



St Andrew's
Roundhay

February 2025



The
**United
Reformed
Church**



Hello Readers!

Don't you just love the image on the front cover? Turn to page 8 to find out what it is all about. What an amazing journey Jo is embarking on, she could be half way up the mountain as you read this. I'm sure she will tell us all about it in a future magazine.

February is almost upon us (as I write this) and I wonder where January went. The first signs of spring are here with some snowdrops peeping through the cold earth, dare we dream that winter will break into the glorious sunshine of spring soon? I ponder on the awesomeness of creation, of our beautiful world, but I can't think of that without also thinking about climate change and other environmental issues. Ever heard of a 'Circular Environment'? Anne tells us about it in our PEOT section on page 14

As always the deadline for submissions to the March Magazine is 20 February. Why not send me the article you have been wanting to write?

Claire xx

Magazine Editor

Table of Contents			
3	Minister's Letter	13	Worship Dates
4	News of the Church Family	14	POET
6	World Day of Prayer	17	Poetry Corner
8	Jo Mary's Tanzania Adventure	18	Let's Celebrate Neil Parfitt
12	What's On	20	From the Editor's Desk

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of St Andrew's magazine. Articles and items are welcome anytime but the deadline for contributions to the March magazine is 20 February please. Articles may be emailed to magazine@standrews.cc.

For handwritten or typed articles please contact the Editor (Claire Westgarth) - details in the directory.

All information correct at time of publication

For Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2025, which also marked the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the Council of Christians and Jews invited all people to approach God in prayer to remember the victims of genocides around the world. Psalm 19 is one in which God is made known through creation and through God's own self-revelation in the law for his people. Dietrich Bonhoeffer (German Lutheran Pastor and profound theologian, imprisoned because of his outspokenness against Hitler, his opposition to the genocide of the Jewish people, and who was executed near the close of the war) says that in this psalm we find the law of God worthy of praise:

'It is grace to know God's commands. They release us from self-made plans and conflicts. They make our steps certain and our way joyful.

God gives his commands in order that we may fulfil them, and "his commandments are not burdensome" (1John 5.3) for those who have found all salvation in Jesus Christ.'

One week earlier, on Monday 20 January, Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 47th president of the USA, immediately setting out his manifesto. On same day, in a service held at the Washington National Cathedral, the Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde asked President Trump to show "mercy" as he took up office. She talked of feelings of fear among LGBT and immigrant communities. It was awkward moment to watch the president and his deputy as the bishop addressed them. Jesus' inaugural public speech in Nazareth (Luke 4.14-21) stands in stark contrast to that of the incoming USA President. The best manifesto for any leader is contained in Jesus words from Isaiah (quoting Isaiah 61.1-2; 58.6), in his first speech in his home town, so often labelled as his '**Nazareth Manifesto**':

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to release the prisoners, heal the blind so they can see again, and set the oppressed free. He has sent me to tell everyone that the year of the Lord's favour is here.'

We are called to join in with Jesus' mission to share his good news with all people. Peace be with you. Tim.

a prayer [from the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust]

Through our prayers and actions help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil. Amen.



News of our church family

Congratulations to:

Margaret Squires on the birth of a great grandson, Harrison, who was born on 5 January to Richard and Karen. He is a little brother for Toby.

Katie Lambert one of our Brownie Leaders was part of the support team who won a Workforce Team of The Year award at the Nursing Times workforce awards in early December. The team won an award for delivering and recruiting staff new to care from all backgrounds to come to work at Leeds teaching hospitals as health care assistants

Unwell in recent weeks/ recovering at home:

Mick Brown, Charlotte Clarke, Sarah Clarke, Jeremy Freeman, Paula Hayes, Margaret Jowett, Barbara Mary, Carol Parfitt, Mike Rowe and Veronica Hood

Sadly missed:

Jane Bunyan's father Stephen
Patricia Inch
Sandy Sutherland
Adam Caschetto's father
Beverley Gilbert's mother

Dear Lord,

A new year - for some not something to celebrate; for others, the impetus to start something new, give something up. It really does not matter, but what does matter is that we appreciate each day that dawns, that we give thanks for the many blessings you shower on us Lord (that we so often take for granted).

