

Your FREE Newsletter from The North Western Synod of The United Reformed Church

North Western Synod Magazine



Good News Stories
across our synod

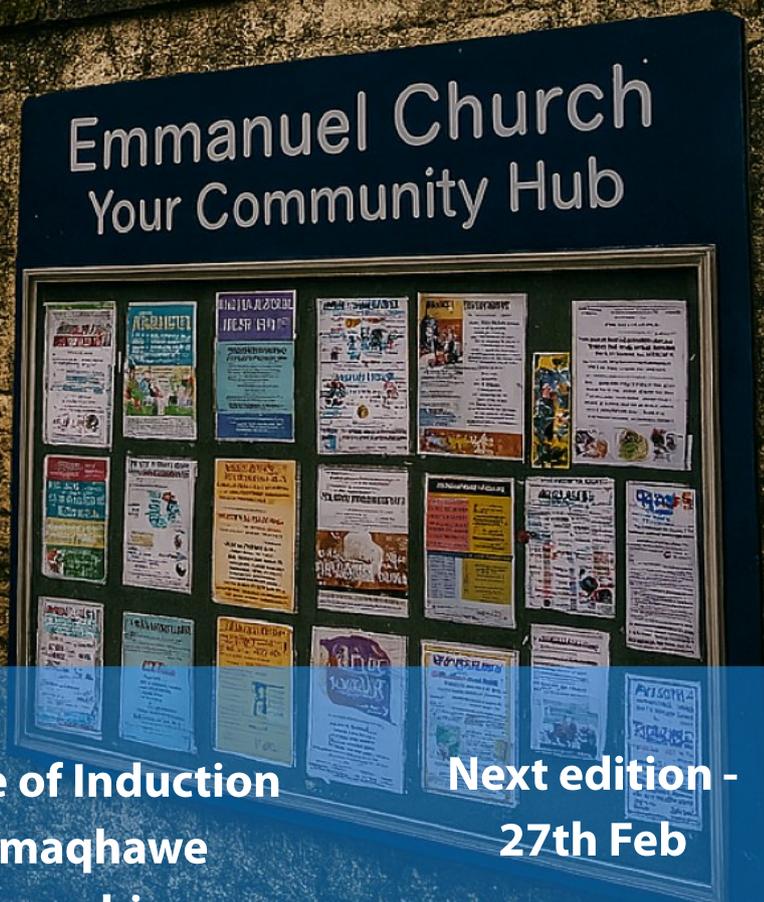
Learning Events
in your area

Children and Youth
news and events

Save the Date
events for your diary

Synod and URC
news and updates

for our
Prayers



Featured this issue:

**Introducing the
new NW Synod
website**

**A Service of Induction
of Nomaqhawe
Marambi**

**Next edition -
27th Feb**

Inside this issue ...

Good News Stories

- [Introducing the new NW Synod website](#)
- [A Service of Induction of Nomaqhawe Marambi](#)
- [The 10/15/40 Lent Challenge](#)
- [A Special Service at Bury URC](#)
- [New members of Trinity URC, Lancaster](#)
- [Minister to Sleep Rough to Support Homeless Veterans](#)
- [Kairos Housing in Blackburn with Darwen](#)

Learning Events

- [Safeguarding Training](#)

Children + Youth News + Events

- [Talking About ... The ABCs of LGBTQ+](#)
- [Learn more about eating disorders](#)
- [Grants for Children + Youth Work](#)
- [Children's Fun Day](#)
- [Who are Generation Alpha?](#)

Save the Date

NW Synod + Local Church Events

- [Clitheroe URC's Journey to Gold](#)
- [Worship for Mission 2: Tell the Good News of the Kingdom](#)
- [Outdoor Church](#)
- [Steal Away- A Talk at Heaton Moor United Church](#)
- [Journeying through ordinary time with Matthew](#)

Wider Events

- [Faith in Action Webinars](#)
- [URC Waldensian Fellowship Online](#)
- [Greater Manchester Live Well Spring Festival](#)
- [Peake Lecture 2026](#)

Synod and URC News & Updates

- [A request for information](#)
- [Your church community project could win £2,000](#)
- [Discipleship Development Fund Small Grants - Could this be for you?](#)
- [Prayers for the 2027 Prayer Handbook](#)
- [Circuit Administrator - The Methodist Church - Farnworth + Worsley Circuit](#)
- [Useful Links](#)

for our Prayers ...

