



# CHURCH NOTES

The transition from summer holiday to 'back to normal' was eased for nine of us by a retreat to Caldey. We went with some anxiety this year as we had no leader, and were having to 'do it ourselves'! But, as usual, the magic of Caldey did its work and we relaxed, chilled, walked, contemplated, discussed and worshipped, and came back with renewed and deepening friendships, and much to think about. Having our letters to ourselves arrive on our return stamped, 'Delayed by rough seas' just added to the wonder of it all!

September has been a busy month, with organisations re-starting and new ideas forming. Beulah Alive will now meet in John and Barbara's home and is going to change its name to 'House Group'. New members are always welcome, and the church is grateful for the work done for many years by Alun and John.

Some of our children moved departments on Promotion Sunday, and the work done by leaders was recognised and acknowledged. Some of our families missed this because they were camping in Pembrey, and it is great to see this tradition being maintained - as the photographs in Beulah Friends show, this is a wonderful way for people to get to know each other better!

As a church, we are delighted to welcome a new community venture which is taking place in the Whittaker Lounge. Miss Tilley's Café opened its doors here on Monday, September 19th and was buzzing with customers, wonderful cake and fantastic service from Laura and Claire. See the flyer in the porch for more details.

As mentioned last month, we need to choose 6 new elders this year, and we hope that many more of you will join this process this time and fill in your nomination forms. This is about all of us, so if at all possible, please consider prayerfully who

might have the skills and abilities needed at this time. The box will be in the vestibule on Sundays, September 25th, October 2nd and 9th.



At Church Meeting on September 19th we discussed the Transitional Ministry proposals. A brief summary of the discussions is available for those unable to attend. The opening devotions at Church Meeting used a passage from Ephesians 4, where Paul talks about how we bear each other in love, and the gifts that we are given in order to equip ourselves for ministry. The foundation of our work must be to continue to encourage and affirm each other in all that we do, and be thankful that we have the chance to discern what these gifts might be. Above all, we remember that the reason we are here is to go outside the church and serve the world that is waiting for us. I found this blessing recently, and used it to close our meeting:

*Let us go with courage into the costly path of Christ  
With imagination into the creative life of God,  
And with freedom into the dancing life of the Spirit.*

## Family News

A number of friends and members have been unwell, in hospital or at home, so we continue to think of them in our prayers. Among these are Anne Hughes (Tongwynlais), Mair Williams, Mildred Clift, Barbara Clargo, Anne Williams and Dorothy Jones. We also think of Nesta Thomas as she is having treatment for an eye condition, and Brenda Cheer who has received surgery on her knee. Our prayers and good

wishes also go to Peter Larcombe and Lorraine as Peter waits to receive treatment. We wish all these, and any others that I have not yet heard about, a speedy recovery. There are others who continue to have great anxiety about family members who are unwell – all these are thought of with love and concern.

Greetings are sent to Gwynfor Hughes, who I understand, has recently celebrated a special birthday.

The autumn is a time for many young people to move on to the next stage in education, and we hope that all those changing classes and schools will settle in and have a happy time. We send best wishes to those returning to university for the start of the new term – especially to those going away for the first time: Alice Cheer has gained a place in the Birmingham Conservatoire, and David Reynolds is off to Sheffield to study Geography.

We again shared the joy of a Beulah family wedding when Nicola Graham and Mark Coombes were married on 17th September. The ceremony was conducted by Ken, and was a truly happy day – the flowers beautifully arranged by Karen Holbrook, and the sun shining brightly. It must be the first wedding where the rings were borne on the horns of a toy woolly mammoth!

By the time you read this, Stephen Best's ordination and induction will have happened – we wish God's blessing on his ministry, and thank him for all his work here. His parting gift to us was a beautiful painting of

(Continued on page 3)

**Church Secretary:**  
Mrs. Louise Morgan,

**Church Treasurer:**  
Mrs. Barbara Rhys,

## CHURCH NOTES

### Family News (Continued)

a path through the trees – an apt metaphor for our on-going journey.

September has also been a month of moving on for one of our past ministerial students – the Revd. Anthony Beer is now Team Vicar to Laleston with Merthyr Mawr and Pen-y-Fai. The greetings and best wishes of Beulah were sent to Anthony, and he sends love and hugs to all here!

