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## CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

### Church News

*O Wind, If Winter comes, can  
Spring be far behind?  
Shelley*

**Happy New Year!** We had some beautiful cold, blue days over Christmas but January saw the return of rain, wind and snow for some. It was good to see so many familiar faces in the congregation at our various Christmas services, particularly the young people returning home for Christmas.

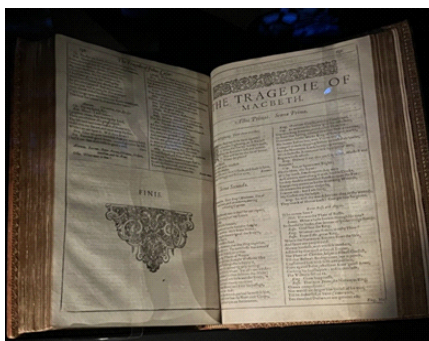
It was a busy Beulah Christmas with many carol services, inside and outside the church - on the Saturdays in December, and in Y Groes and Rhiwbina Tap. It was wonderful to share carol singing with others in the community. The blessing of the crib service saw a large cast of children making it a magical Christmas Eve. Many thanks to all who led our services, took part in the music and readings and AV, decorated the church and catered at all the various events. I hope I haven't missed anyone out!

I managed to go to Stratford over the Christmas period and was moved to see on display in Holy Trinity Church, their copy of the King James Bible from

1613 and it is thought Shakespeare would have heard lessons read from it.



In the Royal Shakespeare Theatre they had their copy of the First Folio dating from 1623. It felt comforting just before Christmas day, when we look to old traditions and remember past family Christmas' gatherings, to see two books over 400 years old, both still holding meaning and beauty for us, and to remember, that as we go to church on a Christmas morning, so did many throughout the centuries, including Williams Shakespeare and his family.



In this age when AI and technology are gaining ground, it

is good to remember the importance of the written word and the work of those who produced it.

Remembering the written word: we shouldn't forget our own written word in Crossroads - appearing so constantly throughout the year - so thank you Colin Grimes and Nigel Barwise.

Every blessing

Anne



**CONTACT**

### Ministers in the Pastorate:

Revd. Martha McInnes,  
Revd. David Dean

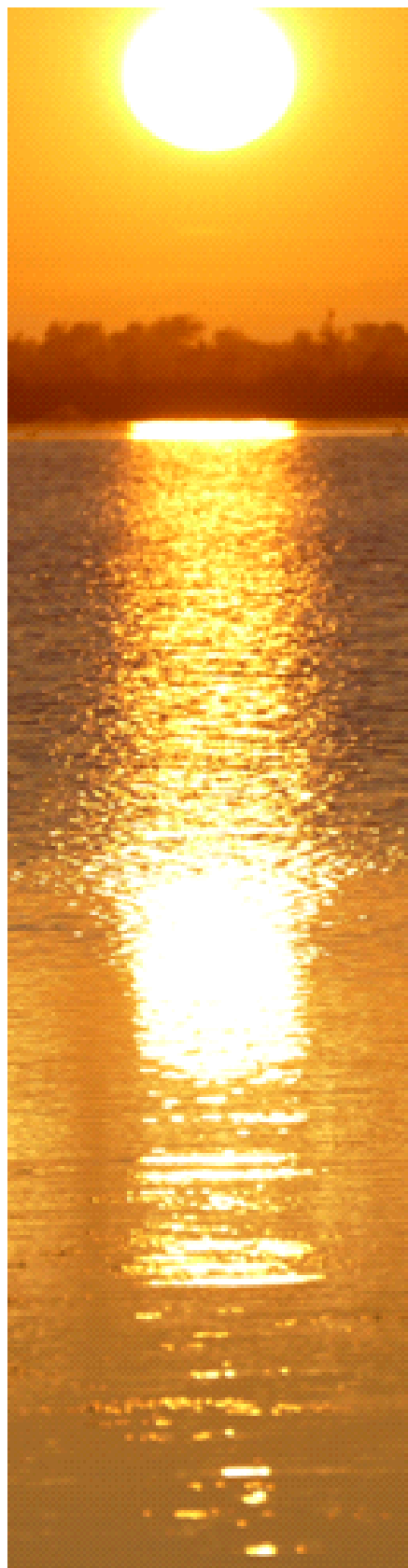
Email: [ministers@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:ministers@beulahurc.org.uk)

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

Church Treasurer: Barbara Rhys, Email: [treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk)

Church Office: Email: [bookings@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:bookings@beulahurc.org.uk)





## Thank you for flowers

Thank you for the flowers from Beulah, they were very cheerful. Sarah had an operation and was in hospital for a week before Christmas. We are pleased to say that she is making sure and steady progress towards recovery. Thank you for all your best wishes.

