



AN OPEN DOOR
NEWSLETTER
OF
WEST DERBYSHIRE URC
COLDWELL STREET, WIRKSWORTH
November 2017



Minister : Revd Camilla Veitch
10 Woodlands, Wirksworth
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It was good to sing this new challenging hymn at our Harvest Service, written by Shirley Erena Murray and evoked by the UN Declaration of Human Rights and her involvement with Amnesty International.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead.

*And God will delight when we are
creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we
are creators of justice; justice, and joy.*

For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding to share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

Joy F. Patterson, Shirley Erena Murray
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NEWS OF THE CHURCH AND CHURCH FAMILY

We send all good wishes to Jenny's sister and husband, Judy and Ken Bunting, on their move to Wirksworth. A number of our members and friends are not too well at the moment. Please remember them in your prayers and visit where possible.

Harvest Festival

Sunday 1st October a warm wet drizzly morning. Our Harvest Service was set to go. The main body of the church was full of people – we had visitors from Ashbourne who brought with them Clive Sutcliffe who had been a Minister at our church in the 1980's. The harvest table was overflowing with gifts of food and flowers which were to be sold after the service, the proceeds of which were to be sent with our envelope gifts to the farmers of Malawi (£192.32 – many thanks to those who gave so generously).

Camilla's theme for the service was about food, from being very plentiful in some places to being very meagre in others. We watched pictures on the screen and heard the story of a farmer called Frank in Malawi who because of problems with the weather his crops failed so he couldn't feed his family. We sang some lovely harvest hymns throughout the service before celebrating communion together. The children then came back into church from their Explorers Group showing the work that they had been doing during the morning.

Ann Radford

The Reformation – A talk by The Reverend Dr Stephen Orchard on Sunday 15th October

Stephen also conducted our worship on 8th October. Both his talk and sermon were informative and enlightening. October 31st marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther, a priest and theologian, nailing 95

Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Martin Luther protested about the practice in the Catholic Church of paying for the forgiveness of sins, thereby reducing time spent in purgatory before going to heaven. This, he thought put a price on repentance and forgiveness. Luther stood for forgiveness through faith and being accepted because of the death of Jesus on the cross.

Because people protested they became known as Protestants.

Stephen gave an insight into the life of Luther after he had posted his Theses. He was persecuted and excommunicated from the Catholic Church in 1521.

At the end of the talk Camilla read Luther's prayer and we all said the grace together.

There were between 40 and 50 people attended and we shared a 'bring and share meal' in the Glenorchy Centre.

Charles and Maureen.

Shoe Boxes

We have received a delightful letter of thanks from Ashbourne Methodist Church for the £100 donation towards the transport of the shoe boxes. The letter is displayed on the porch notice board. They also send a sincere thank you for all the many items which have been included in the boxes.

Church Flower Rota

Flowers are placed in church each week and they look delightful. At the close of the service the flowers are taken to people and give great pleasure and comfort to many. There is a flower rota which Joyce prepares and at the moment there are vacant dates. If you would like to place flowers in church, and fill one of the vacant dates, please have a word with Joyce so that your name can be included.

EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Coffee Evening

Carole and Roy invite you to share their American adventure when they will show slides to music in the Glenorchy Centre on Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm. There will be a raffle and admission is £3. The money raised will be for church funds. All are welcome.

Annual Christmas Bazaar

This will be held on Saturday 18th November in the Memorial Hall. There will again be different stalls and refreshments. If you are able to help please contact Ann Radford or Val Shore.

Christmas Food Hamper

Carole and Roy have prepared a Christmas hamper and you can choose a number between 1 and 100 for £1 a go. You can have as many goes as you wish by contacting Carole and the draw will be made at the Christmas Bazaar.