Introducing the new North Western Synod website



We are delighted to share that our new North Western Synod website is now live!

Click www.nwsynod.org.uk

This has been a significant piece of work, and we're pleased to offer it as a helpful resource hub for our churches across the Synod.

The website has been carefully developed to provide easier access to key information, resources, news, and support. While a great deal of work has already gone into it, it remains a work in progress. You may notice some pages still under construction and ongoing amendments as we continue to refine and expand the content.

Thank you for bearing with us while the website was out of action. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

We would also welcome your feedback. If there are resources, information, or features you would find helpful to have included, please do let us know. Your suggestions will help us ensure the website serves our churches as effectively as possible.

You will also find a calendar on the home page and under the heading '*News & Events*', where you can book onto upcoming events such as Safeguarding training, Sacrament training, and more. We encourage you to make use of this feature and to check back regularly for new events and updates.

Kerry Later

Office Manager & Moderators PA

A Service of Induction of Nomaqhawe Marambi

The United Reformed Church

North Western Synod

A Service of Induction of

Nomaqhawe Marambi

TO

Lancashire East Missional Partnership



Saturday 21st March 2026 3pm at

Westbury Gardens URC

Presiding Minister

The Rev'd Clare Downing

Synod Moderator

The 10/15/40 Lent Challenge

10 Seconds a Day

Already stretched?

Running on empty?

This Lent, we're not asking for *more effort*

Just **more attention**

Would you give God 10 seconds a day?

15 Word Prayer

Each day in Lent, pray this simple 15-word prayer:

“Gracious God, today is there someone you want me to connect with outside the church?”

Then... go about your day

No extra meetings

No programmes to run

No pressure to “do something”

Just **stay attentive**

If a conversation happens, if you sense a nudge, if you notice God already at work, send a single line to acorn@nwsynod.org.uk

Would you pray 15 words a day?

40 Days of Lent

Each day of Lent 2026: 18 February – 2 April

That's it

No fixing

No performing

No guilt if nothing obvious happens

This is a Lent practice for ordinary days, busy lives, and faithful people who are willing to notice.

10 seconds 15 words 40 days

Who might God already be placing in your path?

Click [here](#) to access a Lenten message for each day of Lent

A Special Service at Bury URC



On Sunday 1st February 2026 at Bury URC we had a special service led by Rev'd Anne Stokes. It was a service full of special celebrations and memories.

During the service we held a special time of tribute for one of our members, Sylvia, who passed away last year. The day was special because we were able to welcome her cousin, Alison, who had kept us informed of Sylvia's illness, her passing and wanted to have a special time at

church to remember Sylvia. Many family and friends joined us. Rev'd Anne spoke about her memories of Sylvia - helping at the café, serving teas and coffees after worship, distributing flowers. Always a smile and a chat. Rev'd Anne spoke of Sylvia's love of books, especially those she mentioned in a service and how they exchanged books often. Rev'd Anne mentioned Sylvia's love of line-dancing, holidays, time with friends and her love of music.

Our Treasurer, Brian, was asked to say a few words on behalf of the church. Brian and his wife Joyce had gotten to be loyal friends with Sylvia over the years.

Then we heard from cousin Alison who gave us a loving tribute to Sylvia. Telling us of her early years and administrative work career. One of which was at a manufacturer of plastic coated material. This reminded us that Sylvia would make bags and aprons to raise funds for church. How we loved those bags. Alison reminded us of her love of the musician Jonathon Scott and would attend many of his organ recitals. Alison said gardening was one of Sylvia's passions and her garden at home was her delight – often visiting flower shows and buying plants or ornaments for it. Alison spoke of Sylvia and her passion for keeping herself well and active. This included yoga, tai chi, line-dancing and walking. Sylvia was committed to church life and was always an active member, but in the background. She didn't like attention. Alison mentioned Sylvia as a private, capable and independent lady and that is how we remember her.

Alison gave the church 2 vases and Rev'd Anne dedicated the vases to Bury URC in Sylvia's memory. And in memory of her work in the church - and especially as part of the flower committee.

