

# CONCORD



Helping Hands - Tolworth's 90 year's banner

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

**July & August 2023**

## From our Minister

Dear Friends,

July 2023

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July 2023

The greatest story ever told...

***Now among those that went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir we wish to see Jesus". John 12: 20-23***

Now, I do not think these Greeks were particularly interested in seeing what Jesus looked like, or what he was wearing or how he kept his hair. You would probably think they wanted to meet with and engage this wonderful man. Much less were they inviting Philip to draw a picture or make a movie of Jesus so they could see what he looked like.

In the last couple of months, Martin Scorsese, one of the world's greatest film directors has disclosed that he is to make another film about Jesus. At a different kind of festival, The Global Aesthetics of Catholic Imagination, Scorsese said that he was moved by an appeal from the Pope "in the only way I know how...by imagining and writing a screenplay about Jesus".

Scorsese, attending the conference was explaining how "the Holy Father's appeal to **let us see Jesus**' moved him".

Our brothers and sisters in faith in Islamic tradition do not consider it appropriate to depict any biblically revered figures in film or fresco. Maybe for good reason. Perhaps it is not always helpful to our faith to see Jesus as the blue eyed, blonde man, with trimmed beard and dressed in immaculate white as he is so often portrayed. Maybe we should simply see Jesus in our own minds eye. Perhaps this would better represent and reflect all cultures and ethnicities. It is worth a thought.

However there have been a multitude of such films over the years. This made me wonder about asking you to contribute to next month's CONCORD magazine by sharing your favourite depiction of Jesus on the big screen and why it moved you.

The last cinema trip I made made to see a film depicting Jesus was the 2018 Mary Magdalene starring Rooney Mara as Mary and Joaquin Phoenix as Jesus. Mary alongside other women were portrayed as every part the disciples of Jesus as the twelve apostles are in the gospels. As a teenage boy I was moved by Franco Zeffirelli's TV epic Jesus of Nazareth in 1977 with Robert Powell as Jesus. I was influenced by the Jesus of Gospel and Jesus Christ superstar on stage, but the films were terrible.

But the one film, which was for me the masterpiece was by Martin Scorsese in 1988. The Last temptation of Christ starring William Defoe. It was banned by many religious groups. It was misunderstood. The opening scenes are of the boy Jesus and his father working in the carpenter's shop making crosses of torture for the Romans. Obviously, not based in biblical fact but a tremendous connection with Jesus, freely giving his own life for the world and making his own cross of suffering and death to do it. The film centres on the almost the last

moment of Jesus earthly life, when on the cross he cries out, “**“Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is , My God, my God why have you forsaken me?” Matthew 27;46.** The picture asks the question of that very moment. What might have happened if Jesus had not fulfilled what God had asked of him? What might have happened if Jesus had followed his own human desires? What would have happened if Jesus had felt this abandonment of God before and followed his own human path? What would have happened if Jesus had failed? I remember asking this same question as a young teenage Christian in church youth club!

We give thanks to God that Jesus was faithful to the end. Martin Scorsese stays faithful to Christ in his film. Yet it was an honest portrayal of a very human moment.

So for us films and re-telling the stories from a different perspective can be helpful, encouraging and help us reflect on Jesus life in new ways.

There is a story, perhaps apocryphal, in the epic 1960s The Greatest Story Ever told. At the crucifixion scene, John Wayne a Centurion soldier utters the words, “Surely this was the Son of God”. In rehearsals, the director George Stevens shouts to John Wayne, “say it with awe”. And so John Wayne, repeats his line, “Aw! Surely this was the son of God!”

What is your favourite film about Jesus? Write a brief paragraph or next month’s Concord and tell us how you came to see Jesus, in film.

God bless,

**Roger**

## **Tolworth Family Circle**

Cynthia Stock is due to have surgery in mid July, we wish her well and pray this operation will help her to feel much better. Please remember any friends who are ill at home or just feeling a bit under the weather in this humid spell we are having..

**Moira**

## **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Anniversary so successful. To Gillian and Heather who designed our new banner and everyone who helped put it together. To Mary Wardle who compiled all the photos and information for our exhibition and to everyone who provided photos etc. a very big thank you. Thanks also to the catering team who organised our lunch and everyone who provided food. Those who stewarded at the exhibition and made tea etc should also be thanked. At our Anniversary service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, Roger Fenn, Cynthia Stock and Heather Lodge each told of their contrasting experiences in our church over the years, they provided an interesting picture of how things have changed in the last 90 years. Finally a big thank you to Roger, our Minister, who helped so much by providing display boards and setting up tables etc. He spent a great deal of time helping at the

exhibition apart from his other duties and gave us an excellent Anniversary Service. Thank you all for coming to the exhibition – I hope it brought back memories for some.

