



March – May  
2017

# outlook

Newsletter of **Highgate United Reformed Church**

## The Search is over!

By now many of you will have met David Currie who will, God willing, on Sunday 21st May become our first full time minister in more than 30 years. David accepted immediately the call issued on behalf of the Church Meeting held after David's Preaching with a View at our communion service on 12th February.

For those who don't know David is a Church of Scotland Minister whose experience includes 17 years as Parish Minister, 11 years in Mission and Church Development for the Church of Scotland, and most recently 5 years as one of the ministry team for Scots' Church in Melbourne.

David, and his wife Gwen, visited the manse on the 11th and met with Roger, Patricia and the Elders during the morning and over lunch to discuss the more secular questions relating to his possible employment by Highgate URC. James Fields, Convenor of the Pastoral Committee for the URC Thames North Synod, was able to join for the first hour which was much appreciated and helped reinforce that while taking our own initiative with respect to ministerial leadership we and the URC are working hard to make this work for us as the local

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Charity no: 1131691

**Minister:** In vacancy

**Associate Minister:** Rev'd Roger Orme Tel: 020 8458 2144

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church and the URC as the denomination to which we belong.

On Sunday 21st May we will hold a Service of Welcome for David, and Gwen. Its exact content and participants are being agreed by David, Roger and James Fields. What is important is that we are all there to thank God for guiding our Search Process and bringing David to us, and to ask God's blessing on us all so that together we make the most of God's call to us all.

I hope you will all join in thanking the Search Committee; Beth, Christa, Helen, Pam, Patricia, Rowena, Roger for all their work. And thank you to Robert Courtney for Chairing the two key Church Meetings that issued the invitation to preach and then issued the call.

Now let's make the 21st May a celebration and the start of an exciting new chapter in the long history of the Highgate Dissenters.

Robert Gorrie



# The Home Group

**T**he HOME GROUP has continued its weekly meetings, using the Lectionary Readings as a basis for discussion, reflection and personal reminiscence.

During Lent, starting on Wednesday 8th March and for the next four Wednesdays, we shall be following a York course, entitled **Receiving Christ in five different ways**. Each session consists of a recorded talk, followed by a commentary and questions. The subjects include **Receiving Christ: As Children of God; In the Stranger and Needy; In Holy Communion; Through Prayer and Fellowship and Christ In You, The Hope of Glory**

In previous years, we have found the content of York courses to be interesting and challenging and to offer a fresh look at our faith. So, do come if you can.

Until further notice we shall meet at 1 Brookfield Park, Dartmouth Park, NW5 1ES, starting at 7.45 pm and ending at 9.45 pm. Light refreshments are served before and afterwards. Our last meeting will be on Ash Wednesday 12th April and we will resume on 26th April.

Lifts, door-to-door, can be arranged.

Please contact **Roger Orme**: 07966956160 or 020 8458 2144

# LENT

There will be no excuse for not joining a Lenten course this year, as a wide variety of course content, location and timing are being provided. Do take this opportunity to gain something for Lent.

## Churches Together in Highgate

offers 4 and 5 week ecumenical discussions on 3 mornings and 2 evenings

### **Group 1 Monday (8 pm) March 6,13,27 April 3**

St. Augustine's Church Hall (basement)

Leader: Fr Peter Vannozi (Vicar of St. Augustine's)

**Women of Faith** *York Course*

### **Group 2 Tuesday (10:45 for 11) March 7,14,28, April 4**

St. Joseph's Retreat Highgate Hill

Leader: Rev Mrs. Mazine West (formerly Asst. Priest St Michael's)

**Receiving Christ in 5 different Ways** *York Course*

### **Group 3 Wednesday (11) March 8, 13,22, 29**

St Michael's Church Upper Hall

Leader: Rev Bryce Wandrey (Priest in Charge, All Saints)

**The Creeds** *from the Pilgrim Course*

### **Group 4 Wednesday (7:45) March 8,15,22, 29, April 5**

1 Brookfield Park, Dartmouth Park NW5

Leader: Rev Roger Orme (HURC)

**Receiving Christ** *York Course 2017*

### **Group 5 Friday (12:30) March 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7**

Pond Square Chapel, Highgate

Finding Sanctuary in Meditation (various leaders)

**The Wilderness** *York Course*

Each course comes with a cd, a tape and printed booklet which can be ordered from the York Course webpage: [www.yorkcourses.co.uk](http://www.yorkcourses.co.uk). This will be available at the initial meetings.

