



Flowing streams, bringing life

A Sermon To Remember

It was a very cold day in December 1957, shortly before Christmas. As a young Flying Officer in RAF Pembrey, I was on the Parade Ground where the whole station was holding a Christmas Service. I was the Second Education Officer, about to hear a lesson I would never forget. While we all shivered in the cold, the Padre, a portly middle-aged Welshman mounted the pulpit on the square to deliver his sermon.

In a voice rising with emotion, he accused us all of being lazy. He had received a large number of Christmas Cards, and he was horrified to see that a large number of well-wishers had hoped he would enjoy a Merry 'Xmas.' Seeing the letter 'X' instead of the word 'Christ', and the full word 'Christmas' was, he said, an affront to our Lord. The letter 'X' was a lazy piece of shorthand writing. The Padre reminded us all that

we were celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ who would face death on an infamous construction called a cross, but not like the letter 'X' put on letters as a kiss. How cruel, said he, now almost shouting, to use the letter 'X' more appropriate to the Judas Kiss at Easter. I was so impressed with this sermon that I forgot how cold I was, but I certainly never forgot its message, nor the wider message from the Welsh Padre that that baby was to suffer a painful journey through his life on Earth, and an even more painful death on his Cross. He went through his agony to show how he loved us and to bring us all hope and to promise that he would never let us down when we needed him. He deserved better than a lazily written 'Xmas', in referring to who and what he was – our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

John Prosser

BEULAH

CROSSROADS

**June
2019**



The
monthly newsletter of
Beulah URC

CHURCH NOTES

It has been a very busy and exciting few weeks in the life of Beulah and the Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate of United Reformed Churches. Although our holiday meant that I missed both the weekend when Martha and David came to meet the churches and lead worship, as well as the following week's Church Meeting, I have heard such positive things that I am delighted that they have accepted the call and are looking forward to beginning their work here. The RPC (with Derek Evans representing Beulah) now has the task of arranging the terms of settlement and organising how, where and when the induction service will take place. Although nothing is finalised yet, we hope it won't be too long before these things happen. These are exciting times, and we do not yet know how things will work out – although we do know that sharing Ministers of Word and Sacrament with our partner churches will be very different from being a single church pastorate. I am reminded again of some verses from Isaiah where God says, 'Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already – you can see it now! I will make a road through the wilderness and give you streams of living water there.' This links with our theme verses

too, and gives us hope that embarking on this 'new thing' will mark the beginning of a fruitful and challenging phase in God's mission here in Cardiff.

At our recent Annual General Meeting, we heard of the many and varied things that are carried out as part of that mission. Those of you unable to be there may not know that at that meeting I gave notice of my resignation as Church Secretary with effect from the end of this year. A group is currently looking at work load and organisation, and is considering ways in which the job of a future Church Secretary in Beulah can be smaller than it has become, and the duties more clearly defined. I am willing to retain the role of Pulpit Supply Secretary, and become more involved with leading worship. We have some secretarial support from Kaye Mundy, and are looking at the possibility of paid admin support for a range of areas of church administration, which would make the role much more manageable in future. It is now the responsibility of the Elders to find my successor, but all suggestions are

welcome! I will, of course, be very happy to work alongside whoever takes on the role for a reasonable transition period.

Family News

Sadness has come to another longstanding Beulah family, and we report the far too early death of Jean Leech after a short illness. We send our deepest sympathy and prayers to Martyn, Alex and Eleanor, as well as to Denie and Ron and the wider family at this difficult time.

Since our return from holiday I have learned that several members and friends have been unwell, or have been receiving treatment for a range of health problems. These include Viv Jones, Heather Coles, Frank Kinsey, Gaynor Rees, Brian Jones, Anne James and Sue Revill. To them and all others with health problems, we send our best wishes for recovery. On a happier note, we are delighted that Carol Coleman is making such good progress and has this week been discharged from hospital.

We send our congratulations to David Grivas and Kirsten (and proud grandparents,

Church Secretary:

Mrs Louise Morgan

email:

secretary@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer:

Mrs Barbara Rhys,

Visit us at..... <http://www.beulahurc.org.uk/>

Gill and Jeff!) on the somewhat early arrival of their baby son, George Arthur. Thankfully both mum and baby are progressing well and are now at home from hospital.

Huw and I would like to thank all who contributed in any way to making Rachel and Chris's wedding such a lovely day. The service was conducted by the Revd. Linda Baily, Chris's godmother, but we also thank Ken for his moving address, Karen, helped by Ann, for the stunning flowers, Alun for the music, Lorraine for her role as registrar, Ann and Colin for sound technology and red carpet duties – and all who came to sing and support them at the beginning of their married life together.

