



The HEATH



News, views & comment from the
United Reformed Church, Chadwell Heath

May/June 2019

50p

Dear Friends,



Heath & Havering URC
United in Christ

After an intensive Holy Week, I am writing this letter, pondering the next few steps and events in life and in our churches.

I give thanks for the many expressions of our faith in our churches and communities during the past week: On Palm Sunday, we had a special Evening Communion service, led by Revd Jim Dagleish. It was a joy to see him and Milly again and to have fellowship with them and with each other before the service.

On Maundy Thursday, nearly 50 of us gathered in the large hall at Trinity for the Heath & Havering Supper and Communion Service. This year, we followed the Jewish structure of the Passover meal with our supper and with our Communion Liturgy. This would have felt odd to us, as Communion is usually done differently, but it was an experience that took us into the mystery of what Jesus was sharing with his disciples when they had the Last Supper with him.

On Good Friday, there were events of witness in all our churches and local areas. I took Elijah along to the Walk of Witness in Hornchurch, culminating in an open-air service outside the Queens Theatre. Elijah was struck by the crowds who all followed the cross (though he thinks we ought to have followed it in our cars!), and by the singing during worship. He listened to the story of Jesus and we had quite a few conversations about the Christian hope in life beyond death this weekend.

On Easter Sunday, it was a joy to share in Nelmes' Easter breakfast before leading an upbeat service in Chadwell Heath - needless to say, it included chocolate, flowers and even a small resurrection miracle (in the shape of my Rose of Jericho).

Amidst the joy and the good news of Easter, I have found myself praying for the Christians in Sri Lanka, who were attacked worshipping on this special feast day. The good news of Christ certainly still needs to be shared in our world! I am also following the news of the Extinction Rebellion (XR) activities, which are supported by numerous Christians, trying to highlight the dangers of climate change.

And then there are the personal stories of people who have had bad news concerning their health or their circumstances or a family member. Sitting with people who are expressing their ongoing pain and sorrow is a real privilege for me, especially when I witness the hope expressed in the loving care of people's friends and family.

Christ is risen - but we are in desperate need of more resurrection life among us!

In our lectionary readings in the next few weeks, we will follow the stories of the disciples at this time of being "in-between".

Easter lies behind us now, with memories of sharing in the disciples' emotions of grief, sadness, anger, desperation, and then confusion, doubting, joy, hopefulness and encouragement.

In the coming weeks, leading up to Pentecost, we are reminded again of how the disciples and the early believers coped with firstly experiencing the risen Christ among them and then with his departure and with life without the tangible, visible, presence of Christ they were used to. We anticipate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, as the encourager, comforter, and guide for the disciples as they continue in their mission.

I, too, am finding myself in a time of "in-between". I am still busy with the practicalities of ministry - baptisms, weddings, members' receptions are all still to come soon, but I am also becoming increasingly aware that I will soon be with a very different church in a different place, where I will encounter very different tasks and challenges.

Life seems to be full of endings and new beginnings. Life never stands still. Things will inevitably change. The disciples resisted that change at first. Peter, for example, didn't know what to do after Christ had risen and decided to go fishing - just like he used to do before he wandered around Galilee with Jesus!

Sometimes we are aware that things change and that we need to move on, just as society and life around us move on. We too would find it easiest to ignore all the changes around us and to go back to doing what we've always done, but we know that Jesus will gently move us on, helping us to face the future with a new vision.

This Eastertide, **"may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."** (Romans 15:13)

With love & blessings, Your Minister Dorothee

Palm Sunday: Here is a photo below of the beautiful display arranged by Angela's sister, Christina Buxton.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Angela and Christina for the beautiful flowers and arrangements we enjoy each week.

Also, a thank you to Beryl and Brian for looking after the church gardens for us all to enjoy.