*Sarah, Mark, Charlotte and  
Robin*

## 'Thank You'

A big thank you to Ann and Colin for organising our Christmas meal at Whitchurch Golf Club. This is always a lovely way to start the Christmas celebrations with good food and good friends. A special 'thank you' also to all the Beulah church family for the cake and cards to celebrate my 96<sup>th</sup> birthday.

*John Williams*

## Church Transport

Need a lift to and from church on Sundays? Please mention it to your Pastoral Elder, or Tony Webb, or Ann and Colin, and we will do our best to arrange it.

## Letter from the Manse

(Continued from Front page)

windows looked out upon a wooded area. It was a beautiful backdrop for worship. What would happen if, instead of stained glass or cloudy glass, all our windows were clear? The stained glass, while beautiful, sometimes feels like it hides our connection to the world. If all our windows were clear, we could see the world during worship. Of course, our settings are not always beautiful, but they are God's good creation--whether it is a busy street, a pub, or a carpark. With clear windows, the connection between worship and the communities in which we live might be more obvious. Can we clear the windows of our hearts and bring the world into our worship space, our prayer lives, and our actions of Jesus?

'The victim asks the bystander to share the burden of pain. The victim demands action, engagement, and remembering' writes Judith Herman. We have to witness what is happening and tell the story. Sometimes we have to remember the person, like Renee Good. Sometimes we have to say what we see happening. And sometimes we have to tell an alternative story--one of justice, mercy and grace--all of which are God's story.

These are challenging times. May God guide us to the work and witness which reflects love.

Peace,

*Martha and David*

The **Community Meal** on 22 February will start at 12.30pm after the Church Meeting



Helping churches to care for creation together



**Eco Group news –  
what we're doing and how you can get involved!**

Beulah is part of a group of Eco Churches in Cardiff who are sharing ideas about taking environmental action within our communities.

We're holding a joint event to mark this year's **"Show the Love"** initiative on **Saturday, 14th February from 2.00 – 5.00pm in the Canolfan.**

We want to focus on the *Community and Global Engagement* aspect of the Eco Church scheme and are inviting churches from all denominations across Cardiff to join us. The hope is that we can share experiences and ideas around campaigning and lobbying for urgent climate action, and we'll be thinking about how best to build relationships with our elected representatives.

There will be speakers from Christian Aid, Eco Church and Climate Cymru, opportunities to lobby using postcards and petitions, craftivism activities led by Marianne, stalls, a quiz and lots of tea and cake!

Please do come along and join us on the day - there will be inspiring speakers and lots of interesting stalls. It would be great if we could have a really good representation from Beulah.

If you have any questions or you can offer some cakes or help on the day, please contact Eileen.

Thank you.

### **Lent Groups**

Lent begins on 18 February with Ash Wednesday. In Lent we will offer a series of reflective learning groups. They will be based on the book, 'Receiving Jesus: The Way of Love,' by Marrian Edgar Budde, the bishop of Washington, DC. Budde looks at what she feels are essential practices which enable us to live in love.

Sessions will happen at **Canton Uniting Church**, Wednesdays from 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. and at Beulah and City, Thursdays, from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The sessions at Canton begin on 4 February but do not include 18 February. The sessions at **Beulah and City** begin on 26 February, and alternate between the two venues, starting at Beulah. You are welcome to attend whichever suits your schedule each week. Martha and David will be leading the session at City and Beulah.

### **Space4U Food Collection**

Thank you for your continuing support for the Space4U Food collection each month.

A box will be available in the porch as usual on the 1st Sunday of the month. Long life milk, fruit juice, tins of tomatoes, tins of tuna and packets of dried spaghetti are welcome.

Thank you.

*Jenny*

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study Opportunity. As we enter Year A of the Lectionary, the focus of the Gospel readings will be Matthew and John. So, we thought we could begin a Bible study looking at The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5 -7. Whether you know a lot or know nothing, come along to the Margaret Whittaker Lounge on **28 January**, from 6.30 to 8.00 pm. If you want to bring food to eat, please do. We will look at the passage and learn together about what Jesus was saying to his disciples in this 'sermon'.