Finally, I know you will join me in wishing our Church Treasurer, Barbara Rhys, a very happy day next week as she celebrates a significant birthday! We hope that this very special lady will have a wonderful time celebrating with John and all the family.

Blessings,
Louise



Interfaith Council for Wales Interfaith Choir

Calling people of all faiths!

You are cordially invited to join the
Interfaith Council Choir

First practice: Wednesday June 12, 7 p.m.
Church of Jesus Christ & Latterday Saints, Heol-y-Deri,
Cardiff CF14 6UH



BETHEL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Bethel Place (Off Llangranog Road) Llanishen

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM FOR
AN ENJOYABLE AFTERNOON TEA-
SANDWICHES, SCONES, CAKES, AS MUCH
TEA/COFFEE YOU CAN DRINK



ON SATURDAY 8TH JUNE 2019 from 2.30pm

COST: £6.00

Proceeds in aid of Church Funds
To buy a ticket please ring
Sue or Pat (places limited)

Crossroads Front Page: calling all writers!



Like me, I am sure that you enjoy reading the variety of front pages which people from the congregation write for Crossroads. The range of topics is extensive and they are always thoughtfully expressed. If you would like to contribute an article, please sign your name on the list in the porch – we need someone for next month!

Thank you,
Louise.

CHURCH KEYS

For security reasons we have recently had to change the locks on the church doors. Some keys have been allocated and the following are the list of people from whom you can collect one if you need access at any time:

Snails Delicatessen
Alun Jones
Joan Staddon
Barbara Rhys

For the same reasons, If you do borrow a key, could you please ensure that it is returned the same day.

Many thanks.
Barbara

Thank you from the Vinall family

Sue, Judy, Tim and their families would like to thank all the people who attended Tony's funeral for their love and support. Particular thanks to Derek and Betty for leading the service, helping with all the arrangements and being 'on hand' to help, as we all live far from Cardiff; to Ruth and Jenny for their thoughtful prayers and to all the ladies who served food and drink afterwards. The service was exactly as Tony had wanted it to be - fortunately for us all there were extensive instructions!

We were very humbled to receive correspondence from Holme Tower in Penarth, which has taken receipt of a donation over £400 for Marie Curie - for Tony in memory of Jean, which was collected at the funeral. The generosity and kindness of our Beulah family has been overwhelming. Thank you so much and God bless.



Message from Carol

I would like to thank you all for the kind thoughts and prayers during my recent illness. It has been a long fight but I have at last made a good recovery. I cannot express my gratitude to you all during this difficult time. On behalf of Chris, Tracey and Steve and the family I want to thank you for all your concern and love. I would like to thank the Junior Church for the lovely card they sent me and to everyone who sent cards and good wishes to me and to my family. I have always been surrounded by Beulah love and never more so than during these past few months. I thank God for such good friends.
All my love, Carol xx

Peter Stevenson

We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support, letters, cards, flowers etc we have received following Peter's passing. A special thank you to everyone for making Peter's celebration service and tea the fitting send off that he deserved and would have enjoyed.

The support from Beulah and the wider community has been a great comfort to the whole family and reflects how many people Peter enjoyed interacting with on a daily basis.

*Diolch yn fawr,
Cariad
Ann, Gareth, Aled, Katie
and Angharad xx*

Cardiff URC churches discussion group

During Lent we had a look at some themes from Paul's letter to the Galatians and last month was an open meeting to review where we go next.

More than 20 people attended each of the weeks during Lent, with four churches of the pastorate represented. There is a good core of people committed to continuing the group on a monthly basis and so dates and venues have been agreed until the end of the year (see below).

We will meet generally on the second Wednesday of the month, from 7.30 – 9 pm.

In June and July we shall look at 'Dangerous stories' published by Church Action on Poverty.

Wed June 12th - at City
Wed July 10th – at Beulah

August – no meeting

Autumn programme to be decided. If you have suggestions of themes or material that you would like us to consider, please let me know.

Wed September 11th - at City
Wed 9th October – at Beulah
Wed 13th November - at City

During Advent we will meet weekly:

Wed December 4th – at Beulah
Wed December 11th – at City
Wed December 18th – at Beulah

It is good to have the opportunity to share with and learn from one another. and so to come to know those in our sister churches better, in our newly formed pastorate.

You are welcome to come for one or more sessions, as you are able. It is an open group.

