

**Rivercourt Methodist Church**

# Rivercourt News

**June 2018**

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# **Happy to Help!**

**If you are interested in any items mentioned in the newsletter, want a confidential word, or have views that you would like to express, please contact any of the church trustees. The head of the trustees is**

**Rev. Paul Saunders**

**The trustees in alphabetic order are**

**Joan Bennett**

**Fiona Bignold**

**Vanessa Brackett**

**Juliana Goode**

**Monty Grigg**

**Steve Lawrence**

**Philip Nortey**

**Sigourney Quartey**

**Kwaku Tiekou**



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# Message from Our Minister

Dear Friends,

Many of you, like me, will have learned the story of Jonah and the whale as a child at Sunday School. (by the way it was actually a big fish, not a whale), but do you know much about the details of the story.

Where was Nineveh, and for that matter where was Tarshish?  
What happened after Jonah came out of the fish?  
What happened to the Ninevites?  
Was Jonah really a hero?

For the next four Sundays we will be looking at the story of Jonah as part of the National Bible Month, so to give yourself a head start, why don't you have a read of the book (it's not very long), and see what you think. What do we learn about God from the story, and what do we learn about ourselves? For a small book it has a lot to teach us.

On the final Sunday, we can have a chat over coffee after the service to see what we have learned, and perhaps answer some of those questions.

God Bless

Paul

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# Dates For Your Diary

June 2018						
Mo	Tu	W	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	01

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June., 7:15pm

Circuit Meeting at Askew Road

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> June

Methodist Home Sunday

Sat 16<sup>th</sup> June  
10.00am -2.00pm

Circuit Away Day at Wesley Chapel

Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> June

Circuit Leadership Meeting

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> June

Refugee / Sanctuary Sunday

For a list of London District Events in the near future go to the following web site:

<https://mailchi.mp/553c05c793d7/the-weekly-update-2134285?e=4ec8391ae4>

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## **Thank you:**

For all Lynda, Jacques and Len our behind the scenes Church staff who keep everything running smoothly.

Kwaku Tiekou, for always playing so beautifully for the service. Your energy and joyfulness is infectious.

## **Please pray for:**

Those for those affected by the terrible events in Syria. May they find a way towards peace.

The family and friends of all those Church members we have lost in recent years.



**Our prayers are with you  
all**

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# Church Away Day to...

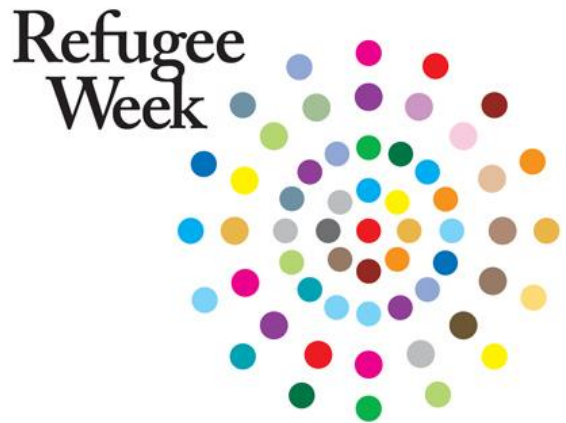


**Most years we go to a seaside resort on the south coast. How about in 2018. If you're intested, where would you like to go and when? Speak to a trustee if you're interested.**

**Target ticket prices will be  
£10 for adults  
£5 for children under 16 years**

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# Refugee/Sanctuary Sunday



## Guest post by Inderjit Bhogal, City of Sanctuary

The Sunday at the end of refugee Week is Sanctuary Sunday.

The first annual Sanctuary Sunday will be marked on 24th June 2018.

Refugee Week is working with City of Sanctuary and also Churches Together in Britain & Ireland to support this.

Churches of all denominations are especially invited and encouraged to mark the Sunday at the end of Refugee Week as Sanctuary Sunday annually.