Addition to Musical Instruments: The latest addition to our collection of musical instruments brought back by Elaine is a rain stick with beautiful decoration from the Dominican Republic. It has been added to the others kept in the box behind the pulpit, so we should not forget we have these instruments we can use when our hymns are lively and we can make a joyous noise to the Lord!



Dear Friends,

I feel privileged to be part of maintaining the church as a welcoming and fit for purpose place of worship, and continue to strive to spend your church money wisely.

Summary of 2018 Maintenance Work presented to the Church Meeting on 24 March 2019.

Altogether in 2018, 29 in house jobs, and 13 contracted jobs were carried out. The majority of the in house jobs were carried out on Thursdays by Brian and/or David during the Foodbank opening times. Main Contracted jobs were: a) A major contract combining major building repairs (following the 2016 Quinquennial Inspection) and kitchen refurbishment, for which contract a 50% grant was obtained from Thames North Synod, b) Other major contract work included ongoing maintenance of all planting areas, annual gas service of church gas heaters, numerous lighting improvements internal and external around the church, and a 5 year electrical inspection.

Regarding a) the Fabrics Committee worked hard to ensure contract work stayed within the Contract Sum, and the final bill to the church (after receipt of the Grant) was £16,850. Other maintenance contract work carried out during 2018 included those in b) above and other minor works, and totalled £3,075 so the total maintenance spend for the year was around £19,925 against the normal budget of around £6,000. Although this resulted in a noticeable drop in the church funds at the year end, the major spend in a) was approved by the Elders as good value for money and a necessary investment. Since completion I am pleased to report that the newly refurbished kitchen has been greatly appreciated by all users.

Finally, as always many thanks to the Fabrics Committee and the Elders who continue to provide support in maintenance matters.

Brian

Pleshey 2019



Tuesday, 9th April dawned and, yes, once again it was a wet day as seems to be the case for our Pleshey days at least for the last few years. Never mind! I met Dianne Crisp and Jill Hunt and we travelled to Dianne's friend Sharon, who had offered to drive us there this year. We arrived in good time and met Roger together with some other ladies from his church in Lambourne End. We had coffee and a short prayer and then separated to go our own way around the Retreat House - each taking time for personal reading, silence, contemplation or quiet chats with Roger.

We assembled in the dining room for a tasty lunch and then dispersed again. Thankfully the sun came out and we were able to wander in the beautiful gardens - a time I always love, to wander around and look at God's creations. Once again I bought a couple of plants to bring home and add to my own little garden. The lady gardener told me that they will be holding an open day on Monday 6th May when there will also be a plant sale if anyone wishes to go along! We finished with a short service in the chapel(photo above) and then tea and cake before taking our leave and wending our way home, feeling much refreshed in spirit and body. I thoroughly recommend this day to anyone who might be free to attend next year. Watch this space for the date in your diary!

Elaine

THE WORLD IS MINE (Author Unknown)

Today, upon a bus,
I saw a very beautiful woman and wished I were as beautiful.

When suddenly she rose to leave,
I saw her hobble down the aisle.
She had one leg and used a crutch.
But as she passed, she passed a smile.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
I have two legs; the world is mine.

I stopped to buy some candy.
The lad who sold it had such charm.
I talked with him, he seemed so glad.
If I were late, it'd do no harm.
And as I left, he said to me,
"I thank you, you've been so kind.
You see," he said, "I'm blind."
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
I have two eyes; the world is mine.

Later while walking down the street,
I saw a child I knew.
He stood and watched the others play,
but he did not know what to do.
Why don't you join them dear?"
He looked ahead without a word.
I forgot, he couldn't hear.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
I have two ears; the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go,
With eyes to see the sunset's glow,
With ears to hear what I'd know,
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.
I've been blessed indeed, the world is mine.

If this poem makes you feel thankful, just forward it to your friends. After all, it's just a simple reminder that we have so much to be thankful for! Give the gift of love. It never comes back empty! I have been truly blessed with some very beautiful people in my life. And this comes as a token of thanks!



