



## **Hornsea United Reformed Church Newsletter May 2025**

**During May we will be looking at Hebrews, Chapter 11 for our Sunday Morning worship services.** The series will cover 4 weeks, as follows:

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May – by Faith: Assurance for things hoped for

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May- by Faith: Running Well (including Holy Communion)

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May -by Faith: Future Hope

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May- by Faith: Walking with God

Our services are 'live streamed' so that you can join us from home, and if you miss any of the services you can find them on our dedicated YouTube channel - just search Hornsea URC on YouTube to find us.



## **A Pastoral letter to us all: -**

Dear Friends,

It was a great joy to share some time with you on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you for the invitation and welcome.

I heard that you are a church that is excited to be on a journey. After a period in which you have set time aside to reflect on where you are and what your priorities should now be, you are now looking positively towards the future. You have shown real and faithful courage. Your Elders have provided you with good enabling leadership, and at the same time you continue to involve everyone in the life of the church.

You recognize the need to become more intentional in sharing your faith. You want to be a praying church. You want to be a serving church.

I am particularly encouraged to see how you are a church which is building deep and supportive relationship with other URCs in the Synod, sending out from Hornsea people to encourage the faith and worship life of other congregations. You also continue to be proactive in sustaining good ecumenical activity in Hornsea. This is a sign of the vibrancy of the church – it is often the first thing to go when a church feels under pressure. Keep it up!

You clearly have a vision for the mission of Hornsea United Reformed Church. Your building is transformed and is looking fantastic. You have not lost your desire to connect renewal of the building with renewal of the faith of the church. I encourage you to continue to seek out ways to express the good news of the Gospel in word and deed as you serve the community of Hornsea humbly and faithfully.

I pray that you will continue to use all that God has blessed you with in the service of the gospel.

Yours in Christ

Jamie Kissack

Synod Moderator

-----

## **Coming up in May-**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 2.00pm we will be holding a Memorial Service for all who would like to remember and reflect, on the life of a loved one. This will include time for Kenny. All are welcome to attend and if you would like your loved one's name to be named in the service please have a word with Steven.

**May 7<sup>th</sup>: Faith Talk: everyday evangelism in the URC** The next webinar, An Evening with Trey Hall, is at 7pm on Wednesday 7 May. Trey is the Director of Evangelism and Growth at the Methodist Church and will be helping us to grapple with the question: *Faith Talk and Church Growth: How does prayer make a difference?* Come and join us for a relaxed conversation praying and talking about our faith with others. Please email [mission@urc.org.uk](mailto:mission@urc.org.uk) for the link.

## **May 17<sup>th</sup>: Big Day Out at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park**

## **May 24<sup>th</sup>: Synod Forum**

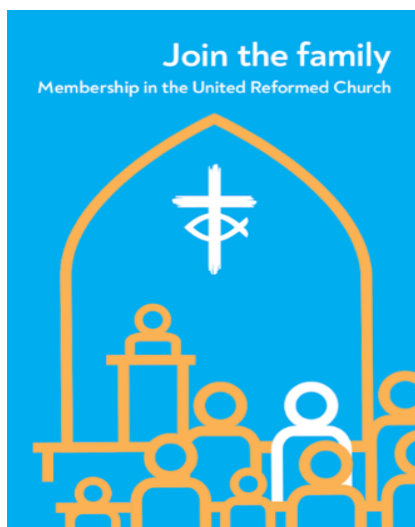
There is a Synod Forum being held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May at St. Ninian and St. Andrews Church in Hull, 10.30 a.m. to 1p.m. Drinks and cake will be provided, please bring a packed lunch. These forums are a chance to meet and chat together with Synod representatives and other URC members. Lifts can be arranged, have a chat with Margaret if you want more details.

## **May 28<sup>th</sup>: Bible Book Club**

Bible Book Club is back! During May we are reading the book of Hebrews, alongside our Sunday worship focus on Hebrews. We will meet on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30 p.m. in the Upper room (please use the front door), to chat and share our findings. All Welcome.

