



# BEULAH CROSSROADS

**The  
Monthly  
Newsletter  
of  
Beulah  
United  
Reformed  
Church**



(Continued on page 3)

# CHURCH NOTES

Beulah's journey towards and through Holy Week this year has been painful and emotional, but we have been touched by the many moving services where we have been offered hope and comfort. The funeral service for Elaine Edwards on the Tuesday of Holy Week saw a packed church as friends and family came together to offer thanks for her life and say goodbye to her. We are grateful to Ken Graham for leading such a heartfelt and sensitive service for a lady whose influence will go on in the lives of many people.

Our thanks also go to Jenny, who led such beautiful evening reflections in Holy Week and to James for a thoughtful and inspiring Maundy Thursday communion service. The Good Friday service led by our young people was deeply moving in its simplicity and clarity as we were led to glimpse the agony that Christ endured, and the suffering of those who loved him. This was preceded by a Walk of Witness which included services in Bethany and All Saints, where we contemplated the meaning of the day in front of the cross. Finally, on Easter morning we gathered in the garden to the singing of the blackbird and began to hear the message of resurrection. This was continued in our family worship, led by Roger, which included an Easter rap, and a dramatized reading between two caterpillars (!). Through our music and hymns, and the celebration of communion, we are given a way in to the unity that Christ brings and the hope of new life. The flowers were stunning – the displays from the wedding blessing reminding us of the hope that a young couple bring to marriage; the Christmon Tree more beautiful than ever, a sign of new life out of desolation, and

the lilies on the window sills were a lovely tribute to those friends and family members we have loved and lost through death, but whose influence continues.



As one of writers put in in our Holy Week reflection booklet, 'God had three hopes for his people through his Son: he hoped they would listen...learn .....and follow him. Then his will would be done on earth as it is in heaven. What a magnificent hope – something to pray for every day.' We are delighted that two ministers have responded to the invitation to 'preach with a view' in the Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate, and look forward to the weekend of May 10th and 12th when they will be visiting and leading worship. Information about the programme for the weekend is given later in Crossroads. We pray that the visit will be a sign of hope and new life for the pastorate as we begin to explore how we will be able to fulfil those hopes of God as united churches in Cardiff.

## Family News

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Peter Stevenson this month. Peter has been an active member of Beulah for many decades, serving as Junior Church Leader, many periods as an elder, and his contribution to the fabric and contents of the sanctuary is evident all around us. He has also given service on other councils

within the United Reformed Church. We send our deepest sympathies to Ann, Gareth, Katie, Aled, Angharad, Magi, Lili Nel and Seth and remember them in our prayers. A service of celebration for Peter's life will be held on May 1st at 2.00pm in Beulah. Bright colours to be worn, please!

In the same week we also heard of the death of Robert Owen, who is well known in the community and the church - he was to be found most mornings sitting in the corner of the Whittaker Lounge, and will be missed by many. Our sympathies are also with his friends and family.

Further sadness in Holy Week came to Beverley Clay, whose mother has died – we remember Beverley and all her family in our prayers.

To all those known to members of our congregation, named and unnamed, who are in sorrow for loved ones, we send our assurances of love and support.

Some of our members and friends have been facing illness, and we continue to pray for Carol Coleman and the family as she remains critically ill in hospital.

Those receiving treatment include Anne Thomas (Wenallt

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## Church Secretary:

Mrs. Louise Morgan,

Email:

[secretary@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@beulahurc.org.uk)

## Church Treasurer:

Mrs. Barbara Rhys,

Email:

[treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk)

**God saw all that he had made, and it was very good**

(Continued from Front Page)

***“Continuing to profit from fossil fuel production is financially unnecessary and morally wrong; investing in the alternatives is the Churches’ prophetic responsibility.”***

*Christian Aid 2018*

Last September, you may remember James Buchanan from Operation Noah visited Beulah. He ran a workshop on the role Churches can play in the transition to clean energy and a zero carbon economy. He also spoke at our Harvest Service and has continued to help and encourage us as we consider Divestment. By moving our investments out of fossil fuel funds and into fossil free alternatives, Beulah could make an important statement. We would be demonstrating that we find it unacceptable to profit from organisations that are causing climate change. As a church we will be discussing these issues soon and I have resources and further reading for anyone who is interested. Let’s join with the other URC Churches and Synods who have already committed to Divestment and take a stand for climate justice.