Bible Study will take place again on **25 February**, in the MWL; continuing our exploration of Matthew. Come along. Bring your evening meal if you like. We will start at 6.30 p.m.

### **Retreat**

#### ***In the Shadows***

**12-14 June 2026, Trefeca**

'*In the Shadows*' we will be looking at some of the characters we don't notice very often in the Bible.

We gather on Friday evening and leave Sunday after lunch. Saturday afternoon is free to walk, talk or explore the local area. All welcome. Talk to Martha if you are interested. The accommodation and food are fabulous.

### **Lunchtime Concert**

Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup>  
February at 1.00 pm

#### **Trio Caer**

Elizabeth May – flute,  
Nancy Johnson – viola  
Aisha Palmer – harp

All three are established musicians in their own right.

A lovely combination of instruments with the programme in particular exploring their unique colours.

Look forward to seeing you there. Come and hear something a little different!

Tickets as usual £8 on the door

### **CHURCH/CANOLFAN CARETAKER**

We have been fortunate to have had Gavin Williams as our Caretaker for many years now but he has indicated that he will be relinquishing the role on 31 March this year. We thank Gavin for his all his years of service and it is important that we find a replacement. A monthly financial sum is offered. For a copy of the Job Description and/or more information please contact: Barbara Rhys, Church Treasurer.

## Beulah Charity Fundraising Team (KIN) Update

Beulah Charity Fundraising Team (KIN) Christmas and other giving totals are recorded below. A big thank you to Barbara for all she does as treasurer to monitor and distribute funds raised. Through church and community activities we have raised monies to support a wide variety of Charities supporting those in need abroad and more locally.

- Foodbank (from community lunches): £365.00. (We have raised an amazing total of £1,046.50 for them since the lunches started.)
- Help Health International (for prosthetic limbs for Beulah, who is now growing into a beautiful young lady): £210.98
- Rhiwbina Winter Festival Space4U: £473.50 and Tenovus £432.61
- Carol Singing for City Hospice: £460.49
- Raffle for Shelterbox: £319.00 topped up from KIN funds to £590 to cover entire Shelterkit.
- Christmas Card for Papyrus: £450.18
- Blessing the Crib for Ty Hafan: £539.14

As part of my new Church Life Eldership role I have taken over the reins of co-ordinating fundraising and the associated awareness raising work which for many years has happened in Beulah through KIN, Kindred in Need. KIN grew

from a desire of a small group of church members to support refugees after the 2nd World War. It has an amazing and proud heritage and a history of able, motivated and dedicated leads pushing it forward. I am finding it humbling learning the time and energy so many in Beulah put in, to support fundraising for causes dear to their hearts. We are very lucky as a church to have this commitment, and to live in an affluent area that can support such grand totals.

The nature of fundraising is always evolving and I am keen to hear from any / all of you about how Beulah continues this important area of church life in these challenging times. Discussions about the group's name, who we support, how we support are key to keeping its focus relevant and effective. It is also important the group's focus reflects the wishes of the church and that members direct how funds raised are distributed. I would love to hear your thoughts on what and how Beulah continues to support in 2026 and beyond. Please catch me in church, email me, or come along to the next meeting after church on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the Canolfan.

*Marianne Barwise*

## World Day of Prayer

A reminder that the World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 2.00 pm.

This year it will be hosted by Rhiwbina Baptist Church, Lon Ucha, CF14 6HL.

The service has been prepared by Christian women from Nigeria and is entitled

*"I will give you rest, come."*

Light refreshments will be held after the service. A warm invitation is extended to all and we hope that many of you from Beulah will be able to attend.

*Diane Burton and Mary Bidnell*

### Webinar series:

#### A church with people at the margins

In partnership with North Western Synod, the Faith in Action Team is hosting four 90-minute webinars throughout 2026 exploring what it means for the URC to be A Church with People at the Margins.

Starting on 16 February, the series is designed to help congregations become places where people at the margins are loved, nurtured and empowered. Jesus consistently elevated people at the margins,

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not by *doing to* or *doing for*,  
but by being with.

Rather than adding more projects to the busyness of church life, the A Church with People at the Margins” offers space to share what is already working in our churches, how to deepen impact through existing ministry, and where new opportunities for worship and discipleship might begin.