Fiona Liddell

In July 2018 morning worship at Beulah followed the story of Jonah as part of the Methodist Bible month initiative. This June/July we will be focusing on the letter to the Colossians. The Methodist church has commissioned a magazine on the book of Colossians to help people discover it for themselves. The magazine also contains suggestions for activities with children and young people. To download a free copy (or find out how to order a print version) please see <http://www.preachweb.org/biblemonth>

COMMUNICATION

The Communications Group is a very small one which has been concentrating initially on improving our media presence within and without Beulah.

It was stated in our Transitional Ministry booklet that "*we communicate TO the wider community, but not WITH it*".

We are aware that we could be doing much more to promote ourselves outside of Beulah, and to this end we are asking for help.

We would like to set up a sub-group which would explore ways in which we could work more closely with the local community, and particularly with younger people. We need new ideas! If you could offer some we would welcome your input. PLEASE get in touch.

Viv Jones

Concerts at the Crossroads

Wednesday 26th June at 1.05pm

Laura Deignan – clarinet
Sioned Evans - piano

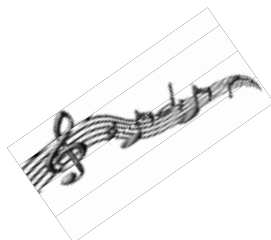
The Royal Welsh College has a top music prize called the Ian Stoutzker Prize which is auditioned for and awarded each year. One year it is awarded to instrumentalists, the next to singers. Last year the winner was the outstanding clarinetist Laura Deignan. She is coming to give a recital in Beulah with her fellow final year post - graduate pianist Sioned Evans. This promises to be a great finale to the year's lunchtime recitals.

There is then a two - month gap while we all recharge batteries before the 25th September concert!

Thank you all for your support of these concerts which are now a regular part of the music life of Cardiff. The warmth of welcome that the artists receive is always commented on - they just love coming to Beulah. It could also be Cathryn's sandwiches!

Tickets on the door £5 as usual

All are welcome!



Croeso i Bawb!

Skool's nearly out for Summer - It's Holiday Club time!

Angie's Elves have finished their Spring cleaning and are looking forward to welcoming another crowd of Year 3 to 6 children for Beulah's legendary Summer holiday club.

We will continue last year's successful 3-day format, running the club on Wednesday to Friday, 24th to 26th July. Details are yet to be finalised, but your correspondent has greased a few elvish palms and can report rumours of Art workshops, plus plans to have a cinema trip into Cardiff on the Friday.

Angie Hughes is keen to hear of any Beulah folk who might like to help, in any capacity - administration, activities supervising, general help on the day, special skills (e.g. First Aid), etc. She will be happy to receive expressions of interest in person, or at: angieruth66@yahoo.co.uk. Don't be shy - get in touch with your inner elf: the team is fun, the kids are fun (sometimes hilarious) and we promise no elf costumes (unless you really, really want to).

In addition, if you have children in the appropriate school year(s) then please register your interest, again with Angie for the moment, as we have on occasion been over-subscribed closer to the time.

Angie and her little helpers

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Week 22 2nd June

Pray for Bailey Street Uniting Church, Brynmawr
and Tabernacle United Reformed Church, Rhayader
Pray for Botswana and Zimbabwe

Week 23 9th June

Pray for Caersalem United Church, Ebbw Vale
and Penuel United Reformed Church
Pray for Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and
Swaziland

Week 24 16th June

New Street Presbyterian Church of Wales/ United
Reformed Church, Welshpool
Pray for Angola and Mozambique

Week 25 23rd June

Pray for St. Mellons Local Ecumenical Partnership,
Cardiff
and Sarnau United Reformed Church
Pray for Brazil

Week 26 30th June

Pray for Pontprennau Local Ecumenical Partnership,
Cardiff
and Horeb United Reformed Church, Builth Wells
Pray for Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay

RECYCLING

Many of you will have seen the large recycling box in the inner foyer of the Canolfan and perhaps, in spite of the notice, you are still unsure of what you can recycle. Set out below are more details for information which the Eco Group felt would be helpful.

STRICTLY THESE ITEMS ONLY PLEASE:

Spray, soap heads & wipe packets:

Beauty, cleaning or baby wipes. **NO** bottles.

Biscuit/cake wrappers:

NO sweet wrappers, **NO** other type of wrapper, clean wrappers only.

Food/yogurt pouches:

Tops must be left on.

Toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and pens:

Tooth brush heads, plastic pens, tippex, highlighters and markers.

Tassimo discs and packets:

DO NOT empty loose into the bin. Bag them please.

Deodorants, squeeze beauty bottles and pots:

Empty contents first, keep lids on.