Here are some ideas for action points:

- Invite and welcome refugees, with due faith sensitivities, to share in a gathering. This could include sharing worship, prayer, food, and listening to refugee speakers
- Use the document <http://refugeeweek.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/SANCTUARY-FOR-ALL-RESOURCE-2.pdf> prepared by Inderjit Bhogal for group study and discussion. The resource includes ideas for worship
- Consider becoming a Sanctuary Church. See page 44 in "Sanctuary for All" (see previous bullet point) to assist you  
You can search for Sanctuary Sunday events or upload yours (clicking the 'Sanctuary Sunday' tag) on the Refugee Week online calendar - <http://refugeeweek.org.uk/events/>

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# Poets Corner

## Peace

BY HENRY VAUGHAN

My Soul, there is a country  
Afar beyond the stars,  
Where stands a winged sentry  
All skillful in the wars;  
There, above noise and danger  
Sweet Peace sits, crown'd with smiles,  
And One born in a manger  
Commands the beauteous files.  
He is thy gracious friend  
And (O my Soul awake!)  
Did in pure love descend,  
To die here for thy sake.  
If thou canst get but thither,  
There grows the flow'r of peace,  
The rose that cannot wither,  
Thy fortress, and thy ease.  
Leave then thy foolish ranges,  
For none can thee secure,  
But One, who never changes,  
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

**Submitted by Margaret Ford**





**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade

## Plastics

There has been a lot in the news recently about plastics and plastic recycling. Traidcraft shares your concerns over the widespread use of plastics and their potential subsequent environmental impact. What is our stance on this?

On most Traidcraft and GEO branded products, we have signed up to the On-Pack Recycling Label (OPRL) system of labelling and identifying packaging material. OPRL is in widespread use across many industries. It delivers a simple consistent UK-wide recycling message.

In answer to some of your more specific queries:

- **PLASTIC PACKAGING WITH YOUR ORDER**

We use plastic pillows to keep your products free from breakage during shipping. We are constantly looking for cost-effective environmental alternatives. So far, we have not been able to source an alternative. Some of you will remember the white paper we previously used. This was the last few metres of paper from old newspaper reels. With the declining sales of newspapers (now that people get their news on the internet), these reels are no longer available.

- **PLASTIC FOOD PACKAGING**

Due to its moisture barrier properties, plastic does play a key role in keeping food safe and extending its shelf life. Rest

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assured that in developing or redeveloping any food product, we always look into what environmentally-friendly options are available. We then decide the best 'fit for purpose' substrate. However, because we are a relatively small organization, our volumes of packaging material are insufficient to enable a manufacturer to source a specific material solely for our use. The issues of economy of scale then limit our options. Despite all this we have been able to use compostable wraps on some of our Traidcraft "Eat Your Hat Range" rather than plastic.

- **PLASTIC CRAFT PACKAGING**

We are continually working with our producers or suitable alternatives to keep the crafts clean and safe from breaking. However, sometimes other packaging is not available in-country or alternatives are very expensive.

- **PLASTIC IN TEA BAGS**

The round or square teabags we use contain a small amount of plastic so they can be heat sealed around the edges once the tea is inserted. Currently, there isn't any industry alternative to this material. However, rest assured that as soon as there is a plastic-free option available, we will be using it for our teabags. Traidcraft has taken the decision not to move to biodegradable teabags. This is because the corn starch used is not guaranteed to come from GM free sources. Traidcraft has a GMO-free policy for all grocery products.

- **PLASTIC RECYCLING**

Some local councils are better at recycling plastics than others. For example, the wrapper around our toilet rolls is made from the same type of plastic as supermarket carrier bags. If local

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supermarkets have a point to recycle their bags, then the wrapper can be taken there. So in theory, the plastic is recyclable, but only where the facilities exist. If you live in a council where facilities do not exist, we ask you to directly lobby your own council to be more environmentally responsible.

In the coming months we are planning to develop a more formal statement about plastics. We will let you know when this will be available via our website – [www.traidcraft.org.uk](http://www.traidcraft.org.uk).

***Submitted by: Margaret Ford***

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## **A message from the editor**

As always thank you to all those who contribute to the items contained in the newsletter. Margaret Ford is a committed contributor to the newsletter so a massive thank you to her. If you would like to be involved in producing the newsletter from time to time or you wish to contribute to the newsletter please let Juliana know via any of the below mediums:

- via email including the word *newsletter* in the subject.
- written items can be placed in the Newsletter Wallet which is available in the Church Lounge.
- by speaking directly to Juliana following a Sunday service

**The deadline for the July/August bumper edition is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June.**

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## **Services in the coming period**

Sunday 3rd June., 11.00am Holy Communion; Preacher:  
Revd Paul Saunders

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June., 11.00am Preacher: Revd Paul Saunders

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June., 11.00am Preacher: Mr. Monty Grigg

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June., 11.00am Holy Communion; Preacher:  
Revd Paul Saunders

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July., 11.00am Preacher: Deacon Guy Austin-  
Bride