Finally, it was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of John Howells, the organist at Bethany. John was well known to many in Beulah through his work with The Three Choirs, and will be much missed. He had just finished putting together the music for this year's Advent Service, and we hope that this will go ahead as usual as a mark of honour and respect to John's memory. Our sympathies are with our friends at Bethany, and also John's partner and family.

Every blessing,  
*Louise.*

## THANK YOU

Dear Elaine, Ann and Beulah Family,

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers you gave me, via my Mum on her New Zealand trip to see me and baby Seren. Such a kind and touching thought.

I am thrilled to tell you that we will be returning to the UK (unfortunately, not to Cardiff just yet, but Taunton, Somerset, where Garry has a job – starting at the end of the year). So it is quite manic at the moment, trying to sort everything out – could do with Mum's help now!!! Anyway, we will be seeing you all sooner than later! How lucky is that!

Thank you again – love  
Geraldine.

28 August 2016

## All things bright.....?

(Continued from front page)

She came to work with us to help develop further the garden as a community garden. A laminated plan can be seen on the notices on the first floor of Canolfan.

We have added some new plants and now have a thriving herb garden. Neil (Kidd) does a great job of keeping the grass cut and topping up our three compost bins. We are now gradually filling in the gaps in the planting. Elaine has been working hard at filling planters and hanging baskets to fill the garden with colour. The "Men's Sheds" Group which meets on Thursday afternoons is renovating the garden seats and wooden planters.

We maintain an eco-congregation Facebook page for Beulah (Eco - congregation: Beulah URC Cardiff). Please use this more! Prayers or worship materials, projects, Junior Church and other activities with photos, materials, ideas or issues can all be posted there so that we have a record of our eco-related activities in one place.

Then, if we do decide to seek a renewal of the Award, we will have all the evidence to hand.....!

*"All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.*

*You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.*

*Pour out upon us the power of your love,*

*that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live*

*as brothers and sisters, harming no one.*

*O God of the poor,*

*help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.*

*Bring healing to our lives,*

*that we may protect the world and not prey on it,*

*that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction."*

*Amen*

(Extract from Laudato Si, Pope Francis' Encyclical on the call to care for our common home)

*Liz and Neil Kidd*

## BEULAH ALIVE (HOUSE GROUP)

You will have noticed from the weekly newsheet that we are, for the time being, going to be meeting at our home – 7 Clas Tyn-y-cae. This will help us and it will certainly be easier for everyone to park!

We hope to see all our regulars at 7.30pm as usual and would welcome anyone who would like to join us even if you aren't able to do so each week. We can provide lifts and tea, coffee and biscuits is a given!

*John and Barbara*



## REPORT FROM THE ELDERS' MEETING

12 September 2016

In response to the recent questionnaires, some of you commented that you don't know what happens at Elders' Meetings. In the past, reports have been given in Crossroads, but perhaps not recently, so I thought I might re-introduce the practice and start with a summary of the main items on the agenda this month.

### Matters Arising from July Meeting:

- It was reported that the Manse is now let and the tenants happily installed.
- An update was given about the recent worship training.
- Elders were informed about the forthcoming opening on Monday mornings in the Whittaker Lounge of Miss Tilley's Pop-up Café - more information elsewhere in Crossroads.

### 'The Big Church Switch':

This part of the meeting was attended by Eileen Newington and Andy Wales who presented a report about Beulah exploring the possibility of switching our energy supply to a company using renewable energy. Barbara is currently finding out about the likely costs of this, and the issue will soon go before the Finance Committee.

### Pastoral Report:

Betty Evans also attended part of the meeting to talk to Elders about the current work being done by the Pastoral Committee, and to give them a copy of a new leaflet about pastoral visiting.

### Transitional Ministry: sharing information with the congregation:

Elders were informed about the presentation which Stephen will give in worship on Sunday, 18 September, followed by the Church Meeting the following day. Elders in groups discussed what positive things they have seen happening in Beulah since April, and it was agreed to ask the congregation at the Church Meeting to do the same.

### The Questionnaires:

It was reported that 43 out of 170 were returned but that there was no clear view about the frequency and timings of meetings. There were many useful comments made about how meetings are conducted, and also concerns about leadership and communication at this time of vacancy. It was agreed to appoint a small group to look into some of the issues and report back to the December Elders' meeting with any proposals for consideration. Andrew Glanfield agreed to co-ordinate this group.

