



NEWS FROM THE NORTH WESTERN SYNOD 6TH FEBRUARY
2019

Newsletter

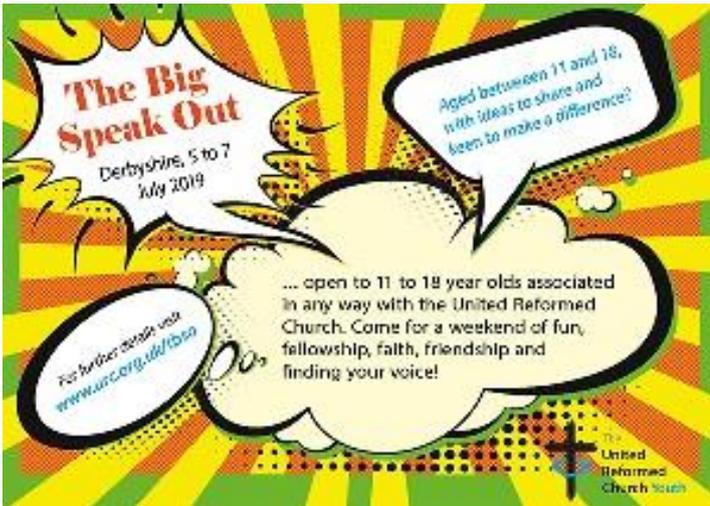
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Oberammergau Passion Play in 2020

Mal Breeze still has a few vacancies for the trip he's organising to the Oberammergau Passion Play In 2020 for couples or individuals willing to share, unfortunately there are no single rooms left. If you are interested please contact Mal as soon as possible on 01264 674862 or Email - malbreeze@me.com

Children and Youth opportunities

The Big Speak Out 2019 – 5th-7th July



After the success of last year's Big Speak Out, we are delighted to announce that 11 to 18 year olds associated with the URC will be able to take part in another TBSO weekend this year, this time in the beautiful Derbyshire village of Repton. Repton School is a beautiful old boarding school which takes over much of the village and we have the use of two boarding houses (with common rooms), the Junior Common Room, the chapel and three of the classrooms for the weekend, with full catering.

From arrival on Friday from 6pm onwards, when you'll settle into your room in one of the two boarding houses and share in a delicious hot meal, there will be times to explore your faith, times to develop skills and talents and think about making your mark, times to hang out with old friends and make new ones, times to play games, watch movies, share in worship, times to take part in workshops, to discuss, to learn, to make music or do craft, and times to chill and relax. What an action packed weekend!

As last year, there will be a Leaders' Gathering running simultaneously for adults who work with children and young people. Persuade a leader to bring you and stay for that as it is an excellent networking opportunity with a chance for training and mutual encouragement in a relaxing atmosphere.

More details available at <https://urch.org.uk/events-and-opportunities>

Crossfire Camp - 24-27 May, Stathern Lodge, Leicestershire

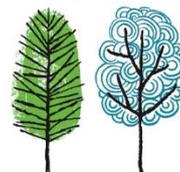


Crossfire Camp is an exciting event for young people aged 12+. We meet together each May to explore more about faith through small groups, teaching, worship and a whole range of fun activities. Join us in 2019 for a great weekend of fun, meeting new people and exploring the gospel.

For more information, and to book online, visit www.crossfire.org.uk

Greenbelt – 23-26 August, Boughton House, Northants.

GREENBELT 23–26 AUGUST 2019
WIT & WISDOM BOUGHTON HOUSE
NORTHANTS
NN14 3AG



it'll be the usual brilliant mix of music, comedy, craft, talks, worship, fun, sun* and fellowship for families, groups and individuals. You can camp (bring your own tent!), you can glamp (a range of teepees and yurts are available) or stay in more traditional accommodation off-site and travel in each day.

Early bird ticket discounts are available until 30th April

For more information, book tickets, and book accommodation, visit www.greenbelt.org.uk

*not guaranteed – it is the August bank Holiday after all!

Youth Event at Synod – March 9th

Whilst the adults are meeting at St Andrew and St George's church in Bolton for the synod meeting there will be a youth event at the same venue organised and led by the synod Children and Youth Development Officer, Leo Roberts.