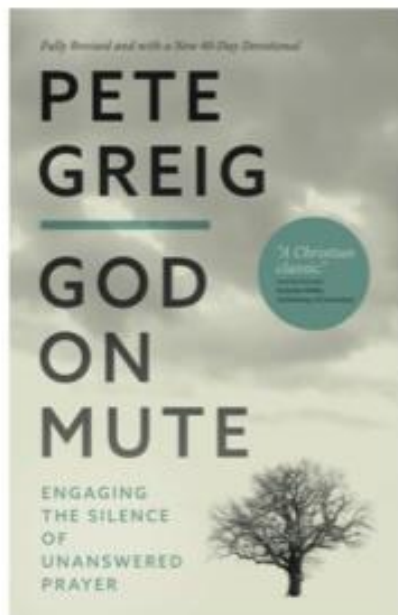
Give us thankful hearts we pray.

Amen

Correct as at 20 January



LEEDS URC PARTNERSHIP LENT COURSE



A 5 week course
exploring the
themes of Holy
Week and how
prayer can help
us process life's
hardest
questions.

Beginning on:

Tuesday 11 March, 10:30am, URC in South
Leeds, Dewsbury Road, LS11 5HR

Tuesday 11 March, 7:30pm, St Edmund's
Roundhay, Lidgett Park Road LS8 1JN

Wednesday 12 March, 7:30pm, Zoom,
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7019277749>

For more information, email:
revnicola.robinson@gmail.com



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7th March 2025

Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action

"I made you wonderful" - this verse is the theme of the World Day of Prayer service which has been prepared by Christian women in The Cook Islands. These words come from Psalm 139.

An interesting feature about life in the Cook Islands is that Sunday is a special day. With an importance of Sunday as a REAL day of worship, time for family and rest! The shops are closed and so are the golf clubs. This also extends to visitors to the islands. In the main tourist magazine, it states boldly and clearly that on Sundays you are expected to be in church and with your family.



These are the 2 ladies who designed the front cover graphic of the service booklet. They are a mother-daughter artist team from the Cook Islands.

Flowers and colour feature a lot in the Cook Islands. If you come to the service at St Andrew's you can also put a flower in your hair (not as many as the ladies in the picture of course!)

There are several services being held in churches in and around Leeds on Friday 7 March:

St Anne's Cathedral	1.30 pm
Oakwood Church	3.15 pm
Leeds Minster	6 pm
St Andrew's Roundhay	6.30 pm

Refreshments will be served at the end of the services.

Put the date in your diary and be part of a wonderful wave of prayer which encircles the globe on 7 March by attending one of the services listed above.

We thank you Lord, that you made us in your image and likeness and your word declares that we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

May we always rejoice in knowing how much you love and care for us.

You can find out more about the World Day of Prayer at www.wwdp.org.uk

Sheana Dudley

St Andrew's World Day of Prayer Representative

'On Monday 3 February 2025, I will begin climbing the mighty Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa, to raise money for three projects that provide safety, education and support for some of the world's most disadvantaged children in Tanzania and Uganda!'



I have always been drawn to mountains. They are so spectacular and majestic. The nearest I have ever got to climbing a mountain like Kilimanjaro was when I climbed to the top of Mount Sinai. Getting to the top of somewhere like that made me feel so free and that I had achieved something. The views were so magnificent and peaceful as I watched the sun rise after the darkness and hardship of climbing through the night. I took that feeling with me and used it so much as I went about my daily life when I returned home.

This time I am pushing my own limits and realising my dream of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. This is a personal challenge because I am not particularly sporty or fit at all!! I am also doing it to help make a difference to the very difficult lives that the children in the projects I am raising money for have been through.

I visited Tanzania for the first time in 2008 on a holiday. Even though I have worked with vulnerable and excluded people in our society as a psychologist in the UK (for nearly 30 years now), seeing the reality of the poverty and the differences between rich and poor in Africa was really hard hitting, and I vowed to myself that I would return there one day. In the years that followed, watching people on the TV climb Mount Kilimanjaro for charity got me thinking that I would love to climb that particular mountain one day.

So when I heard that one of my favourite charities 'Last Night a DJ Saved my Life' (LNADJ for short) were organising a group of nearly fifty people to do a charity climb of Mount Kilimanjaro, I jumped at the chance to be one of those people!

Because of my own love of music, and of children, I love that one of the charity's main focuses is on using music and creativity to help disadvantaged children learn and develop skills, independence, self sufficiency and aspirations for the future. Their mission statement is, in fact, 'Building Hope Through Music', which feels very close to my heart.

As the months have progressed, since I first signed up for the climb, and I have been finding out more and more about the projects we are raising money for, I have felt an ever growing strong feeling that I should be doing this. Despite also learning how much of a challenge this actually will be - in all kinds of ways - physically, mentally and spiritually. I am pleased to say, therefore, that before we start the climb, we will be visiting two of the projects, which are near to Kilimanjaro, so that we can understand even more, first hand, what the money we have raised will be used for.