We are very grateful to Naomi England from Rhiwbina Against Plastics who monitors and empties the box for us. **Please do make full use of this facility.**

CHURCH CALENDAR

JUNE

Sun	2nd	10.30a.m.	Cradle Roll Service – Louise Morgan
			Junior Church
Mon	3 rd	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
Tues	4 th	7.30p.m.	Worship Training Workshop
Wed	5 th	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	8 th	10.00a.m.	KIN Cake Stall
Sun	9th	10.30a.m.	Pentecost
			Eco Group Service
			Junior Church
		7.15p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Mon	10 th	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
		7.30p.m.	Elders' Meeting
Wed	12 th	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		7.30p.m.	Cardiff Churches URC Discussion Group: City URC
Sun	16th	10.30a.m.	Rev. James Hall, Communion
			Junior Church
		7.15p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Mon	17 th	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
Wed	19 th	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sun	23rd	10.30a.m.	Mrs Sarah Edwards
			Junior Church
		7.15p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Mon	24 th	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
		7.30p.m.	Church Meeting
Wed	26 th	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		1.05p.m.	Lunch Time Concert - Laura Deigman - Clarinet and Sioned Evans - Piano
Sat	29 th		Rhiwbina Festival
			Synod Big Day Out – Royal Welsh Showground
Sun	30th	10.15a.m.	WRB Prayers – Bethel Baptist Church Whitchurch
		10.30a.m.	Rev. Roger Bidnell
			Junior Church
			Paradise Run Collection
			Crossroads Deadline
		7.15p.m.	Youth Fellowship

JULY

Mon	1 st	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
Wed	3 rd	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		7.00p.m.	Worship Training, City URC
Sun	7th	10.30a.m.	Mrs Vera Ruddock
			Junior Church
		6.00p.m.	United Communion at Bethany Baptist
		7.15p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Mon	8 th	2.00p.m.	Women's Fellowship
		7.30p.m.	Elders' Meeting
Wed	10 th	10.30a.m.	Church Office
		10.30a.m.	Mid-Week Meeting Point
		7.30p.m.	Cardiff Churches URC Discussion Group: Beulah

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12 – 18 MAY 2019

We would like to thank all who contributed in organising, helping and volunteering (too many to mention by name) to the events which took place in and around this Christian Aid Week.

The events organised and the monies raised were as follows:-

SATURDAY 11 MAY – THE BIG BREKKIE

Donations for Breakfast	£422.00
Plant Sale	£204.85
Collecting Tin	£ 58.85
TOTAL	£685.70

£331 was Gift Aided

THURSDAY 16 MAY – WHITTAKER LOUNGE COFFEE MORNING

Amount taken	£70
Collecting Tin	£11
TOTAL	£81

12 /19 MAY CHURCH SERVICES - PERSONAL DONATIONS FROM ENVELOPES DISTRIBUTED

TOTAL	£491
--------------	-------------

£402 was Gift Aided

12 -18 MAY - HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION

TOTAL	£543.92
£246.20 was Gift Aided	
TOTAL MONEY BANKED	£1801.62
TOTAL GIFT AIDED	£979.20
+25% OF GIFT AIDED MONEY	£244.80
Charities Aid Foundation	£20
FINAL TOTAL RAISED	£2066.42

*Once again with grateful thanks to you all.
Lynne Davies*

A reader asks.....

Page 1 of the May newsletter mentions that three URC synods have passed resolutions on the URC Trust regarding the Trust's investments in fossil fuel - Scotland, South Western and Thames North. What action is Wales URC taking to halt such investments?



At the URC Mission Council meeting in May, a proposal that the United Reformed Church should divest from fossil fuel companies, and increase investments in renewable energy, was unanimously approved. For more information, please see the URC website ... <https://urc.org.uk/latest-news/3058-urc-votes-unanimously-to-divest-from-fossil-fuel-companies.html>

BEULAH URC new Facebook page

Though our closed group 'Beulah Friends' is our way of communicating internally with each other, a new external Facebook page called 'Beulah URC' was recently launched, as part of our public face in the wider community. It would be good if as many of you as possible could 'like' the new page to spread the word. We need to post things of interest happening in Beulah as a way of 'promoting' ourselves more widely, so should you want to make a post on the page, contact Andrew, Harley, Colin, Huw, Kevin or me ; we will be able to help you, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Viv Jones



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.

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.

KIN

Together we care and together we share

Big Brekkie

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Big Brekkie at the beginning of Christian Aid week ... we raised an amazing £685.70

Special thanks to Ian McDowell and Ann Brown for all their work preparing and selling the plants which raised £204.85 of the total.