Numbers are limited to 15 on a 'first come, first served' basis.

The event will look at some of the issues facing young people in the Church today and what WE want to say about them.

If you are aged between 11-18 why not cadge a lift with whoever is coming to synod from your church and make your views known?

There will also be games 😊

To book a place email Leo on cydo@nwsynod.org.uk

Lighthouse Community Church Knott End



We are a new LEP, coming together with the local Methodist Church and have been sharing our first Community events together.

Just before Christmas we went out into the local community giving chocolates to anyone passing by. Each little box had a label on it wishing the recipient a Happy Christmas from the Lighthouse Community Church.

Later the same day we held our first Messy Church to which over sixty people came and there was a great atmosphere that afternoon. The pictures below show our minister, Rev'd Paul Critchley saying Grace before we shared a meal together.

In January we held our second Messy Church when again there were over sixty people present, and again we shared in crafts, fellowship and a meal.

Over the last two months there have been new faces in our congregation on a Sunday and, along with our Saturday congregation, we are feeling very heartened and look forward to the future working together.

The third Saturday and Sunday of the month have been put in our calendars for Messy Church and All Age Worship when we can reach out to our community in our exciting new venture.

A typical Tuesday at Leyland URC



A happy band of toddlers and their parents/grandparents/carers arrive from nine-thirty and immediately busy themselves with the toys, books and activities that have been set up in the hall. The group is called Little Mites and it meets every Tuesday morning, even in school holidays, when older siblings have been known to attend! The children play and enjoy a variety of experiences while the adults enjoy a brew and a chance to chat. Snack is served at a long table and includes fruit, toast and a drink and then everyone joins in a singsong usually with actions. If it happens to be a birthday, a cake with candles is shared as "Happy Birthday", is sung to the lucky person. The session ends about eleven fifteen.

Once a month, we clear the hall very quickly and set tables for our lunch club. About twenty-five regulars and sometimes more, begin to arrive soon after and usually have a brew while they wait for others to arrive. We serve a hot lunch, which is chosen from a small menu, followed by cake and biscuits and a hot drink. Anyone is welcome and it is heart-warming to see how friendships have developed over the years between folk from different churches in the town and ladies and gentlemen who simply saw our invitation in the local paper.



Last summer, a couple appeared towards the end of our lunch. They assured us that they did not need lunch; they were Polish tourists and were hoping to see inside our church. There began a story of learning English and emails which I will save for another day!

Following lunch, our hall is used by a large group of adults with learning disabilities and their carers, for dancing and exercises and our meeting room is the venue for the Guild. Ladies and gentlemen from our congregation and other friends, gather for an act of worship and fellowship. There is usually an interesting speaker and of course, tea and biscuits.

Early evening sees Rainbows arrive for their meeting and they are followed by Brownies and later, Guides.

Last Tuesday, the local Amnesty International group met in an upstairs room and the Executive committee of Churches Together In Leyland also held their meeting on our premises.

On other days of the week, we play host to Age Concern activities, a thriving dancing school, and Beavers, Cubs Scouts and Explorers.

One day I will count how many young people and adults come through our doors in a week. I hope they all feel the love and support we try so hard to give.

Dalton Community Church

The Church was originally built as a Congregationalist School in 1868-69, and the first worship service held there on 23 March 1869. The planned separate Church was never built, so the "school" became a Congregational Church and in 1972 became a URC Church. From 2011, the congregation joined in worship with Dalton Methodists and in 2016 they formed a legal partnership under the name "Dalton Community Church".

Celebrations are being held in March, as listed on the poster, and we would welcome any visitors to our exhibition and / or Celebration Service.

150 not out!



Dalton Community Church invite you to join them in celebrations to mark 150 years of worship in their Market Street Church, Dalton-in-Furness, LA15 8RQ

Saturday 2nd March 2019: 9:30am - 12:30pm

Exhibition of photos and historical items in Market St Church

Admission free

Sunday 24th March 2019 at 10:30am

Celebration Service

led by Rev Zena Smith

Followed by Pie and Peas Lunch*

**Please ring Margaret on 01229 466069*

by Sunday 17th March to book for the lunch – cost £3.00