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## News from the NW Synod 17th August 2016

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- 1: Learning & Development Officer/ Support and Development Tutor



Northern College, Manchester and North Western Synod of the United Reformed Church are looking for a

### **Learning and Development Officer/Support and Development Tutor**

The College and Synod are looking to fill a post which we believe is a creative opportunity for co-operation as we each work towards a common goal – the equipping and building up of the people of God across the URC.

The post holder can negotiate their home/working base during the application and interview process.

Applications from URC ministers of Word and Sacraments or CRCW, and from ministers of Word and Sacrament within CTBI and/or WCRC, will be welcomed.

The closing date for applications (which should be submitted to the North Western Synod office marked for the attention of the moderator, Revd Andrew Mills) is 2nd September 2016.

Shortlisting will take place during the week beginning 5th September 2016. Short-listed candidates will be informed by the end of that week.

Interviews will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**FURTHER DETAILS including a job descriptions may be obtained from:**

Revd Andrew Mills, Moderator, North Western Synod via the Synod Office [admin@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:admin@nwsynod.org.uk)

Revd Dr Rosalind Selby, Principal, Northern College, [rosalind.selby@lkh.co.uk](mailto:rosalind.selby@lkh.co.uk)

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE NW SYNOD OFFICE: Either by email - [admin@nwsynod.org.uk](mailto:admin@nwsynod.org.uk) or by post - United Reformed Church Synod Office, Franklin Street, Eccles, Manchester, M30 0QZ.

**2: "If you go down to the church yesterday – You're sure of a big surprise"** Over 15 families of asylum seekers and refugees plus additional family guests descended on Tockholes United Reformed Church for a summer teddy bear's picnic in mid-August. Organised by ARC Asylum Wesley Hall and Refugee Community and DARE Darwen Asylum Refugee Enterprise based at Central United Reformed Church, Darwen the event saw over 50 attending from 15 nations including Nigeria, Sudan, Spain, Italy, Pakistan, Malaya, Bangladesh, Iraq, Jamaica, China, Libya, Syria and Somalia. With support from various agencies including Blackburn with Darwen Housing Needs the event demonstrates United Nations living, learning and making new friends in the area. *John East*



**3: News from Sedbergh URC** On Sunday 14th Sedbergh United Reformed Church had a special service of thanksgiving for the life of the church to mark the end of an era. From now on all services will be shared with our Methodist neighbours as we unite in a LEP and become Cornerstone Community Church, Sedbergh.

The congregation was made up of regular members and friends as well as visitors from Bolton, Morecambe and Wetherby. Greetings were brought from previous ministers and their families, all wishing the fellowship well in this next step of their journey. The congregation ranged in age from 5 weeks to 90yrs old and was led by minister Carole Marsden.

The vision is for a new build church on the URC site which is accessible and fit for church and community use. Gladys Douglass, our oldest member, cut a cross shaped cake which revealed a rainbow marble cake symbol of the promise of God to be with us and equip us for all that is ahead.





**4: On-Line fraud Dear friends** I want to make you aware of an on-line fraud that is current and has been attempted against Church House and (at least) one synod.

The form it takes is an email from a senior member of the organisation - apparently from his/her official email address – requesting that an urgent payment is made to a specific bank account (sort code and account number provided).

The emails look plausible - don't have the poor English and unusual wording that is sometimes associated with such things – and it would be easy to overlook some of the minor inconsistencies (e.g. missing standard signature etc.) especially if you are busy and feel the need to respond urgently.

Just a reminder to be vigilant – please pass on to others

Kind regards

**Jane Baird**

Deputy General Secretary (Administration & Resources)

**5: In the Footsteps of the Radical Jesus** this is a planned trip to Israel and Palestine scheduled for May 2017, which Lawrence Moore is jointly running with Brian Jolly. Information about this visit can be found on the Windermere website at: [http://windermereurc.org.uk/events-by-date/?event\\_id=107](http://windermereurc.org.uk/events-by-date/?event_id=107). We would be grateful if you are able to distribute this information as widely as possible. At this stage, we would like to encourage people to contact us to express an interest in the trip, even if they are not yet ready to make a firm commitment; this will help us to gauge interest levels.

**6: Death of the Revd John Fielding** It is with sadness that I write to inform you of the death of the Revd John Fielding, retired minister living in Runcorn.

As well as the following ministries, John also served as Chaplain at the Royal Liverpool Hospital: Methodist ministry 1972 – 2001; Toxteth with Sefton Park 2001 – 2009; & Liverpool Inner City Training & Research Project (Paulden Project) 2003 – 2009. Details of his funeral are not yet known. **Mersey Synod**

**7: News from New Mills URC (Goyt & Etherow pastorate)** On 31 July, our members and friends at New Mills URC (Goyt & Etherow Pastorate) began our service with a big 'Thank you'. We were thanking Jeni Robertson for her 14 years' service as Pastorate Administrator. Church Secretary Michael Brueck presented Jeni with flowers and gifts from Pastorate members in our five churches.

Jeni has moved on to pastures new. We as a Pastorate are finding new ways of servicing our members' admin needs."