Small or big, rural or urban, coastal or estate; busy, quiet, growing, surviving or flourishing - all congregations are invited to share in this common calling: to be welcoming, inclusive, outreaching, anti-poverty, and deeply rooted as community hubs where people can find belonging, support and hope. The webinars will take place from 7-8.30pm on the following dates:

- Monday 16 February
- Monday 11 May
- Monday 10 August
- Monday 16 November

Each webinar will have a different focus, with a guest speaker offering insight from their own experience of marginality. You are welcome to come to one or all of the sessions – we’ll share more on the content of each forum soon.

To pre-register, visit  
[urc.org.uk/margins](http://urc.org.uk/margins).

Hello

This is Mo Alamgir from Darul Isra Mosque.

I’m writing to invite you to a community evening that feels especially relevant right now — not because most people are hateful, but because many of us quietly struggle with how to respond when uncomfortable moments arise.

Religious hatred rarely shows up in obvious ways. More often, it appears in everyday comments, jokes, assumptions, or situations where something feels *off* and we’re left unsure whether to speak up, how to respond, or whether it’s even our place to say anything at all.

With that in mind, Darul Isra Mosque is hosting an open, respectful discussion exploring **anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim hatred**, led by speakers from both Jewish and Muslim backgrounds. The focus isn’t on blame or politics, but on real, everyday experiences, how these issues show up in ordinary life, and how people can feel more confident recognising and addressing them when they do.

### **When Faith Becomes a Target**

with Professor David Cohen and Sheikh Ibrahim

**Thursday 29th January**

**7:30pm – 9:00pm**

**Darul Isra Mosque, Cathays (CF24 4BG)**

This event is open to everyone. No prior knowledge is needed, and no special attire is required. It’s designed to be accessible, conversational, and welcoming.

**Register here:** <https://forms.gle/QGxZ9r8jTSUtRJtg9>

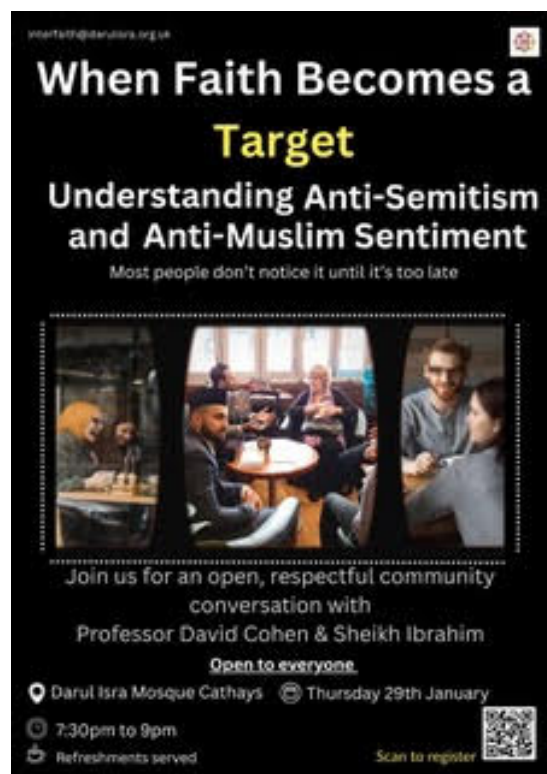
Refreshments will be available throughout the evening.

If you feel this is something others might benefit from (friends, family, or colleagues) please do share it.

Many people want to understand these issues better but don’t always know where to start, and a space like this can make that first step easier.

I hope you can join us.

Kind regards,





## THE HUDDLE

What is The Huddle? A good question.

It is an opportunity for anyone and everyone to meet regularly, or occasionally, in the middle of the week and takes place from 11.00 a.m. in the Whittaker Lounge on Wednesdays during term time. These are times of quiet reflection and a variety of people kindly lead each session. We usually finish around 12 noon as no morning would be complete without a cup of coffee/tea and chat as well. On the third Wednesday we have informal discussion and coffee/tea and cake!

Those who currently attend find it a special time of friendship and sharing. Please do drop in one Wednesday and you will receive a very warm welcome.

## Populism, Politics and the Claim to Christianity: How should the church respond?

A lecture by Dr. Helen Paynter, director of the Centre of the Study of the Bible and Violence, on 31 January from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at City URC.