During the service we were very pleased to receive 3 new Elders - Francis Byrom, Chris Poole and Olwen Bradley. All three had been Elders and former members of Blackford Bridge URC until its closure. We were very blessed that they transferred to Bury along

with several other members and friends. Rev'd Anne rededicated the Elders to serve at Bury URC. I am very sure they will be an asset and much-needed fresh pairs of eyes at Elders meetings and in the work of the church.

After the service we all met in fellowship to share stories and chat. Obviously this was made all the more special with the lovely cakes made by our lovely Fran.

A wonderful, special morning service - one members and friends will remember for a long time.

Pam Rowley – Bury URC



New members of Trinity URC, Lancaster

Trinity is delighted to have received four new Members recently: one in November and three in February, all received by Rev'd Dr Irene John during Sunday worship.

Our new Members have been friends of Trinity for some time so it was a double joy to receive them into membership and welcome them fully into the Church Family.

Lynne Cadzow—Trinity URC



Minister to Sleep Rough to Support Homeless Veterans

Local church leader to brave cold March night in stealth camp for The Great Tommy Sleep Out

A minister serving communities across Rochdale, Bury and North Manchester will be spending a cold



March night sleeping outdoors to raise vital funds for homeless armed forces veterans as part of The Great Tommy Sleep Out, supporting the Royal British Legion.

On Friday 20th March, Revd Daniel Harris, a minister with the United Reformed Church in the Rochdale,

Bury and North Manchester Missional Partnership, will take part in a solo overnight “stealth camp” somewhere in the North Manchester area. Armed with only the bare essentials - a tent, sleeping bag, gas stove and a roll of toilet paper - Daniel will experience a small glimpse of the insecurity many veterans face every day.

March nights can be unforgivingly cold, damp, and long. This is no comfortable camp-out. Temperatures regularly drop close to freezing, and sleep is uncertain at best. The challenge is designed to reflect, in a limited way, the harsh reality faced by veterans who find themselves without a safe place to call home.

“As a minister, my calling is rooted in dignity, compassion, and standing alongside people who are too often overlooked,” said Daniel. “Faith isn’t just something we talk about on a Sunday - it’s something we live out. No one who has served their country should be left without shelter, warmth, or hope.”

Funds raised will go directly toward emergency support for veterans experiencing homelessness. A donation of £15 can provide a vital food pack for a veteran arriving at emergency accommodation - meeting immediate needs at a critical moment.

“This is more than a fundraising challenge,” Daniel added. “It’s a mission. It’s about solidarity. And it’s about saying, clearly and publicly, that no veteran should be left behind.”

Members of the public are invited to support the challenge by donating online and sharing the appeal via the following link : <https://socialsync.app/fundraiser/cr-k395l406kov5>

Every contribution, large or small, helps ensure veterans are met not with cold nights and closed doors, but with care, safety, and respect.

Kairos Housing in Blackburn with Darwen

5 years
5 homes
39 guests
15,500 nights



Registered Charity No: 1198820



Kairos gives hope... and hope is everything in this immigration system.



I felt like a fish out of water coming to the UK. Being part of the Kairos family has given me the chance to build a future.



For five years, Kairos Housing has been a lifeline in Blackburn with Darwen. We offer a radical welcome, showing the love of Jesus as we provide sanctuary, build community and seek justice for asylum seekers and refugees. We provide more than just a roof; we provide a family.

Since 2021, your support has made this possible. But to continue this mission, we need your help. Whether through a one-time donation or a regular monthly gift, your generosity is our lifeline. Regular giving allows us to plan with confidence, and every gift helps us provide sanctuary and hope.

Scan to give or visit: www.kairoshousing.org.uk/donate

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Safeguarding Training



Please click [here](#) for the amended URC Levels of Mandatory Safeguarding Training Matrix (England).

Safeguarding Foundation E-Learning Course

Please click on the following link to access the module: [Safeguarding Foundation Course](#)

Introduction to Safeguarding E-Learning Course

For those who have a background in safeguarding and have completed training within a professional organisation in the previous three years. This course does not look at the signs and symptoms of abuse - if you need information on this you will need to complete Foundation level training (see above).