**Moira**

## **Diary for July August – Tolworth**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Ms Heather Lodge
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	5.30pm	Pilots
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Communion led by our Minister including receiving new members and baptisms
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Pilots
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Playtime
Thursday	13 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Biscuit club at the home of Brenda Kelly for refreshments
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by our Minister followed by Church meeting in Elgar Hall
		6.30pm	Evergreen Church
Monday	17 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Pilots
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Messy Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Family Service led by Mrs Katrina Clifford
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Morning Worship led by our Minister

### **August 2023**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Linda Lambert
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Communion led by our Minister
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Mr Mark Dennis
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Ms Heather Lodge

### **September 2023**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Linda Lambert
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Tolworth  
United  
Reformed  
Church

# 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

Toby and Soona Nam from the Korean Church arranged a Messy Church service for Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> June at 3 pm. Approximately 15 children attended, and it was a very happy occasion, with worship, singing, dancing and craft. Toby and Soona hope to organise further services, and to draw in children from other church groups and the local community.

Our Church Anniversary morning service on 4<sup>th</sup> June was followed by a celebratory lunch shared with our Korean friends, which was enjoyed by all of us.

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**

## July & August 2023 Diary for London Road URC Ewell

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship conducted by Revd Barbara Pearson, Including celebration of Holy Communion
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.30 for 1	Bible Study
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Lunch Club at The Haywain, Epsom (names to Dennis or Anne Sexton)
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning worship conducted by Mrs Linda Lambert
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning worship conducted by Mr. Nick Mayhew-Smith
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10 am 12.30 for 1	Elders Meeting Bible Study
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm	Music Concert, all welcome
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am	Morning worship conducted by Revd Roger Jones
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	2-3 pm	Cabaret at Friendship Hour – all welcome
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning worship conducted by Revd Barbara Pearson
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup>	12.30 pm	Bible Study

### August

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	12.30	Lunch Club at The Haywain, Epsom (names to Dennis or Anne Sexton)
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Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Morning Worship conducted by Revd Roger Jones,  
Including celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Morning worship conducted by Mrs Linda Lambert

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> 10 am Church Meeting  
12.30 Bible Study

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Morning worship conducted by Revd Roger Jones

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 2-3 pm Friendship Hour – all welcome

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Morning worship conducted by Revd Barbara Pearson

### **From Brenda Kelly**

#### **A wonderful week celebrating 90 years of Tolworth United Reformed Church**

So much work put in by many people to put the church back to pre Covid days and make an excellent exhibition of archives and photos going back to 1933. I am sure the visitors were very interested Finally ending with an excellent Faith Lunch. The food was excellent especially as we had multicultural food which was enjoyed by all. Now we can all have a rest and roll on the next ninety years! But mainly thank you to everyone one who help to make it such a success.

**Brenda**

### **From Kathleen Woolard**

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for the many cards, presents, cake from Gillian and good wishes received last weekend for my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It really made me feel special.

**Kathleen**

### **Stop Press**

I have just heard from Geof that Cynthia has been taken into St Helier Hospital suddenly as she became very unwell. Let us remember Cynthia and Geof in our prayers and give them our support at this difficult time.



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 camp ground 10: Fire lighting

There are around 500 references to fire throughout the Bible. It is often used as a symbol of God's presence, ranging from a demonstration of God's power on Mount Horeb with Elijah and the prophets of Baal to the coming of the Holy Spirit after Jesus' ascension.

Actually, I feel more sympathy with the prophets of Baal and their difficulties in lighting their fire than I should probably admit. We are improving but there are many times when the wood and weather conditions definitely feel like they are conspiring against you. We have experimented with a variety of methods of starting a fire at camp – legally that is, in a proper firepit and with all appropriate precautions observed. We are not pyromaniacs, I promise.

We are comforted by the advice from one expert who says that if you need a quart of petrol and a flamethrower to light the wretched thing then so be it. We have never tried that particular method, largely because we want a fire to cook supper not create a blaze worthy of Bonfire Night. If pushed, and we have an hour – or two – spare, we can strike a spark with the ferro rod buried at the bottom of our fire kit. If we're in a hurry, then yes, we do use BBQ-style firelighters but I dislike carrying them because the smell permeates the entire rucksack. We have made our own firestarters by dipping cotton pads in melted wax. These work surprisingly well. They are also waterproof and very easy to carry. Our current favourites, though, are eco lighters made from potato stalks. These burn for ages and, so far, have been failsafe in starting our fire.