*Eileen Newington*

## ***Heartfelt Thanks***

We experienced the most wonderful week - March 25th -30<sup>th</sup>.

Alun's birthday (88) was on the Monday and our Blue Sapphire (65<sup>th</sup>) Wedding Anniversary was on the Wednesday.

We celebrated in one way or another on every day that week and we were overwhelmed by the number of cards we received.

We can't say 'THANK YOU' enough.

We met in Beulah when we were 10 and our whole lives have been lived within the warm and loving family of Beulah.

A BIG THANK YOU TO YOU ALL.

*Alun & Marg*

## **CHURCH NOTES (Continued from p.2)**

Farm) and Sally Jones – we send our good wishes to them and all others who are unwell, or worrying about family members.

I would like to wish a slightly belated ‘Happy Birthday’ to Betty Evans who celebrated a special day at the beginning of April.

A service of blessing for the marriage of Edd and Marianna Hampson was led by Ken Graham this month, which was a very happy occasion, bringing together family and friends from

near and far. We wish them every happiness in their life together.

And finally, we are looking forward to the wedding of our daughter, Rachel, to Chris on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope that the sun will shine, but more than that, we hope that some of you will be able to join us in the church at 12.00 to celebrate with us.

*Blessings,*

*Louise.*

## **NINJA KNITTERS BACK IN ACTION**



The Ninja Knitters are getting back together to work on another project with Jo Jones, our artist in residence. The work will be based around our new theme Flowing streams, bringing Life, and it is hoped to be developed over the course of the year. We also hope to involve local community groups and the local shops. If you are interested in knitting with us, even if only occasionally or from home, please contact Anne James.

More information in the next edition of Crossroads.

## **Thank you**



Thank you to everyone who supported the remembrance lilies this Easter. Your generosity has enabled us to donate £203.00 to Cruse bereavement care.

Thank you to Ann Grimes, Ann Brown and Viv for helping to make the church so beautiful.

Thank you  
*Karen*

## Preach with a View Weekend – 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May

As you may know, the process for calling ministers to the Cardiff and Penarth Regional Pastorate has moved at quite a pace since Christmas, and, on the 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May, the Regional Pastorate will be hosting the **Revs. Martha McInnes** and **David Dean**, a married couple, to Preach with a View. Brief bios of both David and Martha are included below.

This weekend will, of course, also be an opportunity for David and Martha to get to know us, and the other churches, and to consider whether the Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate calls to them.

On **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**, David & Martha will be visiting Beulah between 12 noon and 2pm to view our Church & Canolfan – and to have an informal chat with the Elders. There will be the normal Saturday activities taking place, so members and friends may see them wandering around. At 2pm they will view our Manse.

There will be a number of opportunities for all of us from Beulah to hear and meet David and Martha in a range of different settings on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May**.

These include:

10.30am Martha will be leading worship at Beulah  
10.30am David will be leading worship at Canton Uniting

Whilst we are obviously hoping for a full house at Beulah, any members who would like to visit Canton to hear David will be very welcome to do so.

There will then be an afternoon and early evening of activities at **City URC** to which all congregations from all churches are very welcome:

1.00pm - 3.00pm A Bring and Share Lunch

3.00pm - 5.00pm Question and Answer Session

5.00pm Concluding worship led by both Martha and David

You are welcome to attend any or all of the activities at City URC. We will be pleased to try and arrange lifts to and from City URC – please let Andrew Glanfield know if you would like a space in a car or can offer a lift.

The following **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May**, we will be holding an Extraordinary Church Meeting straight after morning worship at which we will reflect on the visit and will vote on whether to call David & Martha to service in the Regional Pastorate. They would come as a couple so it will be a simple yes/no determined via a private ballot. All of the Beulah family are welcome to attend this meeting and to offer their views, but only members will be able to vote.

The other churches in our Regional Pastorate will also be holding church meetings on the

same day and the results of all the private ballots will be collated that evening. The threshold for the call has been set by the Regional Pastorate Committee as 80% of the whole vote plus 80% of at least four of the six congregations.

We very much hope you will be able to take part in some of the activities with Martha and David on the 12<sup>th</sup> May and will also be able to join us for the Church Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> May.

**David Dean** was born in Georgia, USA, into a traditional Baptist family. Following university, David moved to Louisville, Kentucky, to train for ministry. David then embarked on interim ministry work and worked for an AIDS organisation in North Carolina.