## Populism, Politics and the Claim to Christianity: How should the church respond?

Rev Dr Helen Paynter, Bristol Baptist College

City United Reformed Church, Cardiff  
14:00 Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026  
Free Entry



This lecture is delivered in partnership with Taberbacl, City United Reformed Church, Cardiff Baptist College as part of the Cytun Public Theology Programme

## Church Leadership Programme (CLP) and Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher Programme (AALP)

If you are interested in either there are two taster sessions coming up on Zoom as

follows: AALP: 29 January 7-8 pm; CLP: 12 February 7-8 pm. To book please contact: Luther King Theological College (formerly Northern College), [christine.hufton@lutherking.ac.uk](mailto:christine.hufton@lutherking.ac.uk).

## Editors' Note

The **copy date** for articles to be included in the **March 2026** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 15th February**.

Contributions should be sent to Colin, in person, by post or by email at: [crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk)

### Editors:

Colin Grimes

Nigel Barwise

Email: [crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk)





## PEACE PEBBLES



### A Morning for Mindful Making

In response to the pain of our world, Martha will lead a session on how to make 'peace pebbles'. The process is focused on creating, which may quiet our busy minds, and give us moments to pray and chat while we are crafting.

On 28 February from 10.30 to Noon, come upstairs in the Canolfan and join the session. The pebbles can be used later to focus your thoughts and prayers throughout the day to pray for peace for yourself and the world.

Let Martha know if you plan to attend.

### Church Deep Clean

This will be in mid March - date to follow in next edition



Joy of Learning would like to invite you to a

## BARN DANCE!

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2026

6.30pm till 9.30pm in Canolfan Beulah

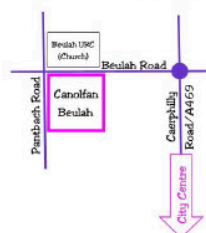
With Live band!

Free entry – there will be a collection for Joy of Learning and an opportunity to buy Ugandan Crafts. In between dances – while you get your breath back! – you'll be able to hear about what Joy of Learning has been getting up to recently.

The evening will include hot dogs and ice cream (served separately!☺) ....so please let us know if you would like to come so we can cater for all.

RSVP to [cheerfamily1@outlook.com](mailto:cheerfamily1@outlook.com) or [joyoflearningug@outlook.com](mailto:joyoflearningug@outlook.com)

#### Canolfan Beulah



At the crossroads in Rhiwbina, opposite the church:

Beulah United Reformed Church,  
Beulah Road,  
Rhiwbina,  
Cardiff  
CF14 6LT



## ***ELDERS' DUTY ROSTER***

<b>Elders and Stewards Rota, February-March 2026</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Elder on duty (DE) &amp; Stewards (S)</b>	<b>Vestry prayer</b>	<b>Communion</b>		
			<b>Minister's right</b>	<b>Minister's left</b>	<b>Preparation</b>
			<b>(p = Prayer)</b>		
<b>1st February Communion</b>	Jonathan Grimes(DE) Liz McCarthy (S) Fleur Richards (S)	Bev Hampson	Geraint Richards Mark Stephens	Secretary Jenny McDowell (P)	Geraint Richards
<b>8th February</b>	Keirsten Eales (DE) Hollie Thomas (S) Viv Morgan (S)	Mark Stephens			
<b>15th February</b>	Marion Williams (DE) Tony Webb (S) Derek Evans (S)	Ian McDowell			
<b>22nd February</b>	Arlene Ramasut (DE) Mary Edwards (S) Helen Harries (S)	Anne James			
<b>1st March Communion</b>	Geraint Richards(DE) Naomi Williams(S) Cathy Wales (S)	Kate Hampson	Andy Wales Colin Grimes (P)	Secretary Bev Hampson	Andy Wales
<b>8th March</b>	Jenny McDowell (DE) Eleri John (S) Mike Warsop (S)	Colin Grimes			
<b>15th March</b>	Mark Stephens (DE) Norman Henderson (S) June Henderson (S)	Gaynor Rees			
<b>22nd March</b>	Ian McDowell (DE) Barbara Clift (S) Denise Dickman (S)	Geraint Richards			
<b>29th March Palm Sunday</b>	Kate Hampson (DE) Mary Edwards (S) Tony Webb (S)	Keirsten Eales			