## **Coming up next month: -**

### **1<sup>st</sup> June- Church Meeting**



Are you considering becoming a member?  
Please ask for one of these leaflets and have a chat.


Also, please let us know if there is an item you wish to put on the agenda for this Church Meeting

### **8<sup>th</sup> June- Pentecost Praise**

**Sunday 8th June  
12:30-ish at the  
'Pollinate' Eco Garden  
(next to St Nicholas' Parish Hall)**

**Pentecost Picnic**

**Bring along your picnic and celebrate Pentecost  
with Christians from all the Churches of Hornsea.  
Tea and coffee will be provided.  
(Robust singing is compulsory if you want to sample the Smores!)**



*Organised by Christians Together in Hornsea*

**Introduction**

Hello everyone, this is the ninth 'E-mail prayer time' which has been initiated by Christians Together in Hornsea. This month we will focus on people who work in the emergency services.

*Margaret G Preece*

Week 1: RNLI, Inshore Rescue, NCI

**Mark 4: 35-41 (NIV)**

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'

They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!'

**SUGGESTED PRAYER**

Let us give thanks to God for the work of the RNLI in Bridlington, Hornsea Inshore Rescue, and Hornsea National Coastwatch Institution. We give thanks for their vision, for those who have maintained their mission; and for every life saved.

Let us give thanks to God for all who volunteer today in teams all around our coasts; for their resilience, skill, and courage in the face of danger; for all who risk themselves to save the lives of others.

Let us give thanks to God for all who support the frontline work; for every donation, and for all who maintain the lifeboats, lifeguard equipment, and stations; for their generosity and commitment.

Let us pray for all who set out to sea for pleasure or out of necessity; for their preparedness and understanding; for all that can reduce their risk. Amen.

*(Adapted from A Thanksgiving Service on the 200th anniversary of the RNLI)*

**You might like to pray for our streets beginning with the letter 'E'**

Eastbourne Road

Edenfield Avenue

Esplanade

Eastgate

Edenfield Estate

Eastgate View

Edenfield Villas

Ebor Avenue

Elvaston Avenue

## Funding lifeline for Yorkshire's churches – your chance to play a part.

The Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust provides funds for repairs and maintenance to churches, chapels, and meeting houses of all Christian denominations across the region.

Since its inception in 1988, the Trust has awarded almost £3m to more than 750 churches, including Hornsea URC for minor repairs through to much larger schemes, such as large-scale re-pointing of stonework, and complete roof replacements.



We rely on the generosity of our friends and donors to ensure we can continue to award grants to help preserve and restore our counties' much-loved places of worship. Being a friend of the Trust means you care about the historic fabric of the landscapes and townscapes of Yorkshire. It means you can play your part in ensuring that there is a body of people to help those churches in need of financial assistance to keep out the wind and the rain.

For just £35 a year, you will receive regular e- newsletters and invitations to attend a range of architectural tours and lectures. Most importantly, you will be joining a group of people who share your love of Yorkshire's churches. For further details on our work and to download an application form, please visit our website at [www.yhct.org.uk](http://www.yhct.org.uk), email [generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@yhct.org.uk), or call Vanessa White on 07786 656883.

---

## Mysteries

Truly we live with mysteries too marvellous to be understood.  
How grass can be nourishing in the mouths of lambs.  
How rivers and stones are forever in allegiance with gravity  
while we ourselves dream of rising.  
How two hands touch and the bonds will never be broken.  
How people come, from delight or the scars of damage,  
to the comfort of a poem.  
Let me keep my distance, always, from those  
who think they have the answers.  
Let me keep company always with those who say  
“Look!” and laugh in astonishment,  
and bow their heads.

