of the month at Trees, 2-4 Broadlands Road; and at the Pond Square Chapel on the 3rd Monday of the month (where Jean Duncan's Scotch Pancakes and Victoria Sponge are especially popular!).

Friday 29	9:30 am	Good Friday CTH Procession of Witness, to be advised
	10:30 am	Good Friday CTH All Age Worship, PSC, led by Rev'd Julian Templeton
Sunday 31	10:30 am	Easter Day Service of Word and Sacrament led by Rev'd Julian Templeton, (British Summer Time begins)

April

Sunday 7	10:30 am	Worship led by Andrew Mills
Wednesday 10	7:45 pm	Home Group, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
	8:00 pm	HASM Discussion Group, Public Service on the Brink, Jenny Manson, Elders' Vestry, Free Church, Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 7AG
Friday 12	12:30 – 1 pm	Christian Meditation
Sunday 14	10.30 am	Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev'd Julian Templeton with guests, the London Gallery Quire
Monday 15	2:00 pm	Open Door Gathering, Pond Square Chapel
Wednesday 17	7:45 pm	Home Group, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
Friday 19	12:30 – 1pm	Christian Meditation
Sunday 21	10:30 am	Worship led by Rev'd Roger Orme
	7:00 pm	Recital by Robert Manning and Julian Templeton, All Saints Church, Friern Barnet, Oakleigh Road North, N20 9EZ
Monday 22	8:00 pm	CTH Theology Group, John 14:1-14, 17 Southwood Lawn Road, N6 5SD
Wednesday 24	7:45 pm	Home Group, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
Friday 26	8:00 pm	The Bridge , a Cantata by Richard Harvey and Julian Templeton, St John's Church, Somerset and Mowbray Roads, New Barnet, EN5 1RH
Sunday 28	10:30 am	Worship led by Beth Hartley
	10:30 am	Fun Sunday in Hall

May

Wednesday 1	7:45 pm	Home Group, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
Friday 3	12:30 – 1pm	Christian Meditation
Sunday 5	10:30 am	Worship led by Sally Bateman
Monday 6	2 – 4 pm	Open Door Gathering, Trees, 2-4 Broadlands Road, N6 4AN
	8:00 pm	CTH Theology Group, John 14:15-31, 17 Southwood Lawn Road, N6 5SD
Wednesday 8	7:45 pm	Home Group, 14 Southwood Park, N6 5SG
	8:00 pm	HASM Discussion Group, Visit to St Jude-on-the-Hill, Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 7AH
Friday 10	12:30 – 1 pm	Christian Meditation
Sunday 12	10:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev'd Julian Templeton, followed by Church Annual General Meeting

Hope has two beautiful daughters – their names are anger and courage;
anger at the ways things are, and courage to see that they do not
remain the way they are.

St Augustine

HASM Discussion Groups

Wednesdays, 8:00 pm

March 13 War Child

61 Fordington Road, N6 4TH

War Child is a charity that tries to protect children from the brutal effects of war and help them to rebuild their lives. Sophie Hug Williams is War Child's UK Programme Manager and will come to talk about some of her experiences working with children affected by conflict in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Central African Republic.

April 10 Public Service on the Brink

Elders' Vestry, Free Church, Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 7AG

Jenny Manson, a retired tax inspector, has edited two books in the last few years. 'Public Service on the Brink' is the title of a book published in 2012, in which she and 11 contributors from other branches of public service write of the pride and pleasure in working for the common good, and their frustration at the endless management restructuring imposed by successive governments determined to try out various forms of privatisation whatever the cost/benefit evidence.

May 8 Visit to the Parish Church of Saint Jude-on-the-Hill

Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11 7AH

St Jude's Church is a vast space, with a surprisingly small seating area, designed for the rituals of the Anglo Catholic tradition of the Church of England. At the instigation of Henrietta Barnett, the church was built to the design of Edwin Lutyens (who also designed the Free Church on the other side of the Square). Simon Jenkins calls it "the confident application of Queen Anne Revival to traditional church form." Evelyn Waugh recounts a service of worship he attended with his parents, led by the then flamboyant and popular incumbent, Basil Bouchier, commenting: "His sermons were dramatic, topical, irrational and quite without theological content. . . . Despite all Mr Bouchier's extravagant display, I had some glimpse of higher mysteries." The present incumbent, the Reverend Alan Walker, will introduce aspects of the liturgical tradition of the Church of England through the design, furnishings, and decoration of St Jude's.

Recital by Robert Manning & Julian Templeton

Sunday 21 April at 7pm
All Saints Church Friern Barnet
Oakleigh Road North, N20 9EZ

Music for voice & organ and for organ solo.
The hour long programme will include music by Buxtehude, Bach, Handel and John Ireland, as well as an extract from the 'Pond Square Cantata' written for our 150th anniversary by Peter Monk. There will also be an organ prelude on 'Ravenshaw' written by Brian Collins for our recent W.H. Monk service. Tickets will be available on the door, and wine/fruit juice & nibbles should be available!

Home Group

The Home Group will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings during the next two months, apart from a break during Easter week. There will therefore be no meeting on Wednesday, 3rd April.

If you would like an opportunity to relax and explore the Bible in an informal, warm and friendly atmosphere, do join us on Wednesdays at 7.45 pm. All our gatherings will be held at 14, Southwood Park, Southwood Lawn Road, Highgate, N6 5SG apart from on Wednesday, 27th March which will be held at 1, Brookfield Park, Dartmouth Park, NW5 1ES. Light refreshments are served at the start and end of the evening.