We're keen to try some of other methods that the Warden showed us last month. These include charcloth and flint and the King Alfred's cakes that are found on deciduous deadwood and that burn very impressively. However, we might leave the glycerine and permanganate option to school chemistry labs. God's presence in fire doesn't need that kind of chemical help.

**Heather Lodge**

## From Barbara Smith

I admit to missing the Anniversary service but I still thought about personal memories.

Gary and I had had a discussion about where we wanted to be married - when he opted for a church wedding I chose the URC, based on my personal history. I'd been a member of Ewell Congregational church and the Brownie Pack as a child.

That was 1985 and the rest is history - we helped with church jumble sales - Madge and Ray Mowbray come to mind, Madge modelling hats and coats on the stage and Ray and his pram, ferrying goods between halls.

Shared lunches in the Raeburn kitchen on the day - someone **fearing** tomatoes, sharing cake. Then mayhem, when the hoarders descended - how unhappy is this? Will you take 5p?

Elders summer suppers, hosted and catered with love and laughter - one incident springs to mind but I won't share that!

Gary being asked to accept the call to Eldership and my own time in Junior Church, the children I taught and the joy it gave me. Now I get the same joy from helping at both Pilots and Messy Church, I forget I'm an adult and urge my inner child!

**Barbara**

## Roger Fenn's July Quiz

In the New Testament Book of Hebrews - chapter 11 – the unknown writer commends people of old for their faith in God. What does he write about the following people?

1. Abel
2. Enoch
3. Noah
4. Abraham
5. Jacob
6. Moses
7. Rahab
8. Judges. Which ones does he mention?
9. King. Which king does he commend?
10. How does the writer describe the ordeals of Christians in his own time?

**Thanks to those who have contributed to this edition - please keep them coming – especially from London Road! We hope to publish a magazine for September. As we will be away please let me have all your material by 17<sup>th</sup> August. Send them to [iandm@earlblue.com](mailto:iandm@earlblue.com)**

## An invitation

Members of Tolworth meet for lunch at The Hogsmill, Worcester Park. Here are the dates for lunches at the Hogsmill for the next year. Everyone is welcome to join us, so please make a note of the dates

13th. September  
18th. October  
22nd. November  
10th. January  
14th. February  
20th. March  
24th. April  
22nd May  
26th June  
31st. July

All that is required that you let me have your name by the previous Sunday and enjoy eating with your friends

The time is 12.30

Thanks

**Brenda** (01372 743968)

## July Quiz – Answers

### Hebrews 11

- |     |  |           |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 1.  | Abel offered a better sacrifice                              | v 4       |
| 2.  | Enoch did not experience death                               | v 5       |
| 3.  | Noah built an ARK to save his family                         | v 17 .    |
| 4.  | Abraham was prepared to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice | v 17      |
| 5.  | Jacob blessed Joseph's two sons before he died               | v 21      |
| 6.  | Moses refused to be called the son of the pharaoh's daughter | v 24      |
| 7.  | Rahab sheltered the Hebrew spies in Jericho                  | v 31      |
| 8.  | Gideon, Barak. Samson, Jephthah, Samuel                      | v 32      |
| 9.  | David  | v 32      |
| 10. | They were tortured, flogged, imprisoned, stoned and executed | v 36 / 37 |

# SUNDAY WORSHIP at TOLWORTH

Morning Worship at 10.30

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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 #)

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Revd Roger Jones</b>	<b>0208 393 4270</b> rjones@urcsouthern.org.uk
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs M Fleming	8337 8581
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr G Stock	8330 5492
<b>Serving Elders</b>	Mr D Bennett, Mrs M Fleming, Mrs B Kelly, Mrs L Menneer, Mrs B Smith, Mr G Stock, Mrs K Woolard,	
<b>Management Committee</b>	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	
Guides	Mrs J Pelham	

# SUNDAY WORSHIP AT LONDON ROAD URC, EWELL

## Morning Worship at 10.30

<b>Minister</b>	Revd Roger Jones	020 8393 4270
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs Pamela Galliers	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. George Pearson	
<b>Serving Elders</b>	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

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