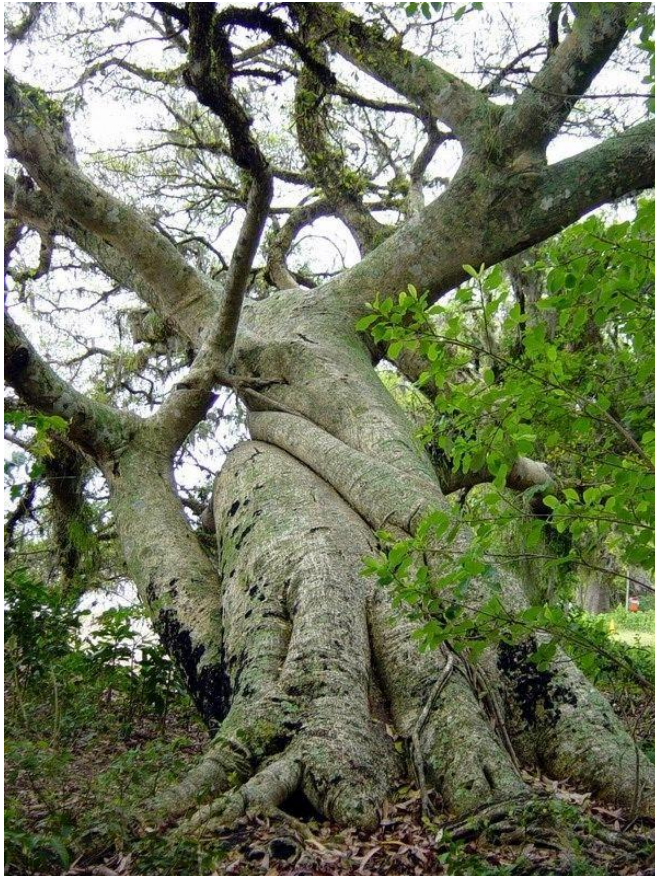
by Mary Oliver

## Listening to Nature's Sermons

Margaret writes-

This is an extract from Father Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations which I use as part of my 'quiet time' in a morning.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, he described how nature reflects and reveals the wisdom and presence of



the Divine: *In the backyard of our Centre for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, a massive 150-year-old Rio Grande cottonwood tree spreads its gnarled limbs over the lawn. An arborist once told us that the tree might have a mutation that causes the huge trunks to make such circuitous turns and twists. One wonders how it stands so firmly, yet the cottonwood is easily the finest work of art that we have at the Centre, and its asymmetrical beauty makes it a perfect specimen for one of our organization's core messages: Divine perfection is precisely the ability to include what seems like imperfection. Before we come inside to pray, work, or teach any theology, its giant presence has already spoken a silent sermon over us.*

*Have you ever had an encounter like this in nature? Perhaps for you, it occurred at a lake or by the seashore, hiking in the mountains, in a garden listening to a mourning dove, even at a busy street*

*corner. I am convinced that when received, such innate theology grows us, expands us, and enlightens us almost effortlessly. All other God talk seems artificial and heady in comparison.*

*Indigenous religions largely understand this, as do the Scriptures (see Psalms 98, 104, 148, or Daniel 3:57–82 [1]). In Job 12:7–10, and most of Job 38–39, YHWH praises strange animals and elements for their inherently available wisdom—the “pent up sea,” the “wild ass,” the “ostrich’s wing”—reminding humans that we’re part of a much greater ecosystem, which offers lessons in all directions.*

*God is not bound by the human presumption that we are the centre of everything, and creation did not actually demand or need Jesus (or us, for that matter) to confer additional sacredness upon it. From the first moment, nature was revealing the glory and goodness of the Divine Presence. Jesus came to live in its midst, and enjoy life in all its natural variations, and thus be our model and exemplar. Jesus is the gift that honoured the gift, we might say.*

Let's make the most of this exceptional weather, to stop and stare and listen to the wonders of nature all around us, to soak in the very presence of God and be refreshed by His Spirit.

Truly moments to treasure and a gift to nurture and cherish.