[An Introduction to Safeguarding in the URC](#)

Online + Face-to-Face Safeguarding Training

Please book your place by clicking on the relevant link below the date:

Intermediate Safeguarding Training

Wednesday 11th March 2026 - 6.30pm to 8.30pm - Online

To book please click [here](#)

Combined Foundation + Intermediate Safeguarding Training

Monday 2nd March 2026 – 6pm to 8.30pm – Online

To book please click [here](#)

Wednesday 11th March 2026 – 1.00pm to 3.30pm – Online

To book please click [here](#)

Advanced Safeguarding Training

Advanced training will now be delivered in ONE session

Online Advanced - Wed 4th March 2026 - 6pm-9.15pm (including a break)

To book please click [here](#)

Online Advanced - Mon 13th April 2026 - 6pm-9.15pm (including a break)

To book please click [here](#)

Annual Safeguarding Return—Portal is OPEN!

The Annual Safeguarding Return Portal is **open** to Churches. As in previous years the deadline for completion is **28th February 2026**.

If you need any assistance or have any queries please contact Joanne at helpdesk@nwsynod.org.uk or Tel: 08000 903 903

Church House Additional Training

Tuesday 24th February	- 7:00pm	Elders as Trustees
Thursday 5th March	- 1:00pm	DDC Verifiers Training + Safer Recruitment
Monday 23rd March	- 1:00pm	Substance Abuse
Tuesday 21st April	- 1:00pm	Online Safety

Make your booking by emailing Emma.Pearce@urc.org.uk stating your name, church, role and course preference.

URC Learning Hub

For more information about the courses and resources available on the URC Learning Hub please click [here](#) - topics include 'Exploring Eldership', 'Faith-filled Life - Stepwise' and 'Conversation Starters'

Newsletter from the URC Safeguarding Team

To access the latest editions of the quarterly Newsletters from the URC, please click [here](#).

Safeguarding Contacts

Yvette Hansbury-Robinson - Synod Safeguarding Officer - safeguarding@nwsynod.org.uk

General Safeguarding Queries - relating to safeguarding training and/or DBS, please email the Safeguarding Team on helpdesk@nwsynod.org.uk

“Safeguarding is a whole church responsibility”

Talking About... The ABCs of LGBTQ+

Talking About



ABC's of LGBTQ+ inclusive language

A place to start learning about the LGBTQ+ Community
With space for asking of questions about how to support Children & Young people

Wednesday 18th Feb 7-8pm
<https://bit.ly/T4alkingAbout>



Wednesday, 18th February, 7-8pm, online

This session will explore how using inclusive language and other opportunities can help us in our support of children and young people from the LGBTQ+ community.

Book your free place at:
www.bit.ly/T4alkingAbout

The session will last 1 hour – come with your experiences and questions.

Talking About... Sessions are held every month (except August and December).

Here is a list of the topics we will be covering in 2026:

TALKING ABOUT...

2026

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18	LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE
WEDNESDAY MARCH 25	THE FAMILY FILM CLUB RESOURCE
MONDAY APRIL 20	INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP
THURSDAY 28 MAY	TALKING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM
THURSDAY JUNE 18	BAPTISM & DEDICATION 
TUESDAY JULY 21	CONNECTING WITH UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21	MAKING THE MOST OF THE ADVENT RESOURCE
MONDAY OCTOBER 19	HOW TO DISAGREE WELL
TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER	CHRISTIANITY AND MENTAL HEALTH 
FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO BOOK YOUR PLACE: WWW.BIT.LY/T4alkingAbout	





Learn more about eating disorders



Eating Disorder Awareness Training

Eastern Synod are inviting children and youth workers across the denomination to join them for a session exploring how to support people who are experiencing eating disorders.

The training is designed for youth leaders, but is open for all who would like to learn more about eating disorders.

The training will be delivered by TasteLife. You can find out more about them at:

www.tastelifeuk.org

Date: Wednesday 25th Feb 2026

Time: 7-9pm

Location: Online

Please email: youth@urceastern.org.uk to book your place.

Grants for Children and Youth Work

The application form for grants to support children and youth work is now available on the Synod website ([Children and Youth — URC North Western](#))

Among the recipients of grants last year were Forton URC and Clitheroe URC.

Forton URC says: ‘Our engagement with local youth of a wide range of ages has grown in recent years. We continue to be the starting point for Forton Field Day now in it’s 76th year. The church is taken over by the Field Day queens and the attending retinue.

