

LANCASHIRE DISTRICT NEWS 8

Chorley URC Raise money for St Cathrine's

The Revd Tom Carmichael ran the London Marathon this year to raise funds for St Catherine's Hospice in Preston and last month representatives' from St Catherine's Hospice came to the Chorley URC and were presented with a cheque for just over £2500.00 which was the result of sponsorship from over 300 people.

Tom is now saying goodbye and many thanks to the congregation and friends in Chorley as he prepares to take up a new ministerial role as the Minister of the Christ Church pastorate Port Sunlight in the Wirral District as from the 1st Sept this year.

Ministers swap churches and continents Sefton Rd URC Morecambe UK/ St Charles Congregational United Church of Church Chicago USA

Rev H Cornell & Rev Dr John Rodgers have recently been sharing an exchange of ministry. Helga has been at the Congregational United Churches of Christ, St Charles Illinois outside of Chicago for two months and John and his wife Susan have been at Sefton Road Morcambe. Helga has visited the Police station taking a plaque and a bobby's police hat presenting this to Commander Dave Kintz. She has also encouraged him to take part in one of the church services sharing his testimony of how his faith impacts his role as a police officer. Starting up prayers group, teddy bear praise and picnic and a pilgrimage walk as well as seeing the wild life, well racoons actually! has kept Helga pretty busy. John has been experiencing the joys of the Lake District, the Morecambe Bay walk, shrimps and the joys of an English congregation who have enjoyed having an American slant on their worship. Both John and Susan say they have really enjoyed their time at Sefton Rd.

This has been an amazing experience Helga states and one that I would encourage Ministers to consider. If anyone is interested in a exchange Helga has the name of a Pastor who would be delighted to exchange.

Clitheroe United Reformed Church Christian Music Ministries Musical-in-a-Day

**A Grain of Mustard Seed
by Roger Jones
Saturday 6th October**

Singers, Dancers, Instrumentalists of most ages and abilities who would like to participate should contact
Revd Norma Johnson 01200 442389

**Registration will be at 10.30am on the 6th
October followed by 3 rehearsal Workshops and
the actual performance at 6.00pm on the 6th
October**

Whilst entrance will be free donations will be welcomed to help defray costs

**Guide Cost of Day £5
to book**

contact Revd Norma Johnson tele 01200 442389

Blackpool Alexandra URC Ecumenical joint service

Whilst Alexandra URC is only a small congregation they have recently been celebrating by holding a joint ecumenical service with the Church of England Holy Trinity church which is close by. The Revd Canon Dick Cartmell, Vicar at Holy Trinity, and their evening congregation came to Alexandra for what has been described as lovely service followed by tea and biscuits and good Christian fellowship.

Alexandra's congregation are now looking forward and preparing for a reciprocal visit to Holy Trinity in the not too distant future.

Trinity Church Cottam Hall

The Revd Lena Talbot says Trinity is a very young church in two respects – it is only seven years old, being founded in 2000, also our worshipping congregation has an average age of 26 years because we have as many young people under twelve as we have adults. Also we do not have our own building we meet in other local buildings, but this does not stop us being totally involved in community work. In addition to weekly worship which includes a Saturday afternoon 'Sunday School,' we have the usual uniformed groups plus the following groups

Cottam Tots	for pre school children and carers
Deckhands	part of Pilots for 5-8 year olds
K.U. Kids Unit	a junior youth club, also part of Pilots for 8-11 year olds
7211	a senior youth club for school years 7 to 11
House Group	prayer and bible study for adults

Each one of these is involved in various projects e.g. 7211 are looking at forming links with a Waldensian Church in Italy over the summer. Our church activities have included: a Palm Sunday walk with a cross, followed by a short service when the cross was erected for Holy Week, an Easter egg hunt and afternoon tea. Our new Rose Queen – the first ever, who was crowned at our Garden Party in June. Following this we were delighted to be invited to Penwortham Gala where we won first prize for best visiting Rose Queen. We donated the cheque we received to The Preston Women's Refuge. We will be holding our second community bonfire in November (over 300 people attended last year) and also our third family Christmas Party, which will link in with our theme for this year 'Christmas around the world.'