I hope that this will give you an idea of what is happening at Elders' Meetings – as you can imagine, much of them at the moment are taken up with issues around the vacancy and Transitional Ministry, but we are glad to see that other things are happening too.

*Louise*

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

## JUNIOR CHURCH

The next 'All Age Junior Church', will take place on Sunday 16th October, and will be led by Pat Ruddock.

### BAPTISMS

After long and thoughtful discussion, it has been decided that our Baptismal services for the foreseeable future will take the order of all of the Junior Church children being present in church for the Baptism, after which they will leave to join their departments in Canolfan. All children from the Baptismal party will be welcome to join in Junior Church activities that morning. There will be Creche facilities throughout available in the Margaret Whittaker Lounge.

*Ann Grimes*

## REFORM MAGAZINE

**Reform** is the monthly magazine published by the United Reformed Church. Some Beulah friends have been reading it for many years, but others may not have sampled it. If you would like a flavour of the topics covered, there is a church copy in the Whittaker Lounge which you may like to look at. It is a good way of finding out a bit more about what the URC is doing in other parts of the country, and often has interesting debates on controversial questions.

Laura says about Reform: "I have found the Magazine to be inspiring and light hearted to read. It has had some very interesting articles from celebrities e.g. David Suchet from the Poirot TV Series, talking about their own personal experiences of being a Christian. The Reform Magazine is actually a futurist magazine, talking about changes within URC Churches."

We are very grateful to Laura Davies who took on the job of ordering and distributing Reform a couple of years ago. It will soon be ordering time again for next year, so if you are interested, I know Laura would be very pleased to hear from you.

## Lunchtime Recital

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> October

at 1.05pm

### George Fradley – piano

George is a fourth year undergraduate at the RWCMD and is already considered to be an outstanding pianist.

In the summer of 2016 he was a finalist in the Ian Stoutsker Prize competition - the College's main award for musical, excellence.

Quite an achievement as an undergraduate!

He was born in Shropshire – not quite Wales, but getting near!

This is an opportunity to hear and to support this young pianist at the beginning of his career.

He will play a Beethoven sonata and some lighter Fauré and Barber.

### Another date for your diary

Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November

Sioned Gwen Davies – mezzo-soprano  
and  
Caradog Williams – piano

They are giving a recital themed on gypsy music.

Sioned recently won the young Welsh Singer Competition in St David's Hall and so will go on to represent Wales in next year's Cardiff Singer of the World Competition.

Tickets £5 on the door

### MONDAYS IN THE WHITTAKER LOUNGE

By the time you read this, we will have already held our first Monday coffee morning in the Lounge which is being run by Laura and Clare in aid of the Downs Syndrome Association. They trade under the name 'Miss Tilley's Community Café' which is a not-for-profit enterprise promoting equality and celebrating diversity. This is an exciting new venture for us with an opportunity to reach out to the community in a different way. We were delighted when the girls approached us and since then we have all worked hard to ensure that it can happen. The project has been approved by both Synod and the Elders and we are confident that it will be a success.

We would all welcome your support so do pop in on a Monday if you can – usual opening time of 10.00am to 12.30pm, and sample their delicious cakes, etc.

In the meantime, if you would like more information, please don't hesitate to have a word with me.

Barbara R

### Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

Yes, it's that time of the year already! Christmas cards are in the shops so I must start thinking about shoe boxes. Well, actually I think about them all year and look out for things to go in the boxes, just as so many of you do, too. Thank you for that. I'm grateful for all donations given to me throughout the year. Operation Christmas Child is one of the largest children's Christmas projects. Each child receives a shoebox as an unconditional gift of love, based on need, regardless of their background or religion.

In 2015, 11.2 million shoebox gifts were delivered to over 100 countries around the world. Beulah has been very generous over many years - about 20 or so. Yet again, I'm asking for your support and I know you will respond generously once more.

Lynne Davies has been wrapping shoe boxes over the Summer, so thanks go to her. These will be available in the Margaret Whittaker lounge after the service on 2nd October, or you can let me know if you require one.

Also, leaflets will be available for a reminder of how to pack a shoebox.

I will need all shoe boxes by Sunday, 18th November, but you can give them to me whenever they are ready. I am getting my lounge ready!!!!

Anybody requiring more information please give me a ring or speak to me. I will be happy to help.