There are twice yearly school visits, at Harvest when the Junior school visit and listen to the meaning of Harvest, this year they had learnt a special Harvest song which they sang for us, and for the Balloon Nativity, when students decorate a tree with their craft-made decorations provided by church. The tree moves into the school and returns to church once the school breaks up for Christmas. The Balloon Nativity is attended by the whole school making our small church very full. This year a family visited church for one of our Christmas services because the children wanted to attend the church they had visited with school. The Balloon Nativity is just that, he tells the Nativity with balloon props. It’s always very well received by both the children and teachers of Forton School.

The Open the Book group visits the school monthly during term time and members are invited into school for school events.

Forton Scout group helps clean the church twice yearly after Christmas and before Easter, including outdoor tidying and path maintenance, alongside professional tree work.

The grant money helped with the provision of refreshments and supplies for these events.



Children's Fun Day

Saturday, March 14th, Oasis, MediaCity

Book your children (ages 5-11) for a day of fun, games and crafts while everyone else is at the Spring Synod meeting.

Contact Leo on cydo@nwsynod.org.uk to reserve a place - or places - which will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.



Who are Generation Alpha?

Youthscape Essentials Deep Dive

Generation Alpha
Curious, Creative and Pre-Christian

Want to know more about how this generation explores and builds faith? Over 90 mins we'll explore who Gen Alpha are—and how to shape youth ministry that really connects with them.

Monday 16th March
7pm to 8.30pm
To book your place

Youthscape Essentials

The United Reformed Church Youth

Join members of the **CYDO+ team of the United Reformed Church** for this 90-minute deep dive into Generation Alpha. Together we'll explore who Gen Alpha are, how they engage with the world, and what it means to support young people who are curious, creative and often pre-Christian. This session will equip those working with children and young people with insights and practical ideas to help shape youth ministry that genuinely connects with this emerging generation.

Click [here](#) to book a place.

Clitheroe URC's Journey to Gold



You are warmly invited to an Eco Church Workshop: Clitheroe URC's Journey to Gold, led by Dr Isabel Lamb, the Clitheroe URC Eco Church Group, and the NW Synod's Green Apostles.

This workshop is for churches who are:

- exploring becoming an Eco Church, or
- already an Eco Bronze Church and wishing to progress to Silver or Gold

Members of Clitheroe URC – our Gold Eco Church in the Synod – will share practical insights from their journey, including:

- what they did for each section of the Eco Church survey
- how they presented evidence
- learning along the way, with time for Q & A and shared discussion

We will also reflect on the onward journey – what life looks like after achieving Gold and how to sustain momentum.

Come along to be encouraged, inspired and supported as we care for God's creation together.

Worship for Mission 2: Tell the Good News of the Kingdom



Worship for Mission 2: Tell the Good News of the Kingdom

**A workshop for those who lead worship to plan
a service of worship together.**

**Tuesday 3rd March 7pm,
Short Street URC Church, Short St, Hazel
Grove, Stockport SK7 4AD**

During 2026 some churches in East Cheshire and Derbyshire Borders plan to reflect on the Five Marks of Mission with their worship groups during Sunday worship. We plan to run a series of six workshops throughout 2026 to assist with planning services of worship around the themes.

Others who lead worship in their churches would be welcome to come and join us.

We will reflect on the Good News of God's Kingdom and how we share that with others. We will look at hymns, prayers, readings and sermon notes related to this theme.

Please bring with you any resources that would support you in developing a service of worship on this theme.

This will be a practical session. By the end of the session, you should come away with a plan for a service.

Contact liz.delafield@nwsynod.org.uk for more information.

Outdoor Church

OUTDOOR Church

A new seasonal gathering for all ages to connect with God in nature.

Next gathering:

Sunday 8th March 2026 3-4pm

The Church Garden, Heald Green URC, Wilmslow Road, Heald Green, SK8 3BH

All Are Welcome.

Activities this month:

- Reflecting together on renewal and new beginnings
- Looking for signs of new life in the church garden
- Seed Planting
- Storytelling
- Prayer and meditation



“Behold I am making all things new!” Rev. 21:5

Free event, no booking required.

Wear appropriate clothing for the weather.

For more information contact

Alison Haigh: alisoncmhaigh@gmail.com.



Steal Away - A Talk at Heaton Moor United Church



Steal Away

Afro-American Spirituals,
an alternative understanding.

A talk by the Rev'd Dr John Parry

To be held at
Heaton Moor United Church
Stanley Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport, SK4 4HL

Friday, 20th March 2026
at 7.30 p.m.