During Lent, we are following a York course, entitled "GLIMPSES OF GOD". In five sessions, we shall be considering such topics as 'The God who calms our fears', 'The God who shares our Pain', 'The God

who hears our cry' and 'The Shepherd who guides and guards his people'. Recorded contributions by Rev'd. Lucy Winkett, Rt. Hon. Shirley Williams, Rev'd. Professor David Wilkinson and Bishop Stephen Cottrell set the context for our reflections.

After Easter, we will revert to our usual pattern of following the Lectionary Readings. These combine four passages, one each taken from the Psalms, the Old Testament, the Gospels and the Epistles. The readings follow a different theme each week which is generally challenging, encouraging, informative and inspirational. No previous Bible knowledge or preparation is necessary.

Should the venue of any of our meetings change, this will be announced the previous Sunday in morning worship. Lifts, door-to-door, can be arranged.

Please contact Roger Orme: 07966956160 or 020 8458 2144.

Revised Common Lectionary

24 February	Luke 13:31-35; Philippians 3:17 – 4:1; Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27	31 March	Easter Day: Luke 24:1-12; Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
3 March	Luke 13:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8	7 April	John 20:19-31; Acts 5:27-32; Revelation 1:4-8; Psalm 118:14-29 or 150
10 March	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32	14 April	John 21:1-19; Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); Revelation 5:11-14; Psalm 30
17 March	John 12:1-8; Philippians 3:4b-14; Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126	21 April	John 10:22-30; Acts 9:36-43; Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 23
24 March	Palm: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Passion: Luke 22:14 – 23:56; Philippians 2:5-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16	28 April	John 13:31-35; Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-6; Psalm 148
29 March	Good Friday: John 18:1 – 19:42; Hebrews 10:16-25; Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12; Psalm 22	5 May	John 14:23-29; Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5; Psalm 67
		12 May	John 17:20-26; Acts 16:16-34; Revelation 22:12-14; Psalm 97

Visiting Ministers

We have no visitors leading worship in March, and you do not need my encouragement to support our own Susan Chinn on 3rd March. It will be good to have Julian this year on Easter Day.

Andrew Mills, a lay preacher and Elder of St John's, New Barnet, will be leading worship on 7th April

and the London Gallery Quire accompanying on 14th April. Both are welcome returners. Right at the end of April, on 28th, Beth Hartley, a Methodist lay preacher from Ely is coming again. As usual she will be accompanied by her father and his flute, and of course her daughter. They are a great team.

John Thompson



Providing Christian Education for Children

Looking back at 2012, join us in praising God for ..

- **3 new schools** – the Pathway team have been invited to take assemblies at Grange Park Primary School, (in partnership with Grace Church, Highlands); Woodridge Primary School in North Finchley and All Saints Primary School in Cricklewood.
- **2 ministry trainees** – Isobel Mammen and Ellen Friend are busy taking assemblies and helping run clubs in primary schools.
- **13 church visits** – the team have been to 13 churches (sometimes more than once!) to take family services and/or to speak about the work of Pathway or to help run children's events. We have visited St Margaret's Edgware, Westbury Ave Baptist Church, Highgate URC, Grace Church, Highlands Bush Hill Park Methodist Church, Winchmore Hill Baptist Church, St Nicholas, Newbury, Enfield Evangelical Free Church, St Thomas, Oakwood, International Christian Fellowship, Borehamwood, East Finchley Baptist Church, St Cuthbert's, Wood Green, Chase Family Church, Enfield.
- We continue to be welcomed into 50 primary schools in North London to take regular assemblies and to tell children about Jesus.
- We continue to run 6 clubs in primary schools.
- Our regular committed giving is up by £280 a month (target: £600 a month by the end of 2013)

Pounds for Pathway

our new initiative to raise our regular committed income

A cup of coffee

£2.50 a week = £10 a month for Pathway

A daily newspaper

£4.62 a week = £20 a month for Pathway

“To secure the existing work and plan the expansion of our work among North London's primary schoolchildren, we need substantially to increase our regular committed income.”

Mark Evans, Treasurer, Pathway

Can we do it?

Yes, with your help!

What you can do ..

- pray that we can reach our target
- consider giving regularly to Pathway
- increase your regular giving
- ask one friend to consider giving regularly to Pathway

How Can I Help Support Pathway?

You can send us a gift by cheque (payable to 'Pathway'). Or you could give regularly by standing order with your bank. If you are a taxpayer, you can make your gifts go further through Gift Aid at no extra cost to you!

Trinity Church Centre
15 Nether Street
London N12 7NN

Tel: (020) 8343 7584

Email: office@pathwayonline.co.uk

News of friends

David Harker sent Christmas greetings, as did the Cranes and John Wheeler. Betty and Donald Richter have moved from Florida to Rhode Island and asked to be remembered to all their URC friends (letter on noticeboard).

20th Anniversary

When we were in New Zealand we noticed that the photograph of Julian's Ordination in his home church bore the date of 1st March 1993. This means that this year he will have been an ordained minister for 20 years! We must celebrate it in some way.



Children's Fun Sunday



24 MARCH, 10.30 - 12.30

Fun activities for all the family



cookery
arts

Preparing
for **EASTER**



join in the egg hunt

crafts

games

snacks



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