

# CONCORD



**Curry night at Tolworth!**

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

**May 2024**

## From our Minister

Dear Friends,

May 2024

May is usually a good election month. Indeed, many of us will be voting in local elections in the next few days. There is the election for London Mayor. In Surrey there is an election for the police and crime commissioner. Then of course there is the big one. No. Strictly Come Dancing has finished. I mean the General Election. With this parliament due to end in December a general election is expected this year, if not in May.

So, in May there is likely to be even more debate about power and how it is being exercised to solve our problems. Then with the “desolation” of parliament (you think I mean “dissolution”. I know what I mean), there is likely to be a temptation not to vote at all. After all, in the recent political climate, sheer polemic of our candidates and continuing stories of political misdemeanours, what good has voting done?

Of course we must. Think of all those who have gone before who suffered for suffrage for all. As voters we have a choice who to elect and not to vote is still a decision. But then the individuals elected have a choice about how they go about exercising power. It is only from within parliament that they, and we can truly discern their motive about why they seek power.

As a voter I must presume that the vast majority seek power to serve the common good of society. As a voter I have also learnt that this not always the case. Some, I am sure, simply and cynically desire power for its own sake. Others lose something overtime. How can the politicians who serve in office remain anchored and continue to serve the common good and not drift over time?. Admittedly they are only human. As a voter how can I tell?.

We have heard over recent years how the electorate has lost confidence in politicians and politics.

Perhaps Jesus and how he exercised power in his ministry could be a good example for those seeking to serve the common good.

Perhaps how Jesus exercised power in his ministry is a good guide for us when deciding who we want to act for us in the common good.

The gospel accounts show Jesus exercised his ministry consistently. He didn't stray from the path laid out for him. Even when he knew what was ahead. Even when he had to deal with the betrayal of those closest to him.

Christ power did not always look like what we would have expected. At his crucifixion, the scene was set to show who had real power. The Roman Empire, with their mocking couldn't see it. It was at this point, where Jesus looked as if he had the least power that he had the greatest. For Christians through his death he was honouring a covenant that God had with the people and showed through the resurrection the forgiveness of sins.

When we seek to vote, we see people in our midst seeking to retain power. Christ offers an example of how the exercise of power needs to be selfless, consistent, authentic and rooted. It is not always recognised or understood. It is about faithfulness and forgiveness, in the most difficult of circumstances and an appreciation of the common good, which especially includes those least appreciated.

Who can we see exercising power by this example. Maybe not as perfect. But close? Can we vote for them?

***God bless***

***Roger***

### **Tolworth - Diary for May 2024**

Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Playtime
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Ms Heather Lodge
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Elders' meeting
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Playtime
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Biscuit Club
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning communion led by Revd Barbara Pearson
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Pilots
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Playtime
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Messy Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Worship led by our Minister Evergreen Church
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Pilots
Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	Playtime
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning worship led by Mrs Linda Lambert
<b>June 2024</b>			
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10.30am	Morning Worship led by ?

## Tolworth Family Circle

Kathleen Woolard is not very well at present. We hope she will soon feel much better. David Bennett is recovering at home from recent surgery. Paul Craven is still waiting for an appointment for his eye surgery and Daryl Knight is laid low with a bad bout of flu. Please remember these friends in your prayers and any others who are ill.

**Moira**

### May Family News for London Road, Ewell

We had always hoped to be able to celebrate Easter Sunday in our sanctuary, and thanks to the efforts of the very efficient builders, and tidying and dusting by members of the congregation, we were able to do so. It was a joyful occasion, shared with our Korean friends, and a very positive start to our long-awaited refurbishment.

The Korean Church organised another very successful “messy church” during the school Easter holidays, and this time welcomed families from the surrounding area, besides their own congregation.

### May 2024 Diary for London Road, Ewell

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion, conducted by Revd. Barbara Pearson
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	12.30	Lunch Club, venue to be arranged.
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship, conducted by Revd Roger Jones
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	12.30 for 1	Bible Study, led by Revd Barbara Pearson
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship conducted by Revd David Skitt
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	Elders Meeting
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2-3 pm	Friendship Hour, all friends welcome
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship, conducted by Revd Roger Jones, celebrating the church's anniversary.

### June

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion, conducted by Revd Roger Jones
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## From Brenda Kelly

As I write this it is still rather cold and raining, but from my window everything is coming to life in the garden. Lovely yellow Welsh poppies that a friend sent me seeds from Shropshire, the fig tree has lots of figs (which probably all fall off at a later date). The peony is growing really, really fast ready to flower in mid May. Plus salvias are showing colour. Roses have lots of buds although nearly everything is green, there is a great deal of hope that before long it will be a riot of colour. It's having hope that certainly keeps me going. Where would we be without hope and a smile. The other thing I watch from window are the birds. Blue tits have nested in my/their very tatty bird box and every so often a baby chick appears, looking very nervously around making sure the neighbours cat is not around! So roll on late spring and early summer and a riot of colour.

**Brenda**

## Our Heroes



**Carol Shepherd and Sriyani Watson**

These ladies organised our curry night which raised the magnificent sum of £800 towards the contribution we make to the Rwandan charity, "Talking through Art" which helps to support disabled women who make baskets etc .to help support themselves and their families.

