**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**WALDENSIAN FELLOWSHIP**

**VISIT TO ITALY**

**Monday 25 May to Friday 5 June 2020**

This year’s visit will be to two centres – Torre Pellice in the historic Valleys at the edge of the Cottian Alps, where the faithful Waldensians maintained community against centuries of persecution, and Vallecrosia on the Ligurian coast. In both places we shall stay in the Foresteria or church guest house, visit local sites, meet people from the local churches and learn about the history and how the Waldensian church continues to maintain a distinctive presence in the life of Italy. Local visits will include Turin with its grand centre of Baroque avenues and squares and important museums. On Sunday 31 May we shall celebrate Pentecost with the Waldensian community in Torre Pellice.

On Monday 1 June we will leave the sub-Alpine surroundings of the Pellice valley and drive south through Piedmont and the mountains above the coast. Vallecrosia is at the western end of the long south-facing Mediterranean coast, close to the border with France, one of a succession of resorts exploiting the fine location of the Riviera di Ponente. The Waldensians established a church and holiday centre here. Jonathan Terino, minister at San Remo and Bordighera, will be able to tell us about the work done in co-operation with the churches in France to help migrants at the border. We hope to visit San Remo, which retains some of the grandeur of the late nineteenth century, and Genoa, the historic trading city.

It is expected that the cost of the trip, including full board and accommodation, transfer by coach from Torre Pellice to Vallecrosia, and the principal excursions will be £650 per person in single rooms or £550 per person sharing a double or twin-bedded room. Because people will travel from various parts of the UK and may go by air or rail, travel to Italy is not included.

**More information and a booking form is available from:**

**George Morton, 4 St Annes Road, Manchester M21 8TD**

**email:** **g.morton50@ntlworld.com**