Two of the projects I am supporting are connected to a charity called The Creator Share Foundation. The charity's founder, who comes from the UK, had a calling from God to go to Tanzania, which he did. There he met his wife and, in the years that followed, they built homes for children with special needs and for street involved boys near the base of Mount Kilimanjaro.

In Tanzania, children with special needs are incredibly vulnerable. There are no systems in place to support these children or their mums, who are often abandoned by their child's father because of attitudes towards disability. In addition to this, many children with special needs in Tanzania get exploited or abused.



The first project I am raising money for is to help the Creator Share Foundation build homes for single mums and their special needs children so that they can grow a supportive and safe village to live in.

The second project I am raising money for is to help the same charity provide musical and creative equipment and resources at the home they have built for boys who spent time growing up on the streets with no-one to parent or look after them. Learning through music and creativity gives them choices outside of traditional educational formats, which they find challenging because of their adverse life experiences.

The third project I am supporting was created by an organisation called The Tribe Experience, who are organising the actual climb up Kilimanjaro. Their project involves setting up schools and educational opportunities for children in Uganda.

I feel proud to be supporting all of the people involved in these charities and projects, because they are all passionate about what they do and why they are doing it. The people behind LNADJ have, over the years, also got a few famous faces from the music industry to champion their causes and in some cases volunteer and get involved in helping the children themselves (e.g., Fat Boy Slim and Carl Cox)!



I am writing this less than two weeks away from when I will actually be in Kilimanjaro and I am feeling a mixture of so many emotions including excitement and fear!

Preparing for this event has been quite an endeavour with lots of highs and lows along the way. Each day of the climb, we will be walking several miles and camping in tents at night with very basic provisions. On summit night, which is on 8 February 2025, we will walk during the night to reach the top by sunrise and then make our descent down. On that night / day, we will be on our feet and walking in very cold conditions with low oxygen for 13 to 16 hours!

Thankfully, I have loads of enthusiasm and determination!

If you would like to make a donation to my charity climb, you can click on the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/watchvyewsn-lkcem#supportersList>



Or just scan this QR code with your phone to be taken to the link:

Anything you can give will be very gratefully received and it will go straight to the projects I am raising money for directly after you make the donation.

I will let you know how I get on in the next edition of the magazine!

Jo Mary



29 March	Family Fun Day
3 April	online Phalz meeting
13 April	Palm Sunday
18 April	Good Friday
20 April	Easter Day
14 June	Messy Church
28 June	Family Fun Day
12 July	Messy Church
July	Leeds Youth Opera (to be confirmed)

For more information on any of these events please email
info@standrews.cc

Worship Dates

February

Sunday 2	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Rev Tim Lowe
Saturday 8	3.30-5.30	Messy Church	
Sunday 9	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Dr Rosalind Selby
	6.30pm	Evening Reflective service	Rev Tim Lowe
Sunday 16	10.30am	Family Worship	Mark Grant
Sunday 23	10.30am	Cafe Style Worship	
	6.30pm	Ecumenical Evening Service	
			at St Andrew's

March

Sunday 2	10.30am	Family Worship & Holy Communion	Rev Tim Lowe
Saturday 8	3.30-5.30	Messy Church	
Sunday 9	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Dr Rosalind Selby
Sunday 16	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Tim Lowe
Sunday 23	10.30am	Family Worship	Sheila Telfer
Sunday 30	10.30am	Cafe Style Worship	
	6.30pm	Ecumenical Evening Service	
			At Lidgett Park Methodist Church



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

A school quiz and the girls were given the initials - DN and the clue 'a sharp pointed implement used for mending socks'. No response. None of the girls had ever heard of a Darning Needle.

The World Economic Forum states, "The way we live now is using 60% more resources than the Earth can provide and is creating too much waste. Switching to a Circular Economy is widely considered to be the way forward"

With a Circular Economy products and materials are kept in circulation through maintenance, reuse, refurbishment, remanufacture, recycling and composting.

A Circular Economy tackles issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, waste and pollution by decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources.