Grateful thanks are also due to Gillian Jones and all the other people who acted as waiters, washeruppers, those who set up the hall and those who provided the entertainment without



whom the evening would not have been such a success. It was lovely to see the hall so full once again. Thank you Carol for an amazing evening.

## Tales from the campground 19: Packing

Believe it or not, our camps are not about survival. It's about enjoying being out in the woods and living a more simple life in tune with God's earth as comfortably as we can with the kit we can carry. The downside is that it means carrying 45lb (38lb in a good summer).

Who packs their suitcase at least twice? It took us a year to learn how to pack a rucksack and I still don't get it right first time. We each carry the same basic sets of kit and divide the common items like billy cans, stove, tarp, and camp table between us.

We unpack the rucksacks from the bottom compartment so the first thing we'll need to pitch camp goes in the bottom. For my rucksack, that would be the footprint and groundsheet for the tent.



The air bed, kitchen bag, cordage bag and padded jacket stand up in the four corners.

The sleeping bag goes in next, squished as flat as possible.

The mess tins and water canteen set tucks in front of the sleeping bag. Put these in the wrong place and you spend the whole journey with metal edges digging in your kidneys.

The folding grill packs flat at the back, along with a small kneeling mat and a microfibre towel.

The folding stool lays flat on top of the sleeping bag with the gas stove.

The wash kit, repair kit, fire kit and gas canister tuck down the sides.



The lighting kit and power banks need protection so they go in the middle of the pack.

Clothes in waterproof stuff sacks are squished in on top of the lighting kit.

A ziplock bag of tea, coffee and snacks goes in at the top along with a first aid kit.

Waterproofs, scarf, gloves, hat and handwarmers go in the lid with the compass and the rucksack can be sealed up.

The water bottle and food for the journey go in the front pocket.

The tent and folding table are buckled securely underneath the rucksack.

And that's when I find the frying pan still sitting on the living room floor. It's always the frying pan.....

**From Margaret Taylor**

Margaret has written to say thanks for the beautiful church flowers which Brenda gave to me. They have given me much pleasure and have been much admired. Special thanks should be given to Roger Fenn for doing the monthly quiz. It gives us all food for thought!

**Margaret**

**Roger Fenn's May Quiz**

**Timothy**

1. In Paul/s Letters and Acts we can read about Timothy. Where did Paul first meet him?
2. What nationality was his father?
3. Name his mother and grandmother..
4. On whose recommendation did Paul invite Timothy to be a fellow-missionary?.
5. How do we learn that Paul was very fond of Timothy?
6. Sometimes Timothy was less persuasive in his evangelism than Paul. How does he advise Timothy?.
7. Some churches regarded Timothy as inexperienced. How did Paul encourage him?
8. When Timothy was ill, what advice did Paul give him?

**An invitation**

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

22<sup>nd</sup> May  
26<sup>th</sup> June  
31<sup>st</sup> July.

All that is required is 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)**

## The Ascension

What strange lives we lived, us disciples,  
With no two days ever the same,  
Trudging the roads with our Master,  
Hearing great praise and sour blame.

Standing on hilltops in glory,  
Then hungry and searching for food,  
Hearing his life-changing teaching,  
Learning the meaning of "good".

Then, healing and preaching forgotten,  
A trial and a cross on a hill,  
And we are left frightened and hopeless,  
An emptiness nothing can fill.

But then like a dream he's back with us,  
He teaches and talks like before,  
He promises spiritual comfort,  
To guide and enrich ever more.

And now he has gone to the Father,  
To the glory he left for our sake,  
And we must wait now for his Spirit,  
To show us the paths we must take.

**Barbara Pearson**

## May Quiz – Answers

- |    |   |                  |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Lystra in Galatia.                          | Acts 16 v1       |
| 2. | Greek.                                      | Acts 16 v 1      |
| 3. | Eunice and Lois.                            | 2 Timothy 1 v 5  |
| 4. | The churches in Iconium and Lystra.         | Acts 16 v 2      |
| 5. | He refers to him as "My Son".               | 1 Timothy 1 v 18 |
| 6. | "God did not give us a Spirit of timidity". | 2 Timothy 1 v 7  |



7. "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are 1 Timothy 4 v12 young".
8. "Drink wine instead of water". 1 Timothy 5 v23

## **Sunday Worship at Tolworth**

### **Morning Worship at 10.30**

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

Computer link <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/rjones853>

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month - Evergreen Worship at 6.30pm**

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Revd Roger Jones</b>	<b>0208 393 4270</b> rjones@urcsouthern.org.uk
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs M Fleming	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr G Stock	
<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 Brenda Kelly	
Halls Letting Officer	Mr S. Heath	
Junior Church	Mrs B Kelly	
Magazine Editor	Mr I Fleming	
Magazine Secretary	Mrs M Fleming	
Organist	--	
Pilots	Mrs G Jones	
Playtime	Mrs M Fleming	
Youth Worker	Miss Carys Kelly	
Rainbows	Ms Kirsten Cook	

Brownies  
Guides

Ms Michelle Nicholls  
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 C Shim and Mr R Hamilton
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

**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 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Send it to [iandm@earlblue.com](mailto:iandm@earlblue.com)**