Coffee and mince pies at the URC

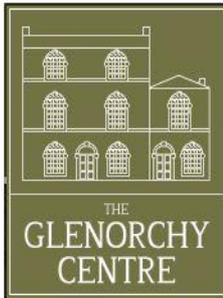
On Sunday 26th November from 11am to 4pm we are serving coffee and mince pies. (This is Wirksworth Christmas market day.) If you can help on the day (or can provide mince pies) please let Terry Lemon know.

Christmas Giving

Each year we have a special collection for charity at Christmas. At our Church Meeting on 4th December we will decide which charities to give to this year. If you would like to suggest a charity please let Camilla or Ian know beforehand and bring any relevant information about it to the meeting.

All Saints Service Sunday 5th November – remembering our loved ones who have died

What is the difference between All Saints Day and All Souls Day? I like this definition by John Bell of the Iona Community: *“All Saints is the time when the church remembers all those who have been canonised who don’t have a special day to themselves. And All Souls is the day for remembering people who may not have been enrolled in the list of famous heroes of the faith, but whose life and witness have reflected the love of Jesus.”* In the United Reformed Church, we wouldn’t normally make such a distinction at all – as our understanding (along with Paul) is that all God’s people are the saints! However, the time around All Saints and All Souls has become a recognised time when people remember those who have died, and although our definitions may differ we would surely agree that there is value in providing a special day to remember people we have known and loved who have died. At our last church meeting it was agreed that on Sunday 5th November, the Sunday nearest to All Saints and All Souls, as part of our morning service we will include a time for people to remember loved ones who have died. There will be opportunity for those who so wish, to light a candle in memory of a loved one. It is our prayer that this will provide a meaningful way to remember and give thanks to God for the people we miss who are still precious to us. *Camilla*



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CHRISTMAS DATES AT THE URC

*Saturday 9th December at 630pm
Christmas Dinner prepared by the men of the church*

*Sunday 17th December at 10am
Sunday Explorers will lead the service.*

*Sunday 24th December at 6pm
Carol Service*

*Joint Christmas Day Service with
Wellspring Church to
be held at the URC at 10am*

Flowers in Church

5th Nov. Mrs P Goodwin

12th Nov. Mrs J Taylor

19th Nov. Mrs A Radford

26th Nov. Mrs J Brown

Church cleaning week beginning

6th Nov. Mrs T Lemon

13th Nov. Mrs C Powlson

20th Nov. Mrs A Radford

27th Nov. Mrs A Shore

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SERVICES

5th Nov. at 10am Revd C Veitch and Amanda Linney –
All Saints Service and Communion Service
12th Nov. at 10am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church.
12th Nov. at 6pm Revd C Veitch
19th Nov. 10am The Elders
26th Nov. at 10am Mrs A Cook

Vestry Duty: Ian Wright Porch Duty : Maureen/Charles Butlin

Sunday Explorers! Children are invited to 'explore' God's Word Together. Activities are held in the side room during the Sunday Morning Service.

Regular Events at West Derbyshire URC

Mon. 7 - 9pm – Table Tennis in the Glenorchy Centre.

Tues. 9.30 - 10am – Morning Prayers at the URC.

Fri. 9 – 11am - Toast and Tea at the URC.

Other events at the URC

Thurs. 2nd Nov. at 7.30pm – Coffee Evening.

Tues. 7th Nov. at 7.30pm – Fellowship Meeting.

Sat. 18th Nov. 10 – 12 noon – URC Christmas Bazaar.

Thurs. 23rd Nov. at 7.30pm – CTWD Mtg.

Sunday 26th Nov. 11am to 4pm – Coffee and mince pies.

Mon. 27th Nov. at 7.30pm – Derbyshire Area Meeting at Rosehill
URC.

Other Services / Events

Tuesday 14th at 11am - Communion Service at Waltham House

Tues. 28th Nov. at 8.30pm – “Be Still” gathering at Studio 1, Coach
House Studios, Crown Yard, Market Place, Wirksworth.

Thurs. 30th at 5.30pm – Meal at Wellspring Church.