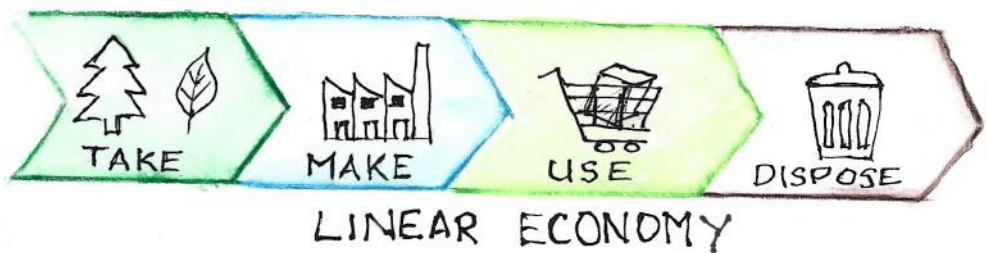
A Circular Economy is based on 3 principles, all driven by DESIGN-

ELIMINATE waste and pollution
CIRCULATE products and materials
REGENERATE nature

Our current economy is Linear - Take- Make-Use-Waste

We take materials from the Earth, make products from them, then eventually throw them away as waste.

Planned obsolescence has been, and still often is, the accepted norm, designed to accelerate consumption. This obviously creates excessive waste.



It is questionable, as to how aware businesses are of the benefits and financial opportunities that a circular economy can bring. The environmental benefits are quite obvious and there are groups like the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Universities suggesting initiatives for viable business ventures as well as being environmentally beneficial. It is a fact that designing efficient and sustainable products reduces consumption of both energy and resources -80% of a product's environmental impact is determined during the design phase.

A coordinated effort between Governments, manufacturers, businesses and individuals will be required to switch from a Linear to a Circular Economy.

In July 2020 the Circular Economy Package (CEP) policy statement was published under the 2019-2022 Johnson Government. Maybe that's why we've heard nothing since.

In January 2024 the EU Taxonomy Regulation's Environmental Act took effect, with the transition to a circular economy as one of its 6 objectives. Hopeful?

Businesses are showing a trend towards a circular economy by leaning towards repairs and servicing. IKEA has a Buyback and Resell Service. One company has developed packing material from mushroom roots which can be composted and which replaces polystyrene packaging. Universities including the University of Leeds are running Repair Cafes.

As individuals we can seek out and support enterprises such as these, as well as darning our socks, using charity shops and maybe providing employment by buying milk delivered in recycled glass bottles. And of course much more.

Anne Hardiman



MY MOON

It's a humble, hidden kind of warmth like the pulsing glow
of embers, constant as our hearts beat, not putting on a show.

It's in my peripheral, a subtle reminder that it's okay,
that I'm supported and looked after if I'm ever led astray.

A home's foundation, a quiet kind word or the golden plate
that holds together the compass as I begin to navigate
the pitches and bucks of a world brand new.

I know that I am safe because I know I have you.

It's a love like a supporter at an MMA fight;
no, not the coach or a rowdy drunken plight,
but him, sat at the back being there since Day One,
who's watched me sock and jab life's assaults and somehow always
won.

I could say you're the wind that holds up my wings,
or a guiding light of sunshine and all the bravado that brings,
but you don't need that brazen, glaring kind of sign,
you're more like my moon who doesn't need to be seen to shine.

Thank you, Grandpa,

Ellie

Ellie wrote this for her Grandpa, Sandy Sutherland when she was
about 15



I was born in Fulwood near Preston in LANCASHIRE on 27 March 1937. I was baptised Henry Neil Parfitt at Lancaster Road Congregational Church in Preston. My father was a Local Government Officer and was exempt from being called up to serve in the War. He was transferred to London and we arrived there just in time for Hitler's V Weapons.

I had won a state scholarship to Latymer Upper School which was a non residential private school. It was there where my interest in Athletics began and I was in the school team for my last three years there. I became a Cub Scout and progressed to be a Scout, Senior Scout, Queen's Scout and Rover Scout.

I was from a church going family and I represented my Church on the District Church Youth Council and for them at the London Congregational Union Youth Council.

From school I moved on to study Dentistry at Guy's Hospital and graduated in 1962. I embarked upon the ladder of training in Oral Surgery in several different hospitals. Whilst I was on a Post Graduate Course at the Royal College of Surgeons of England I met Carol who was the personal secretary to the Professor of Physiology. I moved to Bristol to take up a post at the University Dental Hospital. Carol and I married in 1966 and we moved to Leeds in 1968 where I took up a permanent post at the University Dental Hospital and the Leeds General Infirmary. This move coincided with the arrival of Revd Eric Allen to St Andrew's, then known as Roundhay Congregational Church.

In addition to my job I took an interest in Radiology and became a member of the British Society of Dental and Maxillo Facial Radiology and for some years was the secretary.

