

CONCORD



90 years of service

The Monthly Magazine of London Road, Ewell and Tolworth United Reformed Churches

June 2023



Tolworth
United
Reformed
Church

**Come and join
the celebration!**

Photo & picture

Exhibition

10am—4pm

**Friday 9th &
Saturday 10th
June 2023**

**WE ARE
CELEBRATING
OUR 90 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY**

Display of new church banner

Sunday 11th June

10.30am

**Anniversary worship
& lunch**

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR CELEBRATIONS HERE AT

TOLWORTH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

ELGAR AVENUE, KT5 9JR

From our Minister

Dear Friends,

June 2023

It has been a time for celebrations hasn't it!

It does not seem that long ago we were celebrating Queen Elizabeth II silver Jubilee. Then a few weekends ago we were celebrating King Charles III Coronation.

These were national celebrations. Others were closer to home. More personal. Somewhat belatedly in April we attended a service of thanksgiving and celebration for the United Reformed Church at Methodist Central Hall. This was where the United Reformed church was formed in 1972, although our non-conformist history goes back 500 years (another celebration a few years ago). The United Reformed Church, coming together of two and then four different Christian traditions, Congregational in England and Wales, Presbyterian Church of England, Churches of Christ and Scottish Congregationalists to overcome differences and celebrate diversity was something to give thanks for. We may not always appreciate this in our pews. But it was monumental for the Christian Church in UK and we continue to be part of a family of Christians, and part of the world wide community of reformed churches movement of over 70 million; a celebration partnership and diversity.

Then of course we have our own, even closer to home celebrations as a church in our church anniversaries. In Epsom and Ewell the journey of the local church is looking different from its roots, and continuing to develop and grow new shoots. Then of course this month Tolworth United Reformed Church celebrates 90 years of ministry and worship.

It has been a time for celebrations hasn't it! And who doesn't like a party!

For my purposes in this letter, it's not all about letting your hair down; stuffing yourself with cake and fine food; dancing late into the night and singing out loud in the streets. Although do not let me stop you doing all these things. That would be as good a witness as any in celebrating our work and witness.

When we think of church, even celebration of Holy Communion, we tend to think of discipline, sacrifice and suffering. Yet key in the biblical pattern of celebration in its festivals, feasts and psalms we see people relishing deep gladness of being alive and of being one of Gods children. God made an extraordinary world for us to live in. To deny the beauty of that, to miss out truly experiencing and celebrating is a great loss. Even for Christians,

I found this quote about celebrations by Shauna Niequist, in TCW...Todays Christian Women [TodaysChristianWoman.com](https://www.todayschristianwoman.com)

Celebration, at its core, is the practice of choosing to be truly present in the moments in our lives. Jesus didn't live at a pace in which he was so preoccupied with his agenda that he didn't connect with what was happening in the lives of the people around him. And he wasn't so bent out of shape about what was wrong in the world that he couldn't stop and notice what was good. Enjoying a wedding feast, sitting with Mary listening at his feet, spending time with children—in all these moments and many more, Jesus was present to the sacred things happening in everyday life.

Yes, celebration can involve going out to eat, fireworks, candles on a cake, loud music, and laughter. But more than that, it's about being present to what is, noticing the good that still

exists even in the middle of the broken. It's choosing hope. It's trusting that you'll find something beautiful, redemptive, and sacred even when it looks like that's an impossible task. Life is wild, chaotic, beautiful, and sacred all at the same time. I've learned that celebrating in the midst of that wildness and chaos makes the beauty and the sacredness much clearer. That's one of God's greatest gifts.

What does celebration mean to you?

There is no contradiction in the merriment of celebrations for anniversaries or even on Holy Days. Christmas carols were once raucous songs of revelry, so disruptive that they were confined to the streets. The Son of man came eating and drinking and was thought a glutton. The reason God was born a helpless babe, lived a short but full life among friends and family, and strangers and sinners, even suffered and died, was because he loves this world; so much so, as to restore it to all its fullness and delight; so much so that we might have life in all its fullness.

The right response to a gift is to enjoy it. So for the gift of our church this anniversary, eat and drink, let your hair down and dance in the streets. Its one of the most spiritual things we can do.

God bless,

Roger

Tolworth Family Circle

Charmaine Waterman has been in hospital for surgery. We hope she will make a good recovery. Clinton Arthur is not too well and has also been in hospital after suffering a dog bite. Cynthia Stock has a further appointment at the end of May. We hope it will give her some better news.

