

We hope you all had a wonderful, fun and sun filled summer. Autumn blew in with gusto and it's time to reset into a new academic year. I for one am ready for cosy jumpers, hot chocolates and getting ready for Christmas! We don't slow down with the seasons though, there are still exciting events happening this term. Make sure to note the dates in you diary so you don't miss anything!

#### The Acts of the A-Puppets



During Sunday mornings the puppets will be returning as we continue our journey through Acts. We'll be looking deeper into the stories during our Junior Church sessions.

If your children would like to be involved in the puppet ministry, please speak to Alison or Justin to find a Sunday when they can be on the team. You would need to arrive at church for 9am to rehearse.

#### Synod Children's Day Saturday 11th October 10am-4:30pm



This is an event being relaunched this year alongside the Synod meeting. It's taking place at Avenue URC in Southampton 10am-4:30pm on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

A chance for 7 – 11-year-olds from our churches to come together have fun, make friends and explore faith. There are lots of tropical island themed activities planned to help the children explore who am I? and what am I called to do?

Next year this event will be held at our own church so it would be great to get a group to go along, see what it's all about and make some friends and connections in other URC's. If you are interested in your child attending please let me know by Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September (so this coming Sunday!) so that I can book spaces for your children.

Depending on numbers interested we may be able to provide transport to and from. Southampton is also, however, a lovely city to spend a day in with Views of the Solent, a good shopping centre and restaurants, the historic buildings, walls, and dockyard, The City Art Gallery and The SeaCity Museum.

#### Holiday Fun Club in OCTOBER Half-Term holiday

This October we are picking up another of the Holiday Club programmes designed by the United Reformed Church. The Clubhouse looks at books in the bible that look at how we can be inclusive and welcoming in our church but also in our life and how we find our place in the church and how God is calling us to work for him. It promises to be another fun, faith and fellowship filled three days and we're so excited to share it with you. More details and how to book to follow soon.



# CLUBHOUSE

Everyone's Welcome Come on

9:15am-

12:30pm

For children in school years Reception to year 6

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>— Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

£5 per day or £12 for all three days
Siblings £4 per day or £10 for all three days
wokingurc.org.uk

URC Holiday club resource Booking open 23<sup>rd</sup> September - 5<sup>th</sup> October

#### **Advent Calendars**

This advent you will all receive a gift of an advent calendar to use at home. This is the Advent Unpacked resources produced by the URC Children and Youth team and promises to be a wonderful way to mark the season of Advent with your family.



Unpack some Christmas traditions and the Christmas story one day at a time. This alternative Advent calendar is a beautiful box of postcard-sized cards – one for each day in Advent. The daily cards will include alternating images of things associated with Christmas and characters from the Christmas story, there are fun facts and activity ideas on the reverse. Designed to be reusable, displayed like bunting or in other ways, the box also includes a DIY nativity set.

Have you completed the annual consent form yet?

# **REGISTER NOW**

It's really important to have this information so that we can make sure the activities we are planning are safe and appropriate for the children attending regularly and that we have up to date permissions for photos, videos and providing first aid. If you haven't done it yet, and I have a list if you would like to check, please do so now by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.

Or scan the QR code





### Great Christian organisations for children and young people

## **Woking United Reformed Church**

Term starts again for Boy and Girls Brigade on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Girls aged four and boys aged five to boys and girls aged 11 meet from 5:30-7pm. We all currently meet together in one group.

The youth sections for children aged 11-17 meet from 7:15-9:15pm.

The Boys and Girls Brigade are the only uniformed organisation to have the Christian faith as it's centre and inspiration. Each half term through a variety of activities and themes we will look at what the bible can teach us. The Boy's Brigade also attend various events throughout the year to test different skills and meet with other company's in our area. Girls Brigade have an annual day out.

If you think you may be interested in Boys, or Girls, Brigade for your child you can come along on a Monday evening to see what it's all about and try out a session or speak to Alison or Boys' Brigade Captain Phil Ray or Girls' Brigade Captain Sue Loudon. We are also on the look out for leaders and helpers on a regular or occasional basis and if this is something you may be able to help with please speak to Alison, Sue or Phil.

There is a small charge for each term to cover costs of registration, supplies and resources.

Now onto the glittery stuff...



With just over 100 days to go and the autumnal weather drawing in I think it's officially time to start talking about Christmas! All the usual favourites for the festive period but some changes to expected dates and orders so keep your eyes and your Brussels sprouts peeled.

Sundays 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Making decorations in Junior Church
	With alternative activities for the non crafty types
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	First Sunday in Advent
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Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Decorating the church for Christmas
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Sunday service with Communion
	Rehearsing for Nativity
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Brigades Parade/Gift/ Christingle service with Junior Church
	Rehearsing for Nativity
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity rehearsal day
	Please note we will be working around The Contact Centre so this may be the morning or the late afternoon.
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Family Festival Service with Nativity

Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Eve Crib Service 3:30pm
	Followed by refreshments
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day service 10am

we look forward to celebrating christmas with all of you!

Blessings

Alison and the children's team