### **AV, Reader, Intercessions, Flower Rotas**

<b>Date</b>	<b>AV</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Arranger</b>
<b>February</b>					
1st	Richard Sweetnam	Peter Ferdinando	Ruth Williams	tba	tba
8th	James Hall	Andrew Glanfield	Pat Ruddock	tba	Beverley
15th	Nigel Barwise	Neil Kidd	Ian McDowell	Arlene Ramasut	Arlene
22nd	Andy Wales	Bev Hampson	June & Norman Henderson	Liz Yardley - Richards	tba
<b>March</b>					
1st	Andrew Glanfield	Audrey Budding	Kaye Mundy	tba	tba
8th	Ian McDowell	Liz Kidd	Eleanor Mills	Lesley Richards	Marianne
15th	Richard Sweetnam	Marion Williams	Mark Stephens	Arlene Ramasut	Arlene
22nd	James Hall	Kate Hampson	Mary Bidnell	tba	tba
29th	Andy Wales	Gaynor Rees	Giles Ballisat	tba	tba

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

## From Welcome to Belonging: An Invitation

Beulah prides itself on being a welcoming Church, with an engaged and active membership. It's neat, compact chapel takes pride of place on the crossroads, with the Canolfan just across the way – all nestled in the heart of Rhiwbina village.

A perfect picture.

But what does it really mean to be a welcoming Church?

Welcome is already central to life at Beulah, expressed through relationships, shared worship, and community. Inclusivity builds on this, inviting us to think intentionally about how we remove barriers - seen and unseen - so that everyone can participate fully, be themselves, and feel a genuine sense of belonging.

By committing to the Inclusive Church programme, Beulah has already taken an important step on that journey. Inclusivity isn't about undoing what we do well – it's about building on our strengths, listening carefully, and being open to small but meaningful changes that help remove barriers we may not even realise are there.

Moving from being welcoming to becoming more intentionally inclusive will take time, thought, and collaboration – our Elders have had a number of discussions on this and

believe now is the right moment to begin. We're looking to form a small working group to explore what inclusivity, and accessibility could look like at Beulah, and to help shape a practical plan for 2026 and beyond.

You don't need any special expertise – just curiosity, compassion, and a willingness to be part of the conversation.

If you'd like to be involved, or simply want to find out more, please get in touch with Andrew Glanfield or Rachel Hazlewood, and let's take these next steps together.

*Because everyone deserves more than a welcome – they deserve belonging.*

## Beulah URC

# Family Film Shows

Family favourites on the big screen

Suitable for all ages\*



**Saturday afternoons 3.00pm**

**21st Feb & 21st Mar 2026**

**Canolfan Beulah, Rhiwbina Village**

**FREE of charge**

Interval ice cream    No booking required

Call or text 07891 707039 for enquiries or further details

*\* Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult*



## Beulah United Reformed Church

**February 2026**

**All welcome**

<b>Sunday 1 February</b>	10.30am	Worship – Revd David Dean/Revd Martha McInnes Junior Church
	6.00pm	BWise
<b>Wednesday 4 February</b>	6.00pm	Lent Group (at Canton Uniting)
<b>Sunday 8 February</b>	10.30am	Worship –Mr Iestyn Henson Junior Church
<b>Monday 9 February</b>	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
<b>Tuesday 10 February</b>	7.30pm	Theology on Tap, Deri Inn
<b>Wednesday 11 February</b>	6.00pm	Lent Group (at Canton Uniting)
<b>Sunday 15 February</b>	10.30am	Worship – Rev G Rhys Junior Church Beulah Charity Fundraising Team (KIN) meeting
<b>Saturday 21 February</b>	3.00pm	Family Film
<b>Sunday 22 February</b>	10.30am	Rev Stephen Best Junior Church
	11.30am	Church Meeting
	12.30pm	Community Meal, Canolfan
	5.45pm	Towards the End of the Day, Canolfan
<b>Wednesday 25 February</b>	6.00pm	Lent Group (at Canton Uniting)
	6.30pm	Bible Study (Margaret Whittaker Lounge)
<b>Thursday 26 February</b>	7.30pm	Lent Group (at Beulah)
<b>Saturday 28 February</b>	10.30am	A Morning for Mindful Making (Canolfan)

### Regular Weekly Activities

<b>Sundays</b>	7.15 – 9.00pm (termtime)	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
<b>Mondays</b>	9.30 – 12.00 (termtime)	<b>Miss Tilleys Community Café</b>
	2.00 – 3.00pm	<b>Women's Fellowship</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	9.30 – 12.00 (termtime)	<b>Miss Tilleys Community Café</b>
	9.30 – 11.00 (termtime)	<b>Beulah Tots</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	11.00 – 12.00 (termtime)	<b>The Huddle</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	9.30 – 12.00 (termtime)	<b>Caffi Dosbarth</b>
<b>Fridays and Saturdays</b>	10.00 – 12.30	<b>Whittaker Lounge Café</b>