Afternoon Tea

Thank you to Brenda and Mary for organising the delicious spread we had to celebrate the King's Coronation. Only 10 people attended but we all had a very enjoyable afternoon. Those not there missed a treat!

Tolworth URC's 90th Anniversary

We hope everyone will come to our 90th Anniversary celebrations. The exhibition will be held on Friday and Saturday 9th and 10th June from 10am till 4pm. Please bring your friends and neighbours along, refreshments will be available. On Sunday 11th June we shall hold our Anniversary service, This will be followed by a bring and share lunch. Please let Brenda Kelly know if you are coming and what food you will bring.

Moir

Diary for June – Tolworth

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Sunday | 4th | 10.30am | Morning Worship led by Revd Barbara Pearson |
| Monday | 5 th | 5.30pm | Pilots |
| Wednesday | 7 th | 10.00am | Playtime |
| Thursday | 8 th | 2.30pm | Biscuit Club – Preparing Church for exhibition |
| Friday | 9 th | 10.00am to 4.00 pm - Exhibition | |
| Saturday | 10 th | 10.00am to 4.00 pm - Exhibition | |
| Sunday | 11th | 10.30am | 90th Anniversary Morning Communion led by our Minister followed by “Bring & share” lunch |
| Monday | 12 th | 5.30pm | Pilots |
| Wednesday | 14 th | 10.00am | Playtime |
| Thursday | 15 th | 3.30pm | Messy Church |
| Sunday | 18th | 10.30am 6.30pm | Morning Worship led by Paul & Jenny Hollingum Evergreen Church |
| Monday | 19 th | 5.30pm | Pilots |
| Wednesday | 21 st | 10.00am | Playtime |
| Sunday | 25th | 10.30am | Family Service led by our Minister |
| Monday | 26 th | 5.30pm | Pilots |
| Wednesday | 28 st | 10.00am | Playtime |

July 2023

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|
| Sunday | 2nd | 10.30am | Morning Worship led by Ms Heather Lodge |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|---|

Small girls

God let's things develop until they are perfect. Small girls obviously didn't take much to reach perfection. (Comment I saw on a t shirt)

Barbara Smith



Church Meetings

Church meetings are central to our understanding of discerning and acting on Gods call on our lives and the life of this church.

They are how we discover what God wants of us here at Tolworth United Reformed Church.

Therefore the date and times of meetings have been changed to a Sunday morning after worship to ensure that everyone can attend and contribute and fulfil the promises made at our confirmation.

But as an open and welcoming people we invite all friends and those who are interested in ministry to attend and join in with us as seek to follow sand serve . We aim to keep the meeting to one hour, and over a cup of tea or coffee.

Our next meeting will focus on planning and strategy it is crucial as many of us are present as possible . However **all** meetings are important. We hope the changes will enable you to remain after services to play this important part in your walk with God.

Next Church meeting is 16th July 2023

Contact: Moira - 020 8337 8581

Ewell Family News for June

We owe a big vote of thanks to David Mugridge who mans the digital hymnal for us on Sundays when we don't have an organist. Our thanks also to Judith Flint, who plays the organ for us once each month, and to Dennis and Grace who offer their musical talents too.

Toby and Soona Nam from the Korean Church have arranged a Messy Church service for Thursday, 1st June at 3 pm, and hope to organise others in the future. We wish them well with this new venture.

Our Bible Study group is proving a good opportunity to share thoughts on Jesus's parables. If any friends from Tolworth would like to share this time with us they would be very welcome.

Several of our members continue to struggle with health issues, and we offer them our prayers and support in their difficult times.

Barbara

June 2023 Diary for London Road URC Ewell

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Thursday 1 st | 3 pm | Messy Church |
| Sunday 4 th | 10.30 am | Morning worship, conducted by Revd Roger Jones, including Holy Communion and the celebration of the church's anniversary, followed by a celebration lunch |
| Monday 5 th | 10 am | Church Meeting – all welcome |
| | 12.30 | Bible Study – all welcome |
| Tuesday 6 th | 12.30 pm | Lunch Club at The Haywain, Epsom (names to Dennis or Anne Sexton) |
| Sunday 11 th | 10.30 am | Morning worship conducted by Mrs Linda Lambert |
| Sunday 18 th | 10.30 am | Morning worship conducted by Revd Roger Jones |
| Sunday 25 th | 10.30 am | Morning worship conducted by Revd Barbara Pearson |
| Thursday 29 th | 2-3 pm | Friendship Hour – all welcome |
| JULY | | |
| | 2 nd | 10.30 am |
| | | Morning Worship conducted by Revd Barbara Pearson, Including celebration of Holy Communion |



United
Reformed
Church



A Musical Evening

*Enjoy &
join in!*

Join us for an evening of new music.