**Martha McInnes** was born in Iowa, USA, but spent her childhood in Northern California and Kentucky. Martha did not grow up in the church, but felt a call to ministry during university and returned to Louisville to train for ministry, where she met David. Following her training she worked at a hospital chaplain and it was in that time that David and Martha married and found the United Church of Christ as a faith home.

Following their ordination into the UCC in 1990, they worked together in a small town in North

*(Continued on next page)*

**THANK YOU** Words cannot express how grateful we feel, as a family, for all the love, thoughts, prayers, cards, flowers, cakes, etc., that we have received from our Beulah family, since Elaine's passing. Special thanks go to all who contributed to ensuring the day of the funeral went smoothly, and to all who attended to give Elaine the 'send off' she deserved.

We are still coming to terms with the suddenness of losing Elaine, but we have been overwhelmed by the support and love that we have been shown, not only by the Beulah family, but also by the wider community. This has been so comforting, and is a testament to Elaine as a person, demonstrating to us just how many lives she touched during hers.

Our huge thanks, and love from, *Ann, Colin, Jonathan, Rebecca, Vicki, and Elinor xx*



### **Preach with a View Weekend (continued)**

Carolina where a friend encouraged them to think about a call to the URC. In May 1993, they visited the Wirral and were called to two churches there, Prenton URC and St. George's URC. In 1999, David was called to be the Free Church chaplain at Aston University and shortly afterwards Martha was called to Sutton Coldfield URC.

After some time in the West Midlands, in 2005, Martha and David, and their daughters Hannah and Amelia decided to return to the USA. David was called to a campus ministry in Florida and Martha became the director of a small charity for homeless families.

Life changed again in 2011 when the family decided to return back to the UK. Hannah was already back in the UK at university when David was called to work with an interfaith organisation in Leicester, the St. Phillip's Centre. David was also called to a small congregation in Leicester. Martha became the minister of Wellingborough URC. When David's role in the St Phillip's Centre ended, he became a

chaplain at Northampton General Hospital. Recently, Martha has taken a post as a hospice chaplain.

David makes regular pilgrimages to Taize and both David and Martha have been to Iona a number of times. David loves the Bible and enjoys sharing his knowledge with others through Bible studies. Martha is a trained spiritual director. They feel their ministries have always been about working with others to enhance the spiritual life of the local church and connect with people, inside and outside the church.

Because Martha grew up in Northern California, she never minds a cloudy or rainy day. On the other hand, neither of them mind a British Summer, no matter how hot or humid it seems. David is an avid football fan, supporting Tranmere Rovers through thick and thin. Martha enjoys a variety of crafts and recently discovered making fused glass pieces. Both enjoy exploring new places and spending time with family and friends

*Andrew Glanfield.*



### **WEEKLY NOTICES SHEET**

A reminder that notices for the weekly service sheet should be sent to Kaye Mundy, with Louise copied in, (secretary@beulahurc.org.uk). Notices should be sent as early in the week as possible, and no later than Thursday, please. Kaye has been doing this, and other secretarial support work, since September, and we are very grateful for her help.

**NEW!!**

### **THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW (but were afraid to ask)**

Please contact Crossroads with any questions you may have, and we will try to provide the answers. For example, questions about Beulah, the URC, the Synod etc (not about things like string theory or the large hadron collider – you will have to look elsewhere for those).

So, PLEASE send in your questions, we are waiting.

Please send the questions to the editors.



### **Leading Worship Workshops**

Stephen Best will be leading two sessions on 'Using Scripture in Worship' - the first will be in Beulah, MWL at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4th June, and the second will be at City URC on Wednesday, 3rd July.

All are welcome, but it is hoped that these will be particularly useful for those who are beginning to lead worship, in groups or as individuals. Each will be repeated in an afternoon slot at Bethesda for those for whom an afternoon is more convenient.

*Louise*

## Lunchtime Concerts at the Crossroads

### Wednesday May 29th at 1.05pm **Mari and Elin Kelly – harps**

The Harp Department at the RWCMD has a deservedly high reputation and these two sisters, Elin and Mari Kelly, come most highly recommended as a duo.

They are currently in their final year at the College.

These summer concerts have been designed to focus on young emerging Welsh talent giving them a performing platform.

This concert would also be suitable to bring musically inclined grandchildren to. I am wanting to experiment with that idea in half-term weeks. Watch this space!

Another date for your diary

### Wednesday June 26th at 1.05pm

### **Laura Deignan – clarinet and Sioned Evans – piano**

Laura Deignan was the winner of last year's Ian Stoutzker prize at the RWCMD.