Donations are welcome and will be shared by
Heaton Moor United Church
and the Maggie's Centre at The Christie, Manchester.

Journeying through ordinary time with Matthew



Journeying through ordinary time with Matthew.

A workshop for anyone who leads or plans worship.
Hazel Grove United Reformed Church,
Short Street, Stockport, SK7 4AD.
Saturday 18th April 10am-12:30pm

- Background to Matthew's Gospel.
- What does this say to us today?
- Exploring a text.
- Planning a service.
- Share ideas and fellowship.
- End with lunch together. (Bring your own lunch). Tea/coffee provided



Contact Alicia or Liz
southlpadvocate@nwsynod.org.uk
liz.delafield@nwsynod.org.uk



Faith in Action Webinars

WE ARE
A CHURCH
WITH PEOPLE
AT THE MARGINS

How can your congregation become a place where people at the margins are loved, nurtured and empowered?

What's working in our churches?
Where might new communities of worship and discipleship begin?

Join us for four online sessions exploring how your congregation can be more fully connected with and active within the whole community.



The
United
Reformed
Church

A church
with people
at the margins

Online, 7-8:30pm

- Monday 16 February
- Monday 11 May
- Monday 10 August
- Monday 16 November

Sign up at
urc.org.uk/margins

URC Waldensian Fellowship Online



The URC Waldensian Fellowship On-Line

Wednesday, 18th February at 7.30 pm

**An evening with Sandro Spanu,
current President of the Italian Baptist Union**

Sandro (short for Alessandro) is a Baptist pastor in Italy. His mother, Christine, is English, and his late father, Paolo, was also a Baptist pastor. Christine and Paolo met whilst Paolo was studying in Cambridge.

Sandro has served the Italian Baptist Union in various roles, and in his younger days was also very active in the Federation of Young Italian Protestants, where he got to know many of those who are now in active leadership in the Waldensian and Methodist Churches in Italy.

Studying theology at the Waldensian Faculty in Rome, one of the first Baptists to do so, gave Sandro the opportunity to spend his 'year abroad' in Edinburgh.

Until taking up his current post he was one of the team of Baptist pastors in Turin. Among other activities in Turin, he offered spiritual support to those in a local Hospice.

Why February 18th? Well, as some of you may know, February 17th is celebrated by Protestants in Italy as the anniversary of the granting of civil rights to Waldensians in 1848, and we have asked Sandro not only to speak to us briefly about the Baptist Churches in Italy, but also about the current situation in Italy regarding freedom of religion and religious practice.

We hope you will want to join us. **For the Zoom link**, please contact **John Bremner** on ecumenical@urcscotland.org.uk or bremner.johns@gmail.com

Greater Manchester Live Well Spring Festival



After two years of co-designing and growing the [GM Live Well movement](#) together, **Monday 9th March to Monday 23rd March 2026** will mark the first-ever **Live Well Spring Festival**.

The Spring Festival will pop up locally across neighbourhoods, community spaces, parks, high streets and online, showcasing the people, places and partnerships that bring **Live Well** to life every day across Greater Manchester.

Full details of the Spring Festival can be found [here](#)

Peake Lecture 2026

Peake Lecture 2026



*All are welcome to attend this year's
Peake Lecture:*

'From Miriam to the Magdalene: Women Witnesses in the Bible and Beyond'

*Presented by Dr Siobhán Jolley, Lecturer in Christian
Studies and Dr Samuel Hildebrandt, Senior Lecturer in
Biblical Studies*

Saturday 21st March 9.30am to 4.00pm

Nazarene Theological College, Dene Rd, Manchester,
M20 2GU

For tickets, use the link below. For enquiries, please email:
ortizj@nwedmethodists.org.uk

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peake-trust-lecture-2026-tickets-
1979738220310?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peake-trust-lecture-2026-tickets-1979738220310?aff=oddtcreator)

For tickets please use the link [here](#) and for enquiries, please email: ortizi@nwedmethodists.org.uk

On the day... Drinks will be provided throughout the day but you will need to make your own arrangements for lunch. We suggest you bring a packed lunch, however there are plenty of options to buy lunch in Didsbury which is a 10 minute walk from the venue.

