

## 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 the 19th century 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

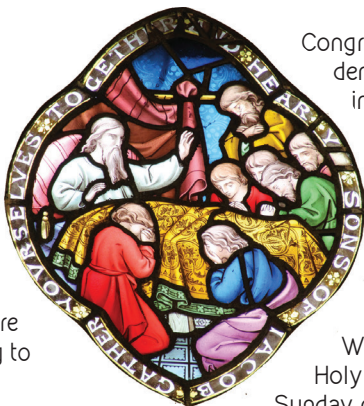
Chappel's Independent Congregation began as recently as 1901, when nine local people met to start a Free Church in the village and rented and converted a former builder's storeroom, which was later bought, and extended. Worship and fellowship has continued on Rose Green ever since and the Chapel has 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

## 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



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.

Our Church is being linked with three other churches in sharing a mininster.

We meet for worship on Sundays at 6.30pm with Holy Communion being celebrated on the second Sunday of the month. Our worship style is traditional. Other activities include a monthly Saturday 'Coffee and Chat' and a quarterly social event.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals by arrangement with the Church Secretary. 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, with it's fine small pipe organ registered as of national historical importance, is known locally for the quality of its music and the congregations' enthusiastic hymn-singing.







## 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

For baptisms, weddings and funerals please contact the Church Secretary

The Chapel premises are available for hire contact the Secretary

## Contacts

**Secretary** Anthony Percival  
t 01206 240442  
e arpchapel@btinternet.com

**Minister**  
Vacant



## 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 traditional and new ideas mix, a place where all may find something to strengthen and refresh their lives

*A place for you . . .*