Thank you too to those who helped organise the event, ensured there was plenty to eat and helped on the day.

Rhiwbina Summer Festival is nearly upon us again!

It's being held this year on Saturday 29th June from 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

As always, we'll have a cake stall outside the Margaret Whittaker Lounge in the morning - can you help look after the stall or provide us with some cakes please? .

There will also be activities in and around the Church and refreshments in the Canolfan throughout the day. So can you help us and spare some time on the day? It will also mean that you'll be in the middle of the festival in the village too!!

Further details will be in the notices and on Beulah Friends, but please save the date!

Thank you

KIN - (Kindred in Need)

How it started

56 years ago Mrs Lilian Oldfield Davies spoke to the whole church in 1962 about the situation in Europe after the war about people who needed help. She focussed on a family in Graz in Austria - the mother Helena, and 12 year old daughter Waltraud. They had very little but they had a pump for water in the garden. The church decided to adopt them and KIN was formed. They had very little furniture so one of the things we gave them was a bedroom suite which they called Beulah. They came to Rhiwbina for a holiday in 1963. They stayed with us for a month. The idea was that church members would take them out for day trips, but they found that very tiring so they often rested - Waltraud lying on the carpet doing jigsaws. We spoke very little German and they very little English, but with Trudi Wilson's fluent German, and a dictionary, we managed very well. Trudi's son

Alan may well still be in touch with the family. They called Liz - 3 years old - "*kleine maus*", Jonathan was 5 years old then. Some years later Helena married Jacob who had lost a leg during the war. Mary and John Prosser and we visited them at their home in Graz when we were on holiday in Vienna. By this time Waltraud was married to Rudi so we no longer supported them, but we've kept in touch. They had a son called Thomas who grew up and married Daniela. They now have a young daughter called Nina. Helena has died but we still keep in touch with the rest of the family. Cliff Jones was also involved at the beginning, and KIN has gone on to help many people since then.

Alun and Marg

Who's Doing What and When

		Mini-Bus Drivers	Duty Elder	Stewards	Pulpit Reader
June					
2nd	am	Mike & Huw	Gaynor Rees	Kaye Mundy & Kate Stanbury	Chris Phelps
9th	am	Tony & Audrey	Marianne Barwise	Jill & Peter Ferdinando	Louise Morgan
16th	am	Bill & Colin	Ian McDowell	Mary & Mike Warsop	Vera Ruddock
23rd	am	Huw & Giles	Helen Harries	Keirsten Eales & Ann Grimes	Fiona Liddell
30th	am	Harley & Catherine	Tony Webb	Eleanor Mills & Mary Prosser	Hollie Glanfield
					Anne Thomas
July					
7th	am	Mike & Keith	Eleri John	Trix Pryce & Lynne Davies	Pat Agland
	pm	United communion service at Bethany			
14th	am	Tony & Audrey	Jenny McDowell	Pam Panny & Denise Dickman	Jill Ferdinando
21st	am	Bill & Colin	Anne James	Betty Evans & Richard Sweetnam	Liz McCarthy
28th	am	Huw & Giles	Mary Edwards	Pat Agland & Helen Harries	..tba..



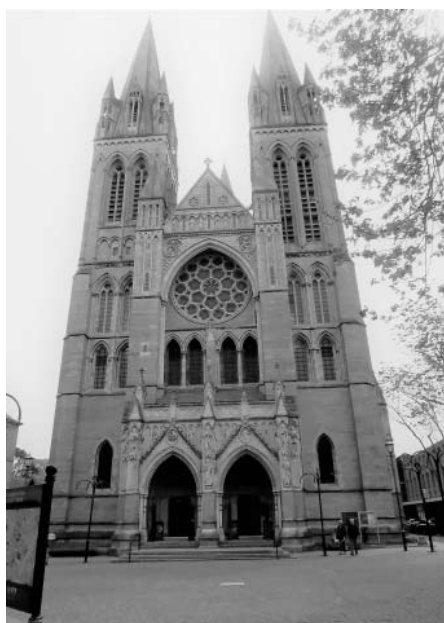
Flower Rota

June

2nd Bev & Ian Hampson
 9th Mary Prosser
 16th Mair Haywood
 23rd Vicki & Jonathan Grimes
 30th The Wales Family

July

7th Anne & Frank Rees
 14th Mary Edwards
 21st Pat & Cyril Cazenave
 28th tba



**Colin Grimes,
Huw Morgan,**

Please note, new editorial e-mail:
crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk

Editors' Note

The deadline for articles for
 the July/August edition of
Crossroads is
 Sunday, 30th June and Colin
 will be editing.