(This is the highest musical award given in the RWCMD)

She is a truly outstanding young artist at the beginning of her career and is accompanied here by fellow final year post – graduate Sioned Evans.

**Tickets £5 on the door as usual.**

## Spring Synod – 2nd March 2019

The Synod meeting was informative and uplifting. It began and ended with worship and amongst those remembered in the prayers was Tony Vinall.

The day started with a **Bible study** led by Revd John Proctor (General Secretary of the URC) on how we are all Holy Saints and was spiritually enlightening and moving. The text of this is available on the URC website <https://www.urcwailes.org.uk/new/saints-gods-holy-people>

The **local church Stories** throughout the day were very interesting. Phil Wall of St David's Uniting Pontypridd spoke about ways in which to encourage and support people that did not rely on a sermon! In Pontypridd they have film and chat evenings based on a series of short films on religious topics.

St John's in Tenby recently ran a creative arts project including a knitted Bible exhibition. They harnessed the skills of the church, local community and schools including Tenby Lifeboats.

Tabernacle in Pembroke have been working with Syrian refugees, welcoming 3 families and helping them settle in the Pembroke community. The church offered support as well as fellowship and a drop-in facility which provided advice on daily living. The families have settled in well and have been sharing their culture with the community via food and social events.

Barry Uniting discussed the development of their community garden from a derelict piece of land to a beautiful garden providing vegetables, a pond for

wildlife and a place to worship and rest in.

The final talk by Uniting Church, Rhyl outlined their work with community partners such as the police, Citizens Advice (which has a base in the church), social services and other bodies.

There were presentations on the upcoming **Big Day Out** on 29 June 2019 in the Royal Welsh Showground and on **Stepwise** the programme of study presently being developed by the URC for all members.

Around all this there was the routine administrative business of the church where all church secretaries present had a vote. I accompanied Louise Morgan and was very grateful for the opportunity to observe the Synod in action.

*Anne James*

## KIN (Kindred in Need)

**Together we care and together we share**

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to KIN at Easter.

You raised .....

**£372.50** on Good Friday for the United Mission to Nepal's Disability Programme

**£304.68** at the Easter Breakfast for the Space4U Drop In for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

**£598.70** for Christian Aid in the Alms Bowl Collection on Easter Morning

Thank you so much for your continued generosity, and special thanks to all those who provided food and helped organise these occasions.

After the Big Brekkie (please see separate notice), the next date for your diary is the annual Rhiwbina Festival Saturday on June 29th, when we will need support, help, cakes etc. More information will be in the notices nearer the time.

Kind Regards

*Eleri*

## PLANT STALL



We'll be holding a Plant Stall at our Christian Aid Big Brekkie on Saturday, 11th May and are seeking donations of plants to sell.

Please contact Ian McDowell

## Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **June 2019** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 26th May** and **Huw** will be editing.

## BIG DAY OUT

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June,**  
**Llanelwedd Showground**  
**'A Festival in a Day'**

There will be a range of activities for all ages - adults and children, including music, storytelling, crafts, talks and discussions, exploring what it means to be a follower of Jesus in the 21st Century.

If you are interested  
please sign the list in the porch by May 21<sup>st</sup>  
– registration needs to be completed by May 28<sup>th</sup>.

## Editorial Team

Colin Grimes,

Huw Morgan,

Please note, new editorial email address: [crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk)

Visit the Beulah website at: <http://www.beulahurc.org.uk/>

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## MAY


Wed	1st	10.30am	Church Office
		10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		2.00pm	Funeral Service for Peter Stevenson
Fri	3rd	12.00am	Wedding of Rachel Morgan and Christopher Snelson
Sun	5th	10.30am	<b>Mr Geraint Richards</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
		6.00pm	<b>United Communion – All Saints Church</b>
		7.15pm	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Wed	8th	10.30am	Church Office
		10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		7.30pm	Cardiff Churches Discussion Group Planning Meeting, City URC
Sat	11th	10.00am	KIN Cake Stall
		10.30am	Big Brekkie Canolfan
Sun	12th	10.30am	<b>Revd Martha McInnes – Preaching with a View</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
		1.00pm	<b>Bring &amp; Share Lunch at City URC</b>
		3.00pm	<b>Discussion session at City with Martha &amp; David</b>
		5.00pm	<b>Joint worship at City URC</b>
		7.15pm	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon	13th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting – MWL
Wed	14th	10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sun	19th	10.30am	<b>Mr Richard Edwards with Communion</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
		11.30am	<b>Church Meeting</b>
		7.15pm	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon	20th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Wed	22nd	10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	25th	10.15am	WRB Prayers – Whitchurch Methodist Church
Sun	26th	10.30am	<b>Sarah Edwards</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
			<b>Paradise Run Collection</b>
			<b>Crossroads Deadline</b>
Wed	29th	10.30am	Church Office
		10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		1.05pm	Lunch Time Concert – Mari Kelly and Elin Kelly – harp



