



## What we believe

We are a mainstream Christian Congregation. Our faith and our worship while rooted in tradition, aims to be living and relevant to today's world with its varied issues and challenges. We believe in God revealed supremely in Jesus Christ; we treasure the inspired writings of the Bible and the work of the Holy Spirit in empowering our lives as Christian people. We do not regularly recite creeds but we affirm broad statements of faith and church order, following the Christian liturgical calendar but not normally following set forms of worship. We respect the conscience of the individual believer in our search for God together. Local decisions about our Church are made by the Elders, and at quarterly church meetings by those who worship regularly.



**We meet for worship  
every Sunday at 6.30pm**

Holy Communion second Sunday each month  
Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement  
with our Minister

The Chapel premises are available for hire  
contact the Secretary

### Contacts

#### Secretary

Anthony Percival  
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#### Minister

The Rev'd Kenneth M Forbes  
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# The United Reformed Church in Chappel



**The Chapel on Rose Green**  
(Colchester Road - A1124)

**Open to God  
Open to each other  
Open to the community**

## Welcome ...

The URC in Chappel is a place where you will find a warm welcome and a heritage of Protestant Reformed Church worship. A place of friendship where tradition and new ideas mix, a place where all may find something to strengthen and refresh their lives

## ... A place for you

## How we began

The roots of the United Reformed Church in Chappel, one of hundreds of similar churches across the country, are in the 16th century English Church Reformation. Some Christians, later known as Independents or Congregationalists, wanted to reform the Church in England. Their numbers



were greatly increased after 1662 by following clergy who were ejected from their Anglican churches for refusing to conform to the Act of Uniformity for worship.

## Our kind of church

Nonconformist congregations grew all over the country, despite persecution. It was not until 1830 that nonconformists had won recognition and could enter the professions and the universities and gain their civil liberty. They became known for their preaching and action in support of people's welfare, education and civil liberties.

## Nine local christians

Chappel's Independent Congregation began as recently as 1901, when nine local people met to start a Free Church in the village and rented and converted a former builder's storeroom, which was later bought, and extended. Worship and fellowship has continued on Rose Green ever since and the Chapel has in the past held a flourishing Sunday school, a youth group, and women's and prayer groups. The premises were completely refurbished for the Centenary in 2001.

## Part of a worldwide fellowship

Since 1972, Chappel Congregational Church has been part of the United Reformed Church, a coming together of Congregational, English Presbyterian and the former denomination known as the Churches of Christ in a scheme of union in England and Wales. Subsequently some Congregational Churches in Scotland became part of the United Reformed Church. The URC is part of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

We here are linked with Lion Walk and Christ Church United Reformed Churches, Colchester, through the oversight of the Minister.

We meet for worship every Sunday at 6.30pm, and celebrate Holy Communion monthly. Our worship style is traditional. 'Coffee and Chat' and Bible Study are also held monthly.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement with the Minister. We play an active part in the life of the village and community. We aim to be a welcoming, accepting and inclusive fellowship of people.

## Our music

The Chapel has a fine small pipe organ, registered as of national historical importance, and is known locally for the quality of its music and enthusiastic hymn-singing.



## Our hope

It is our hope that all who come will find friendliness and openness, and something of the love, peace and presence of God