A selection of new songs to sing and enjoy .

**Words by Barbara Pearson and
music by Roger Jones.**

Musically assisted by Judith Flint!

BUT we would also like your help!

Enjoy the evening but also tell us which ones you liked.

**Which ones were easy to sing. Which ones were not!
Which ones lifted your spirit. Which dragged you down!**

We would love to hear your opinion on these songs

Join in and help us on

Thursday 20th July 2023 7.00pm

London Road United Reformed Church, Ewell, KT17 2BE

Tales from the campground 9: the cookhouse

I write this at the point at which we are thinking about the coming of the Holy Spirit to provide us with the sustenance and support that we need following Jesus' ascension. Sadly, talk of spiritual food reminded me to sort the physical food for our camp in May.

Camp menu planning is a fraught process. Not having a car means we can't just take a cool-box or two with us while the nearest supermarket of any kind is over an hour's walk away. Imagine our delight last year when we discovered that of all the big supermarkets, one has actually found the campsite and is happy to deliver an online order to us. They are even happier now that the winding, newly-gravelled, lane to the site no longer punctures tyres. Well, not all four tyres anyway.

We can't carry a BBQ set or a gas ring so have been learning to cook over the campfire. My training as a Cub Scout leader included a little (but not enough) time spent cooking backwoods-style. My colleague maintained that it should be called backwards cooking on the grounds that using fire was a retrograde step when it came to making dinner at camp for 24 nine-year-old boys. Or two inept adults.

One razor-sharp knife, one smallish fork and no work-tops makes food preparation an art-form. Especially after dark. And in the rain. But we are gradually becoming more adept. We can now keep a fire going sufficiently to produce a reliable supply of hot coals and without generating 5ft flames. The fact that it took us a year to learn how to boil potatoes in 15, rather than 90, minutes is a secret between ourselves, right?

We are unlikely to win Masterchef, but we are proud that we can use our mess tins, Dutch-oven style, to cook toad-in-the-hole. However, I feel our culinary skills may have peaked. Last September we made fishcakes from scratch, complete with a field grater made by punching holes in the (empty) tuna tin in order to grate the onion.

Photographic

proof is included.



Heather Lodge

From Pauline Beccles

Thanks to the Church and Cynthia. for the lovely flowers she gave to me on Sunday. they look lovely on my table.

Pauline

From Carol Shepherd

Carol would like to thank everyone who took part in her, "Guess how many sweets" competition in aid of the Air Ambulance. There were 61 sweets in the jar and two winners – Mary Wardle and a neighbour of Carol's. The amount raised was £78. Thank You.

Carol

Biscuit Club

The Biscuit Club has now been running a year and we are very small in numbers, but each afternoon is varied and interesting.

On 8th June we will be helping to set up the exhibition for the 90th celebration of Tolworth United Reformed Church. There will be photos etc on show and The Biscuit Club have been asked to help prepare the vestibule and church for visitors to come and visit us. It will mean putting chairs out and generally making the church very clean and tidy for all the visitors.

Thank you for your support

Brenda

Roger Fenn's June Quiz - More about Joseph

1. What reward did Joseph receive for interpreting the Pharaoh's dreams?
2. Whom did Joseph marry?
3. Name their two sons.
4. When Joseph's brothers arrived from Canaan to buy corn, he accused them of being spies. Whom did he keep behind as a hostage so that they would return with his brother, Benjamin?
5. When the brothers did return with Benjamin, he played a trick on them to test their loyalty – what did he do?
6. Desperate to see his old father Jacob again, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers and feasted them. What promise did the pharaoh make to Joseph?
7. What convinced Jacob that Joseph was still alive?
8. Jacob's final act before he died was to bless Joseph's sons. How did he break with tradition?
9. Where was Jacob buried?
10. After Jacob's death, the brothers were afraid that Joseph would take his revenge on them. What was his reply?