## JUNE

Sun	2nd	10.30am	<b>Cradle Roll Service – Louise Morgan and Gill Grivas</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
		6.00pm	<b>United Communion – Beulah</b>
Mon	3rd	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Tues	6th	7.30pm	Worship Training Workshop
Wed	5th	10.30am	Church Office
		10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	8th	10.00am	KIN Cake Stall
Sun	9th	10.30am	<b>Pentecost - Eco Group Service</b>
			<b>Junior Church</b>
		7.15pm	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>





Boru lives in Kenya and relies on his camels to survive. But even they are dying from drought.

Will you stand together with Boru for climate justice?

# The time is now.

Join the mass lobby on 26 June

and call for urgent action on climate change.



[caid.org.uk/timeisnow](http://caid.org.uk/timeisnow)

Image: A photograph of a man, Boru, in a dry, rocky landscape with camels in the background. The image is used to illustrate the impact of drought on people and animals in Kenya.

Churches are invited to join Christian Aid and thousands of other organisations for a mass lobby of political representatives in Westminster.

You can help ensure every single MP hears the message loud and clear:

**‘that the time for action on climate change is now.’**

Please speak to Eileen if you would like to take part.

## Who's Doing What and When

		<i>Driver on Rota</i>	<i>Duty Elder</i>	<i>Stewards</i>	<i>Pulpit Reader</i>
<b>May</b>					
5th	am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Viv Jones	Marianne Barwise & Nesta Thomas	Bev Hampson
	pm	Ecumenical Communion Service at All Saints			
12th	am	Bill Sampson & Colin Grimes	Liz Kidd	Giles Ballisat & Philippa Ballisat	Anne Thomas
19th	am	Huw Morgan & Giles Ballisat	Trix Pryce	Karen Sampson & Fiona Liddell	Ruth Williams
26th	am	Harley Jones & Catherine Tyler	Fleur Richards	Mary Warsop & John Prosser	Jenny McDowell
<b>June</b>					
2nd	am	Mike Warsop & Keith Jones	Gaynor Rees	Kaye Mundy & Kate Stanbury	Chris Phelps
	pm	Ecumenical Communion Service at Beulah			
9th	am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Marianne Barwise	Peter Ferdinando & Jill Ferdinando	Louise Morgan
16th	am	Bill Sampson & Colin Grimes	Ian McDowell	Mike Warsop & Mary Warsop	Vera Ruddock
23rd	am	Huw Morgan & Giles Ballisat	Helen Harries	Keirsten Eales & Ann Grimes	Fiona Liddell
30th	am	Harley Jones & Catherine Tyler	Tony Webb	Eleanor Mills & Mary Prosser	Hollie Glanfield
<b>July</b>					
7th	am	Mike Warsop & Keith Jones	Eleri John	Trix Pryce & Lynne Davies	Pat Agland
14th	am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Jenny McDowell	Pam Penny & Denise Dickman	Jill Ferdinando
21st	am	Bill Sampson & Colin Grimes	Anne James	Richard Sweetnam & Betty Evans	Liz McCarthy
28th	am	Huw Morgan & Giles Ballisat	Mary Edwards	Pat Agland & Helen Harries	TBA




**You're invited to the Big Brekkie!**

Want to change the world over breakfast? Then come and tuck in at our Big Brekkie! We'll be serving a delicious morning meal, while raising money to fight poverty and injustice worldwide.

**Saturday, 11th May 2019  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
Canolfan Beulah, Rhiwbina, CF14 6LX  
Please join us!**




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## Flower Rota

### May

5th Rachel & Chris Snelson

12th Ann Brown

19th Marianne and Nigel Barwise

26th Frank and Anne Rees

### June

2nd Bev and Ian Hampson

9th Mary Prosser

16th Mair Haywood

23rd Vicki & Jonathan Grimes

30th Andy, Cathy, Summer & Crystal Wales