Getting there... The College is located just off Junction 5 of the M60. There is a car park at the College and on street parking around the venue. The College is accessible by bus. Didsbury Village tram stop is a 15 minute walk away, and East Didsbury train station around a 20 minute walk.

A request for information

Greetings to friends in the North Western Synod

I am currently engaged in a writing project concerning John Heywood Thomas (1926-2025), a URC philosopher / theologian who was Lecturer in Philosophy of Religion at the University of Manchester (1957-65).

I am interested to gain information concerning his church involvement during that period:

Of which Congregational church was he a member?

Are there any memories of his local involvement in wider church life? Etc

If you can help, please respond to Rev. Dr. David R. Peel at david.r.peel@btinternet.com

Many thanks.

David

Your church community project could win £2,000



For 28 years, the United Reformed Church has recognised outstanding community projects taking place in its churches – projects that don't always get the recognition they deserve, but which demonstrate the mission of the church by reaching out in many different ways to the local communities which they serve.

Our partners [Congregational](#) have again donated £10,000 in prizes - three awards of up to £2,000 and four of £1,000, which are presented to projects at the URC General Assembly in July.

Your project could win. The simple to use entry form is available from our website where you can read more about the awards, download the form and watch videos about previous awards winners—click [here](#).

The deadline is 20 February 2026.

Discipleship Development Fund Small Grants – Could this be for you?



Looking for support to develop your discipleship journey? Each synod has funding available in 2026 through Discipleship Development Fund (DDF) Small Grants, designed to support individuals in learning, growth and faith development.

Grants will be available throughout the year, while funds last. The maximum grant award is £300.

How it works:

- Download the application form [here](#) from our new website
- Complete the form and send it to Rob Hoch-Yidokodiltona at learningmentor@nwsynod.org.uk

If you've been thinking about your discipleship journey, this could be the moment to take a next step and make an idea happen.

Prayers for the 2027 Prayer Handbook

Prayers for the 2027 Prayer Handbook, titled *A larger belonging*, are invited by 27th February 2026.

Prayer Handbook Editors, the Revd Dr Susan Durber and the Revd Jonnie Hill, invite you to write prayers that draw us beyond tribe, nation and ideology towards God's new creation. A belonging wider than our differences and deeper than our divisions.

Please submit your prayers by email by **27th February 2026** to phb@urc.org.uk. Read more about the Prayer Handbook on [the URC website](#).

Circuit Administrator - The Methodist Church Farnworth + Worsley Circuit



The **Methodist Church**
Farnworth & Worsley Circuit (1/12)
Charity No. 1135135

Circuit Administrator

The Farnworth and Worsley Circuit is seeking to appoint an experienced administrator for our friendly and forward-thinking circuit.

The post involves administration of circuit business and general office skills. Good IT skills are essential.

The post is for 12 hours per week to be worked flexibly based at the Circuit Office as needed, including attendance at some daytime, evening and weekend meetings. There will be travel required within the Circuit, thus access to a car is desirable.

The salary range is £8,392 – 10,390 p.a. (hourly rate: £13.45-£16.65) depending on qualification and experience

It is expected that the successful candidate will be sensitive to and understanding of the work of Christian churches

Closing date: 10th March 2026

Shortlisting: 19th March 2026

Interviews: 7th April 2026

Application forms and further information can be obtained from:

The Circuit Office
Email: fandwcir1@gmail.com

c/o Circuit Office
Worsley Road North Methodist Church
Argyle Avenue
Walkden M28 3GD

Useful Links



JPIT Newsletter

For the latest edition of the newsletter of the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) please click below:

[JPIT Newsletter](#)



Jobs & Volunteer Opportunities at the URC

For more details and further job and volunteer opportunities at the URC please click [here](#)



Greater Manchester Live Well Newsletter

Click [here](#) for the February Newsletter.



URC News Update—February 2026

Click [here](#) for the February URC News Update



[Upcoming training & events - Lancashire Mind](#)

To find out more about suicide prevention training with the Orange Button Community Scheme click [here](#)

for our Prayers

We invite you to pray:

- For those Members and Friends of Edgeley Community Church, who are marking the closure of their church at a service on Saturday 14th February
- For the Churches who are facing difficult decisions about the future of their fellowships and buildings
- For those involved in the discussions about the future of ministry in the North Western Synod
- For your Ministers as they consider how best to support you
- For the continued growth of church mission