Thank you once again,  
Love Elaine

# Church Calendar

## SEPTEMBER

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
	7.30pm:	Beulah Players in the Studio
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> :	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	10.30am:	Church Office
	1.05pm:	Concert at the Crossroads: Nidum Ensemble
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
	7.30pm:	Worship Training at City URC
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> :	3.15pm:	Youth Drop-In

## OCTOBER

<b>Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup>:</b> <b>(Elders' Nominations)</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Rev. Phillip Poyner</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b> <b>KIN Meeting after service</b> <b>United Communion service at All Saints</b> <b>Youth Fellowship</b>
	<b>6.00pm:</b>	
	<b>7.15pm:</b>	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> :	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> :	10.00-12.00 noon:	KIN Cake Stall
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>:</b> <b>(Elders' Nominations)</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Rev. Roger Bidnell: Baptism of Carys Towler</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b> <b>Keyboard Recital – John Cheer</b> <b>Youth Fellowship</b>
	<b>3.00pm:</b>	
	<b>7.15pm:</b>	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
	7.30pm:	Elders' Meeting
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> :	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	10.30am:	Church Office
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> :	7.00pm :	Thursday Social – showing the Film, 'Lady in the Van'
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> :	3.15pm:	Youth Drop-In
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Mr James Hall: Communion Service</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b> <b>Youth Fellowship</b>
	<b>7.15pm:</b>	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> :	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	10.30am:	Church Office
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> :	7.45pm:	Paradise Run Meeting, MWL
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>:</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Worship Team led by Mr Derek Evans</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b> <b>Dr Alun Jones - Worship in the Whittaker Lounge</b>
	<b>6.00pm:</b>	
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> :	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	10.30am:	Church Office
	1.05pm:	Concert at the Crossroads: George Fradley - piano
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> :	10.15am:	WRB Churches Together Prayers, St Teilo's, Whitchurch
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>:</b> <b>Paradise Run Collection</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Dr Alun Jones</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> :	2.00pm:	Women's Fellowship
<b>NOVEMBER:</b>	10.30am:	Mid-Week Meeting Point
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	10.30am:	Church Office
	7.30pm:	House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> :		Community Performance of Vivaldi 'Gloria', plus 'Fireworks' (!)
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10.30am:</b>	<b>Rev. Ken Graham</b> <b>Junior Church</b> <b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b> <b>United Communion Service at Bethany Baptist Church</b>
	<b>6.00pm:</b>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> :	7.30pm:	Church Meeting



# KIN

Together we care and together we share

## An Evening of Music, Fireworks and Refreshments

5<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm  
in the Church and Canolfan

### Vivaldi's Gloria Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks

Please come along and join in this evening  
of community singing led by John Cheer.  
The music will be followed by refreshments  
and fireworks in the garden.



Retiring collection in aid of **Homestart**

(Homestart BGR works locally to provide an essential support service to vulnerable families in Butetown, Grangetown and Riverside by offering friendship and practical help in their own homes).

See separate item for further details of rehearsals, etc



*The dedication's never ending*

### COFFEE MORNING

### CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & BAZAAR

Saturday 15th October  
between 10.00am -12 noon

In Canolfan Beulah,  
Beulah Road, Rhiwbina

In aid of  
Marie Curie Holme Tower  
Penarth

Sale of cakes, books, handmade greetings cards,  
crafts and gifts for Christmas

Admission - 50p (including refreshments)

**Remember, remember  
the 5<sup>th</sup> of November...**



...but not - entirely - for the usual reasons! Two years on from Beulah's Community Messiah performance, on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November we are putting on a concert centred around **Vivaldi's Gloria**. It's an uplifting and exuberant half an hour of music and, as with Messiah, we invite all who enjoy singing to come along and join in. The main rehearsal will be at 4 pm on the day, but those who don't already know the music and would like a chance to learn it in advance might like to come along to one of our optional **learn the notes** sessions: October 16<sup>th</sup> 7.45 pm, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Midday and October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 pm.

With the date in mind we will ask our small baroque band – who will accompany the Gloria – to play some movements from Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks. Then, providing the weather is reasonable, we'll have a few actual fireworks in the garden followed by suitable refreshments.

