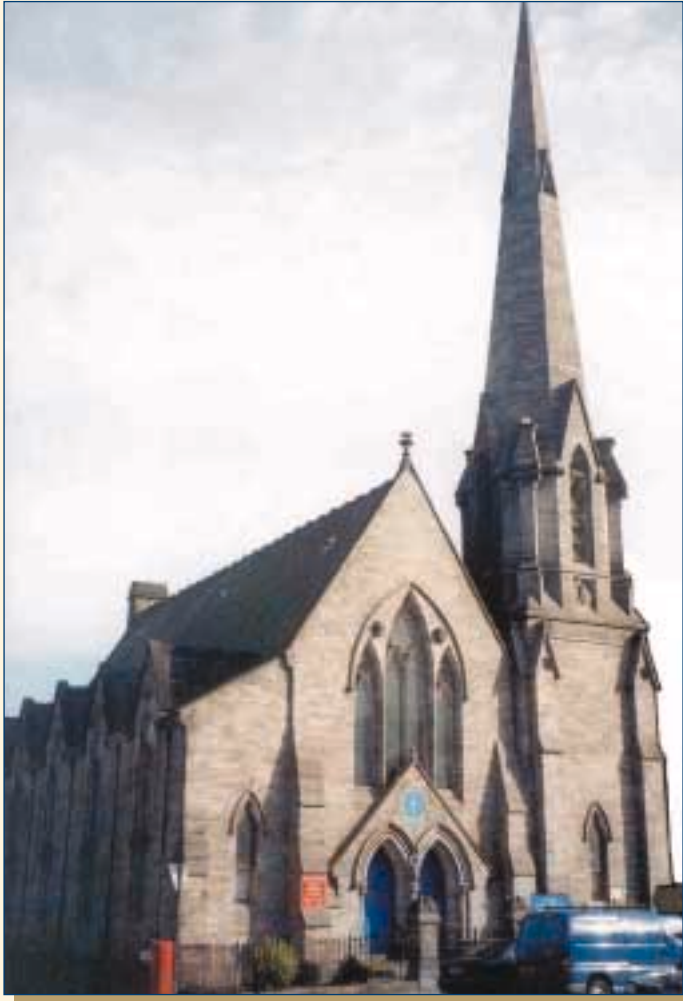


### *Church Prospectus*



The United Reformed Church located in Northgate, Darlington. Located close to the bustling town centre, the Church is a well-maintained building. The stonework was cleaned in 1999 revealing attractive patterns hidden for more than a century.

The congregation varies between averages 80 – 90 at Sunday morning worship which commences at 10.45 a.m. Communion is celebrated monthly and there are PIPS (praise inspiration and prayer) services too.



The Church has a vibrant musical life including a choir and orchestra. The Church Orchestra works closely with membership led worship teams to deliver services in the Church and in neighbouring Churches.



THIS PROSPECTUS IS A SUMMARY OF THE UNITED REFORMED C



Chesnut Street Hall below the main Church building offers comfortable meeting rooms, a venue for social events and music practices, meeting place for the Junior Church, accommodation for uniformed organisations and a crèche



Whether it is for an opportunity to catch up with others, to sit and have a moment's rest, or to compare diaries about catering arrangements coffee time after morning worship offers an extended time of fellowship.

The Guides, Brownies and Rainbows link with the church through use of the premises and parade services

Our Junior Church comprises about 30 children and young people although numbers attending vary a weekly basis. Junior church leads worship on occasion during the year.



The EMMAUS Bible study course is popular with around 50 members and adherents attending the regular courses.

There is an active social life – this barbeque is at the end of a church treasure hunt.



# SPRINGFIELD CHURCH CENTRE

CHURCH IN DARLINGTON, ITS MISSION, PEOPLE AND BUILDINGS.

## PROFILE

- A gathered town centre church with a membership of over 150 and an average weekly congregation of 80-90 and 18 serving elders.
- An active congregation with many strengths
  - Pastoral care (through an active programme of visiting and support).
  - Spiritual growth (half the congregation are involved in an Emmaus bible study programme)
  - Music (the Northgate Orchestra is renowned and has taken music to many places.
  - Worship teams (developed over many years and capable of taking worship to other churches).
  - An ongoing variety of youth activities (uniformed organisations, junior church, etc)
  - Activities designed to engage the membership (fundraising, women's groups, etc)
  - Many members are individually active in a variety of mission activities (Cruse, Crossroads, CVS, Town Mission, talking newspaper, etc).
- Part of "Town Centre Churches" and "Churches Together in Darlington".
- Significant building works completed in the last 10 years (Spire repair, stonework cleaned, interior cleaned & redecorated, organ overhauled).
- Springfield Church Centre is an under-exploited mission opportunity in the north of the town, however the building is a key centre for social activity in the area.

The URC in Darlington has previously seen its mission as building up the faith and strength of its membership. In addition we have recently started new work which the Church linked to the five Marks of Mission.



Despite the occasional snowfall, the small but dedicated congregation offer a warm welcome to newcomers.



Springfield Church Centre is located in the northern part of Darlington in an area that undergone substantial changes including much new housing being built. The Centre, with a strong tradition of community service offers new opportunities for mission. A number of volunteers have come forward to reinvigorate the Centre giving us great encouragement for the future.

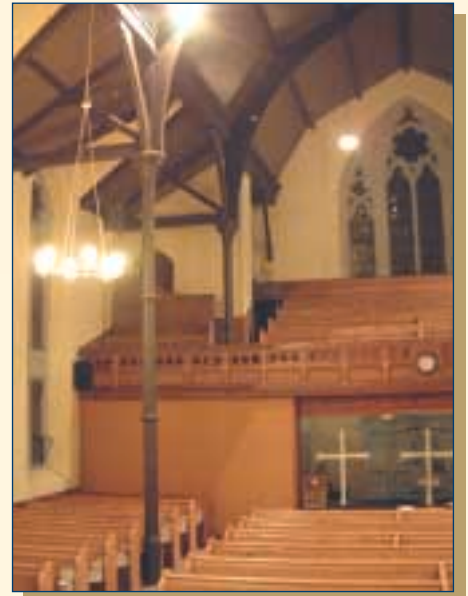
Although we are proud of our buildings, it is the people of the church that really make the church what it is – and how they make use of the church as a base for their activities.



The organ is a major feature of the Church and was built in 1894. The banner celebrates a complete centenary overhaul on the organ.



A library in the vestibule provides books for personal use and as a resource for teams in leading worship.



Church members worked together as a team to refurbish the pews.



A smile goes a long way – we are a happy, friendly and welcoming congregation



We have a partner in Jamaica through the Commitment for Life programme.

For further information please contact the Church Secretary;  
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DARLINGTON  
DL3 8HY  
Tel 01325 467834  
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We treasure the gift of a photo-montage showing all of the people associated with the life of the URC in Darlington.