An invitation

Members of Tolworth meet for lunch at The Hogsmill, Worcester Park. However, Due to unforeseen circumstances it has been necessary to change some of the dates for for Ladies and Gentlemen who lunch. We would like to invite friends from Ewell. The dates:

7th. June
12th. July

The time is 12.30

If you would like to join us please let me know the Sunday before, so I can book the table

Thanks

Brenda (01372 743968)

June Quiz – Answers

Genesis

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Joseph was put in charge of all the land. | Ch 41 v 41 |
| 2 | Asenath, daughter of the priest of Om | Ch 41 v 45 |
| 3. | Manasseh and Ephraim | Ch 41 v 51 & 52 |
| 4. | Simeon | Ch 42 v 24 |
| 5. | He put his silver drinking-cup in Benjamin's sack and accused him of theft | Ch 44 v 2 |
| 6. | His family could live in Goshen in the Nile Delta | Ch 45 v 18 & 47 v 6 |
| 7. | When he saw wagons the Pharaoh had sent to move his family to Egypt. | Ch 45 v 27 |
| 8. | He crossed his hands and gave the main blessing to Ephraim, Joseph's second son. | |
| 9. | In the cave of Machpela in Canaan. | Ch 50 v 13 |
| 10. | "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good". | Ch 50 v 19 |

Thanks to those who have contributed to this edition - please keep them coming – especially from London Road! We hope to publish a magazine for June. Please let me have all your material by 22nd June.

Song of quiet trust (Psalm 131)

Should I raise my thoughts to heaven,
Lift my voice with fervent cry?
My soul's prayer is simple, quiet -
No wild calling, just a sigh.

Mighty words would overwhelm me,
Make me see myself as small.
Never let such thoughts oppress me -
Humble hearts can hear God's call.

For God's call is like a mother's,
Soothes me, makes my heart secure.
Crashing storms can rage about me –
In God's arms my future's sure.

Barbara Pearson

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT LONDON ROAD URC, EWELL

Morning Worship at 10.30

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|
| Minister | Revd Roger Jones | 020 8393 4270 |
| Secretary | Mrs Pamela Galliers | |
| Treasurer | Mr. George Pearson | |
| Serving Elders | Mrs. P Galliers, Miss R Holmes, Mr. G. Pearson, Mrs. P. Redvers-Smith, Mrs. B. Williams | |

Officers, Leaders and Representatives

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Housekeeping | Mrs. B. Williams |
| Flower rota | Mrs. P. Galliers |
| Lettings | Mrs. M. Westbrook |
| Organist | Vacant |
| Safeguarding | Mr. D. Mugridge |
| Commitment for Life | Revd B Pearson |
| Pulpit Supply | Revd B Pearson |
| Friendship Hour | Revd B Pearson & Mr. D. Sexton |
| Lunch Club | Mr. and Mrs. D. Sexton |
| Bible Study | Revd B Pearson |
| Finance & Property | Mr G. Pearson, Mr. D. Mugridge & Mr. M. Westbrook |
| Synod Rep. | Miss Rosemary Holmes |

SUNDAY WORSHIP at TOLWORTH

Morning Worship at 10.30

3rd Sunday of month - Evergreen Worship at 6.30pm

(You can still join in with Roger at 10.30am on Sundays
'Phone: 03306 060403 with code 1529640# - remember the #)

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|
| Minister | Revd Roger Jones | 0208 393 4270 rjones@urcsouthern.org.uk |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Secretary | Mrs M Fleming |
|------------------|---------------|

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Treasurer | Mr G Stock |
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| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Serving Elders | Mr D Bennett, Mrs M Fleming, Mrs B Kelly, Mrs L Menneer, Mrs B Smith, Mr G Stock, Mrs K Woolard, |
|-----------------------|--|

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Management Committee | Mr D Bennett, Mrs M Fleming, Mr S Heath, Mr D Knight, Mr B Llewellyn, Mr G Stock |
|-----------------------------|---|

Other Officers, Leaders and Representatives

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Caretaker | Mrs J. Marsh | 8399 3926 |
| Flower Secretary | Mrs C Stock | |
| Halls Letting Officer | Mr S. Heath | |
| Junior Church | Mrs B Kelly | |
| Magazine Editor | Mr I Fleming | |
| Magazine Secretary | Mrs M Fleming | |
| Organist | Suh-Young Lee | |
| Pilots | Mrs G Jones | |
| Playtime | Mrs M Fleming | |
| Rainbows | Ms Kirsten Cook | |
| Brownies | Ms Michelle Nicholls | |