



NEWS FROM THE NORTH WESTERN SYNOD 20TH MARCH
2019

Newsletter

Please note that the URC e-newsletter will be sent out with the Synod Newsletter

- 1: [Safeguarding training dates](#)
- 2: [Messy Church at Penworthan URC](#)
- 3: [Synod Manse Scheme](#)
- 4: [GDPR Workshops](#)
- 5: [Re:Generate: Rural Ministries Day Conference, St John's Church, Sharow, Ripon, 11th May 2019](#)
- 6: [Northern College - Job vacancies](#)
- 7: [Eco Church Workshop 27th April 2019](#)

1: Safeguarding training dates

Intermediate Safeguarding Training for:

- Church Safeguarding Coordinators
- Ministers
- Accredited/ Synod recognised Lay preachers
- Church members with leadership responsibility

Cumbria – Penrith – 9th April 2-4.30pm

Lancs East – Blackburn (Westbury Gdns) – 10th April 1.30-4pm

Lancs East – Burnley & Nelson – 15th May 6-9pm

Cheshire East & Derbyshire – Glossop & Tintwisle 23rd May 6-9pm

Lancs South – Leyland 25th June 6-9pm

Bolton & Salford – Worsley Road (Swinton) 21st May 6-9pm

West Lancs – Wigan Trinity – 2nd May 6-9pm

Heswall – 4th June 6-9pm

Please contact the Synod Office on 0161 789 5583 or office@nwsynod.or.uk to book on the training.

Julie Rafferty

2: Messy Church at Penworthan URC



At 2:29pm, last Saturday there were 4 children attending the Messy Church at Penwortham URC. However, at 2:30pm there were suddenly 34 children there. Where did they come from?

The programme was jam packed with stories, crafts, experiments and food activities etc. - all in the name of Mothering Sunday. Alex's food table reminded me of the parable of the 2 fishes and 5 loaves and Jesus' compassion-filled heart. How there will always be enough for every one and some left overs, if we are willing to share. Thank you very much to all the volunteers for making the children in your community feel welcomed. You are a real blessing to these children and their parents.



3: **Synod Manse Scheme**

Thank you to Churches who have responded and sent their Manse Handover forms to the Synod Office. We have now spoken to Edwards Insurance and for Churches whose Manse Policy is arranged through Edward, there will be an automatic re-fund of the unused part of your annual insurance.

Thank you for all your help in this matter.

Mike Hart – Synod Treasurer

4: **GDPR Workshops**

We have now rearranged dates for the two workshops that were cancelled because of lack of bookings last month. These are:

Lancashire Area - Revidge Fold, Blackburn Wednesday 3rd April at 2pm

Central Area - Macedonia, Failsworth Monday 8th April @ 7pm

The workshops held in other areas have proved a useful experience for those attendees and an opportunity to share the issues and experience from a variety of churches. This means that we need a minimum of 10 people booked on each workshop for them to be worthwhile to run. If there are insufficient bookings the workshop will have to be cancelled.

In order to help with the arrangements and to ensure that these workshops go ahead, **please could you let the Synod Office know beforehand the expected numbers from your church for the workshops**, either by phone or email to office@nwsynod.org.uk.

Mike Hart

5: **Re:Generate: Rural Ministries Day Conference, St John's Church, Sharow, Ripon, 11th May 2019**

Perhaps now more than ever before, our country needs the church at its best. Unfortunately, sometimes churches are not serving as effectively as they could. A church split, a failed leader, changing economics, stretched resources or an ageing congregation; there are many reasons for rural churches to be struggling and in decline.

Rural Ministries does not believe that God has finished with His church in the countryside; indeed we see many encouraging signs of growth. If you are a church leader or a member of the congregation with a heart for mission and think that your church has great potential to impact your community, but lacks the resources, then you need to attend our Regional Conference 'Re:Generate', in Sharow, nr Ripon on the 11th May 2019.

Tickets £20. Full details and tickets on the [Rural Ministries website](#).



**Up to full-time vacancy for an EXPERIENCED URC MINISTER
to be a PERSONAL TUTOR**

(Salary and terms and conditions based on URC's Plan for Partnership *pro rata*)

An experienced URC minister is sought as a personal tutor within the staff team at Northern College from September 2019 (or earlier by negotiation). The role will include pastoral support and wider development of our placement and our formational programmes (non-degree teaching). The successful candidate will bring a depth of knowledge of the URC and a passion for the formation of ministers in a changing climate for the denomination. He or she will also be expected to offer their skills and experience into the wider denomination as part of the development of Northern College as a Resource Centre for Learning for the whole church.

Closing date for applications (to be sent to the Principal): **Friday 3rd May 2019**. Short listing will take place as soon as possible after this date, with interviews by the end of June 2019.

Job Description and Person Specification available from the Principal: rosalind.selby@lkh.co.uk, 0161 249 2530, Northern College, Luther King House, Brighton Grove, Manchester, M14 5JP.

Interested candidates should contact Rosalind Selby for an exploratory conversation to indicate whether they wish to apply for a full- or part-time post. An adapted job description would be supplied for a part-time role.



Up to full-time vacancy: TUTOR IN OLD TESTAMENT AND HEBREW LANGUAGE
(Salary and terms and conditions based on URC's Plan for Partnership *pro rata*)

A Hebrew Bible scholar is sought as a teaching tutor from September 2019 (or earlier, negotiable), at a minimum of 75% time. The successful candidate will need to be able to work within the Luther King House ethos of contextual theology. Subjects expected are Old Testament up to MA level and introductory Hebrew language, in addition to general biblical teaching at levels 4 and 5.

Closing date for applications (to be sent to the Principal): **Friday 3rd May 2019**. Short listing will take place as soon as possible after this date, with interviews by the end of June 2019.

Job Description and Person Specification available from the Principal: rosalind.selby@lkh.co.uk, 0161 249 2530, Northern College, Luther King House, Brighton Grove, Manchester, M14 5JP.

Interested candidates should contact Rosalind Selby for an exploratory conversation to indicate whether they wish to apply for a full- or part-time post. An adapted job description would be supplied for a 75% role.



Lay Preachers' and Worship Leaders Conference



Our popular Lay Preachers' and Worship Leaders' Conference for this year will take place from **Thursday 23rd to Saturday 25th May 2019** (though you can attend for one or two days within that). Entitled **Preaching for "Ordinary Time"**, this conference will offer inspiration and resources for worship beyond the major festivals of the Church Year.

Come and join us at Luther King House, Manchester. For further details of the programme and costing, please contact: Paul Barrett, Assistant Registrar, 0161 249 2504 or by email paul.barrett@lkh.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming old friends and new.

Eco Church Workshop

Date: 27th April 2019

Time: 10am-3pm

Place: Brockholes Nature Reserve

Preston New Road, Preston, PR5 0AG



(free time after the workshop to explore the grounds)

Speakers, workshops, activities to explore how we can tread more lightly on the earth

Contributors include:

ARocha (David Beattie, NW Regional Coordinator, UK), Churches in Lancashire and Ecumenical Friends