# ••••• **Diary Dates** •••••

## **March**

Sunday 5	10:30	Worship led by Elders David and Robert with Kids Klub
Wednesday 8	7:45	Home Group 1 Brookfield Park, NW5 1ES
Friday 10	12:30	Meditation
Sunday 12	10:00	Worship led by Rev Roger Orme with Holy Communion and Kids Klub
Wednesday 15	7:45	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park, NW5 1ES
Friday 17	12:30	Meditation
Sunday 19	10:30	Worship led by Pathway team Darren Chubb and Nikki with Kids Klub
Wednesday 22	7:45	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park, NW5 1ES
Friday 24	12:30	Meditation
Sunday 26	10:30	Worship led by Rev Roger Scopes with Kids Klub
Wednesday 29	7:45	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park, NW5 1ES
Friday 31	12:30	Meditation

## **April**

Sunday 2	10:30	Worship led by Rev Alan Argent
Wednesday 5	12:30	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park
Friday 7	12:30	Meditation
Sunday 9	10:30	Worship led by Rev Robert Courtney
Wednesday 12	7:45	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park
Thursday 13	7:30	Tenebrae Service
Friday 14	10:00	Good Friday Procession ending at Pond Square Chapel at 10:30 for service led by Rev Roger Orme (followed by buns and tea/coffee)
Sunday 16	10:30	Easter Sunday worship led by Rev Roger Orme
Sunday 23	10:30	Worship led by Sally Bateman
Wednesday 26	7:45	Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park
Friday 28	12:30	Meditation
Sunday 30	10:30	Worship led by Dr. Peter Horton on Victorian Hymns with Kids Klub

# May

- Wednesday 3 7:45 Home Group at 1 Brookfield Park  
Friday 12:30 Meditation  
Sunday 7 10:30 Worship led by Rev Jon Dean with Kids Klub  
Wednesday 10 7:45 Home Group  
Friday 12 12:30 Meditation  
Sunday 14 10:30 Worship led by Rev Roger Orme with Kids Klub  
Wednesday 17 7:45 Home Group  
Friday 19 12:30 Meditation  
Sunday 21 10:30 Worship led by Rev David Currie  
with Fun Sunday and Welcome  
Wednesday 24 7:45 Home Group  
Friday 26 12:30 Meditation  
Sunday 28 10:30 Worship led by Rev David Currie with Kids Klub



## Revised Common Lectionary

- Mar 12** Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17  
**Mar 19** Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42  
**Mar 26** 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41  
**Apr 2** Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45  
**Apr 9** Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66  
**Apr 16** Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18  
**Apr 23** Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31  
**Apr 30** Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35  
**May 7** Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10  
**May 14** \*Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14  
**May 21** \*Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21  
**May 28** \*Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

# Good Friday Procession and Service

A starting point for the procession has not yet been determined but will be announced nearer the date. After the service at 10:30 we will be providing refreshments, and I would be grateful if 4 or 5 people could help me by bringing along packs of 12 hot cross buns and helping with tea and coffee. There is usually a large congregation to be served!

Many thanks, **Christa**



## Visiting Preachers

**W**e had the pleasure of welcoming Naomi Young, who is a second year URC ordinand at Westminster College in Cambridge, to lead our service during the first week of Spring on 5th of March. On 12 March there will be a Holy Communion service led by Rev Roger Orme, who will also be leading services during the Easter week on Good Friday and Easter Day.

Daren Chubb from Pathway, the organisation originally established by Rev Robert Courtney, will be with us on 19th of March to give us insight into their work and involvement with children's ministry.

On 26th it will be Rev Roger Scopes returning together with Molly. They are very much looking forward to this visit after settling down into their new life in Oxfordshire. Rev Alan Argent will preach on the 2nd of April, and Rev Robert Courtney on the 9th of April which will be the Palm Sunday Service.

For the second time this year we will have Sally Bateman on the 23rd of April. Dr. Peter Horton, who comes regularly during springtime, will introduce another musical service with the help of our organist Robert Manning on 30th of April. Rev Jon Dean, who is very well known to our congregation from past visits, will lead the service on 7th of May and Rev Roger Orme with Holy Communion on the 14th. And that will bring us towards the end of May when Rev David Currie starts his position as our new minister with a special Welcome service on the 21st.

# MEDITATION

Meetings at 12:30 in Pond Square Chapel will continue as usual, with slightly different emphasis during Lent.

Meditation is always prefaced by a short consideration of how we are helped in our meditation by posture, breathing and use of our chosen prayer word. During Lent there will be a discussion after we have meditation. Themes are based on the **In The Wilderness** York course, which attempts to address problems that face the Christian church in today's world.

After Easter we will begin again on Friday 28th April.



## Photos of Christmas Nativity



## An Answer?

A bishop checking round his flock realised that he had at least 500 churches which were alive and well. Most had another church close by which was in very low water, struggling or even closed.

So he set up a challenge to the thriving ones to wake up the sleeping ones.

That is an abbreviated version of the whole story. However they are going ahead and aim to have 1,000 thriving churches in five years' time.

Could this be an answer in London?

## A Question

A Grace Church, what is it?  
Do you know? It's tantalising not to know.

I have seen several about in the area recently in so far as this label is attached to the advertising on their notice boards.

I passed an Anglican church the other day with posters for a crèche and another for a drop in coffee morning. Both were excellent posters and would certainly stir the interest. Also on the board it said, "This Grace Church meets at St Peter's. Intriguing.

Could it mean that St Peter's is the building and the people who come to it are the Grace Church? It's a good point if so. Has anyone got the correct answer?

**Rowena Courtney**

## Catchy headline on Sports Page!!!!

Jesus looks to Easter  
for City return after  
metatarsal fracture