I took early retirement from the Dental Hospital and was fortunate enough to be asked to become the voluntary Administrator at the Leeds University Chaplaincy which I did for five years and greatly enjoyed. I am also a member of The Rotary Club of Leeds and have been actively involved in its work for overseas charities.



Carol and I transferred our membership to St Andrew's in 1969. I was appointed to the Every Person Challenge (EPC) committee and soon after became a Deacon, now called Elder after the union of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches in 1972. In 1979 I became Group Scout Leader of 11th Northvale Scout Group based at St Andrew's until 2002.

I was the first person at church to operate our first, somewhat primitive, sound system.

I was involved in the establishment of Roundhay Council of Churches (now Churches Together in Roundhay) and was the secretary for a number of years.

In Bristol occasionally, when work permitted, we attended several churches and were disappointed that no one welcomed us and I decided that if I was involved in a church I would make sure that newcomers were welcomed and this I think I have achieved.

For many years Carol and I have taken a major part in the Partnership with Frankenthal in Germany. With the help of Eric Allen we were able to establish a Partnership between the churches of the Leeds District with churches in the Potsdam area in the former East Germany before the Wall came down.

It has been a great privilege for Carol and I and our daughters to be involved in such an active church as St Andrew's.



Neil Parfitt BDS. FDS RCS ENGLAND.



Dear Friends

I have received so many truly comforting messages after the sudden and shocking death of Sandy that I hope this message in our church magazine can convey to all, my grateful thanks. After a few days at home, I could think of no better place to be than with the people of St Andrew's, as without doubt, St Andrew's has been my second home since we came to live in Leeds in 1971.

Thank you everyone for your words of sympathy but most of all thank you for your prayers and caring comfort. In the words of a prayer, I found in the 2024 Prayer Handbook which I have read each day, "Give me faith for the future as I face changes in my life....." and with you all beside me "I pray for the grace to cherish where I am now".

Diana Sutherland



On Thursday, 3 April 2025, 7.00 to 8.30 pm we will be holding an online meeting of all those involved in partner churches with the Pfalz. Our good friend Martin Henninger will join us alongside members of

URC Mission Staff. The aim is to share news and ideas concerning the Pfalz partnership. Please reserve the date in your diaries. More details to follow next year.



Our Christmas
appeal raised
£12,300!!!! after gift aid

Katie Lambert, one of our Brownie Leaders, at the Nursing Times Workforce Awards where her team won Workforce Team of The Year.



Soup Lunch for Christian Aid

Wednesday 19 February 12 - 2 in the
Sanctuary

Soup, Cakes and refreshments

Do come and help raise money for a great
cause!



Weekly Zoom Prayer Times

Tuesday Prayer Time:

7pm for 7.15pm

Meeting ID: 889 2560 5594

Passcode: 795269

Thursday Time with God:

9.15am for 9.30am

Meeting ID: 890 2016 7098

Passcode: 307533



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ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES	info@standrews.cc

Regular Worship

Sunday Worship	Sunday 10.30
Messy Church	2nd Saturday of the month 15.30
Evening Service	2nd Sunday of the month 18.30
Communion	1st Sunday of the month 10.30
Prayer Time	Tuesday 19.00 for 19.15 (zoom)
Time with God	Thursday 9.15 for 9.30 (zoom)
Bible Reflections	2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 14.00

Other Church Activities

Badminton	Monday 9.30 and Thursday 19.30
Stage Crew	Monday 13.30
RoCo	Monday 19.30 and Thursday 19.30
Junior RoCo	Monday 18.00
Toddlers	Tuesday 10.00
Forget-Me-Not Cafe	1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 12.30
Clocktower	
Community Cafe	Wednesday 10.00
Table Tennis	Wednesday 13.30
Twins and Multiples	1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 10.00
Indoor Bowls	Thursday 13.00
Roundhay Singers	Thursday 19.30
Knit and Natter	2nd Saturday of the month 15.00

Girlguiding

Rainbows (age 4-7)	Monday 18.15; Tuesday 17.00; Wednesday 17.00 and Thursday 17.00
Brownies (age 7-10)	Tuesday 18.15 and Thursday 18.10
Guides (age 10-14)	Monday 19.30 and Tuesday 19.30
Rangers (age 14-18)	Tuesday 19.30

Scouting

Beavers (age 6-8)	Tuesday 18.00
Cubs (age 8-10)	Tuesday 19.15
Scouts (age 10-14)	Friday 19.15
Explorers (age 14-18)	Thursday 19.30

Views expressed by groups and individuals in this magazine are personal and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the United Reformed Church, St Andrew's Roundhay United Reformed Church, or any member of the editorial team.