On Sunday 14th April we were all invited to the Heath & Havering tea and communion service at Western Road URC, with Jim and Millie Dalgleish. It was lovely to catch up with them both, looking hale and hearty and a good time was had by all.



Easter Sunday

Our service on Easter Sunday, led by Dorothee, was an interesting and intriguing time, with many stories including a clever story based on chocolate that the children (& adults) thoroughly enjoyed! We also saw a very strange plant that started out looking like a dead brown "lump" which, when covered with boiling water, gradually opened up and 'came to life' - albeit a strange-looking flower. Apparently it is called a resurrection plant - a new one on all of us! At the end of the service we all joined together and decorated the cross (below) with colourful flowers as a symbol of the risen Christ.



Methodist Church Philipsburg St. Maarten

On my travels at the beginning of the year, I was once again lucky enough to visit the Caribbean and had a wonderful time.

One particular memory that stands out is when we visited Philipsburg, the capital of the island of St. Maarten on Sunday 3rd February. We had to take a ferry to get there from the ship and everywhere

was closed being a Sunday, so we walked along the main road and generally explored. Then we came across their Methodist Church.



We stopped and took photos and noticed there were some people in and around it, so went inside. It was so beautiful and I asked if I could take some photos which they allowed. The service including holy communion had just finished: it started at 9am and finished at 12, so unfortunately just missed it. (Much longer than our one hour!!)



I was given a copy of their programme for the day which I have if anyone is interested to see it. I noticed that there were several hymns that we know and sing in our church. The ladies were very welcoming and were interested to know where we had come from. The coincidence is that when I showed the programme to Dorothee, she knew of it as her sister has visited it too! As they say: it's a small world!

Elaine



Happy Birthdays in May

Jeremiah Būrma 1st, Diana Baker 5th,
Elisabeth Thorburn 12th, Martin Grubb 12th, Neville
Sullivan 14th, Jean Quilty 20th.



Happy Birthdays in June

Jayda Sullivan 10th, Madeleine Clifford
12th, Jonathon Flores-Arias 19th, Elaine Bailey
24th.



CHURCH DIARY MAY

Thursday 2nd	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 5th	11:15am	Holy Communion — Revd. Dorothee Bührma Communion Table - Angela
Thursday 9th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Friday 10th	7:15pm	Elders Meeting
Saturday 11th	12:30	Christian Aid Brunch
Sunday 12th	11:15am	Morning Worship — Revd. Christine Harding
	6:30pm	Heath & Havering Holy Communion at Western Road
Thursday 16th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 19th	11:15am	Morning Worship— Revd. Dorothee Bührma Refreshments— The Gentleman
Thursday 23rd	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 26th	11:15am	Morning Worship — TBA
Thursday 30th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time

CHURCH DIARY JUNE

Thursday 4th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 2nd	11:15am	Holy Communion — Revd. Dorothee Bүүрма Communion Table - Dianne
Thursday 6th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 9th	11:15am	Morning Worship & Gift Day — Roger Whipp
	5:30pm	Heath & Havering Holy Communion at Chadwell Heath
Thursday 13th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Friday 14th	7:15pm	Elders Meeting
Sunday 16th	11:15am	Morning Worship — The Elders Refreshments— Angela & Christina
Thursday 20th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Saturday 22nd	2:30pm	Social Event
Sunday 23rd	11:15am	Morning Worship — TBA
Thursday 27th	10.00am	Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library time
Sunday 30th	11:15am	Morning Worship —Revd. Ann Woodhurst

Diary/Noticeboard:

Chadwell Heath + Heath & Havering Group of Churches

Saturday, 11th May at 12.30: Christian Aid Brunch.

Wednesday, 22nd May at 10.30-12noon: Inclusive Church Bible Study on 'Poverty'. Venue tbc.