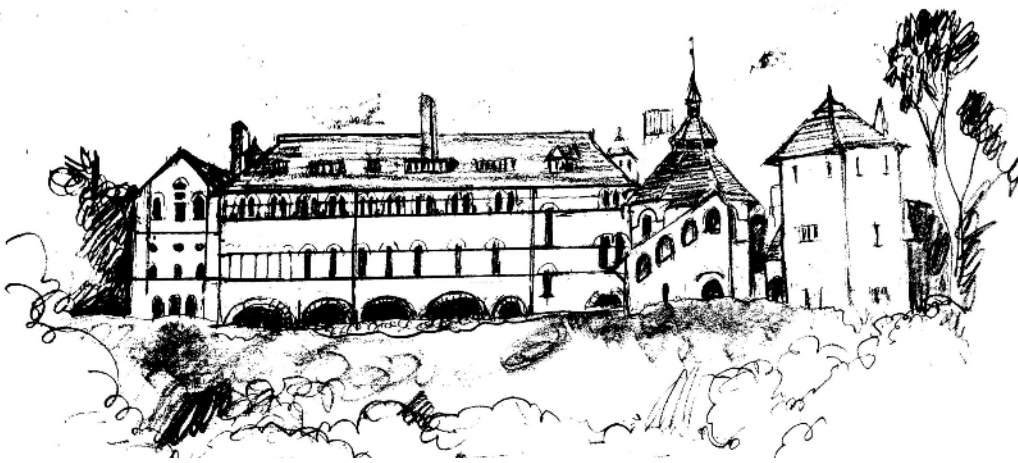
There will be a retiring collection for Homestart: Though a national charity, Homestart BGR very much works locally and provides an essential support service to vulnerable families in Butetown, Grangetown and Riverside. It is dedicated to improving the lives and wellbeing of children and their families by offering free support, friendship and practical help in their own homes.

Do come along and join us if you can on the 5<sup>th</sup>, whether as singer or as audience member. More information to follow in notices, on leaflets and on Beulah Friends Facebook.

*John*

## Who's Doing What and When

	<i>Driver on Rota</i>	<i>Duty Elder</i>	<i>Stewards</i>	<i>Pulpit Reader</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
<b>October</b>					
2nd am	Keith Jones	Nigel Barwise	Eleanor Mills & Diane Burton	Trix Pryce	Trix Pryce
pm	United Communion Service in All Saints				
9th am	Tony Webb	Ian McDowell	Frank Kinsey & Betty Evans	Helen Harries	Lorraine Larcombe
16th am	Harley Jones	Eleri John	Helen Harries & Ann Grimes	Kate Hampson	Alan Wilson
23rd am	Ian Budding	Peter Stevenson	Betty Hulston & Richard Sweetnam	Brenda Cheer	Glenys Scott
pm					
30th am	Mike Warsop	Nesta Thomas	Bev Hampson & Glenys Scott	Pat Ruddock	Barbara & John Rhys
<b>November</b>					
6th am	Huw Morgan	Anne Wilkes	Elinor Ludlow & John Prosser	Andy Wales	Phillip and Mary Edwards
pm	United Communion Service in Bethany				
13th am	Colin Grimes	Andrew Glanfield	Chris Phelps & Kaye Mundy	Huw Morgan	Nesta & Alan Thomas
20th am	Keith Jones	Tony Webb	Ann Grimes & Rubina Lewis	Heather Bishop	Eleri John
27th am	Tony Webb	Ann Brown	Denise Dickman & Pam Penny	Pat Agland	Alan Wilson
<b>December</b>					
4th am	Harley Jones	Richard Edwards	Duncan Pugh & Christine Pugh	Anne Thomas	Barbara Clargo
pm					
11th am	Ian Budding	Viv Jones	Elaine Edwards & Kate Stanbury	Colin Grimes	Ann Brown
18th am	Mike Warsop	Audrey Budding	Mary Edwards & Mary Prosser	Vera Ruddock	Tanya & Nick Hampson



The sketch on the left, of the monastery on Caldey Island, was kindly provided by Sarah Edwards, who found the time, whilst we were on Retreat, to put her talent as an artist to good effect. Thank you Sarah.

### Two hands, two feet and three keyboards

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 3 pm

I am planning to do a short, informal concert at Beulah in which I will play at least three different keyboard instruments – not at the same time I hasten to add... Suitable for all ages and with a retiring collection to offset some of the expenses involved in putting on our Community Vivaldi Gloria in November.

*John Cheer*



### Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **November 2016** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 23rd October** and **Huw** will be editing.