General:

Foodbank: Thank you for your continued support but unfortunately more food donation help is always needed. We are grateful to receive any non-perishable food items, as well as more general items such as washing powder/ liquid, washing up liquid & tin openers – plus all important personal/ female/ toiletries/ toilet rolls & baby hygiene items. Thank you!

Flower Rota: *Would you like to sponsor flowers for a Sunday special to you or do your own arrangement?* The 2019 calendar is on the entrance table if you wish to book a date. Please see Angela Saggars for help.

General Local Information:

Chadwell Heath Residents' Association: Next meeting on **Thursday 9th May** 7.30pm at Chadwell Heath United Reformed Church hall, Beresford Gardens.

See Planning Application for development of the White Horse site or view online at <http://paplans.lbbd.gov.uk/online-applications> – application No. 18/01729/FUL

Chadwell Heath Historical Society: Next meeting on **Tuesday 21st May** 7.30pm at the Chadwell Heath Baptist Church hall. This will be a talk by Kate Cole – “Al Capone’s Gangster Car & The Kursaal in 1930s Southend”.

Wednesday 8th May: **Valence House** Local History Month Film Screening at 2pm.

Saturday 11th May: Archaeology Afternoon 1-3pm. Adults only £10. Book 020-8227-2034.

To mark the 25th Anniversary of the Society, **Valence House Museum** is hosting a Chadwell Heath Day on **Thursday 15th August**.

Worship Themes MAY & JUNE 2019

The Junior Church are using different teaching guides for each age group and the themes listed below are based on the Lectionary and will possibly be used by those leading our worship.

May 5, 2019	<u>*Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)</u>	<u>Revelation 5:11-14</u>	<u>John 21:1-19</u>
May 12, 2019	<u>*Acts 9:36-43</u>	<u>Revelation 7:9-17</u>	<u>John 10:22-30</u>
May 19, 2019	<u>*Acts 11:1-18</u>	<u>Revelation 21:1-6</u>	<u>John 13:31-35</u>
May 26, 2019	<u>*Acts 16:9-15</u>	<u>Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5</u>	<u>John 14:23-29</u> or <u>John 5:1-9</u>
June 2, 2019	<u>*Acts 16:16-34</u>	<u>Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21</u>	<u>John 17:20-26</u>
June 9, 2019	<u>*Acts 2:1-21</u> or <u>Genesis 11:1-9</u>	<u>Romans 8:14-17</u> or <u>Acts 2:1-21</u>	<u>John 14:8-17, (25-27)</u>
June 16, 2019	<u>Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31</u> <u>Psalms 8</u>	<u>Romans 5:1-5</u>	<u>John 16:12-15</u>
June 23, 2019	<u>1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a</u> <u>Psalms 42 and 43</u>	<u>Galatians 3:23-29</u>	<u>Luke 8:26-39</u>
June 30, 2019	<u>2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14</u> <u>Psalms 77:1-2, 11-20</u>	<u>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</u>	<u>Luke 9:51-62</u>

Do you require Prayer?

Should a quiet time for **private prayers** be requested before any service, please speak to an Elder who will accompany you or ensure your privacy in the Quiet Room.





SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30am Prayer Time
11.15am Morning Worship
Family All Age Worship 2nd
Sunday
Holy Communion 1st Sunday



Heath & Havering Group Holy Communion
2nd Sunday in the month at 6.30pm
(at alternate Churches)

WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Elders Meeting second Friday in the month 7.15pm
Foodbank, Coffee & Conversation, Church Library
time, Thursday 9:30am

Minister

Revd Dorothee Bäärma

RevdDorothee@t-online.de Tel:01708228489

Web site: [http://www.heathandhaveringurc.co.uk/
chadwellheath.html](http://www.heathandhaveringurc.co.uk/chadwellheath.html)

Chadwell Heath URC is part of the Heath and
Havering Group



**Please send any news, information or an article for the Heath to
Dianne Crisp. Email Dianne.crisp@ntlworld.com The deadline is
Wednesday 26th June 2019 for the July/August/Sept issue.**