



## CHURCH NOTES

To all Beulah members and friends, greetings and good wishes for the New Year – although as it is already the end of January, it doesn't seem quite so new, now!

Christmas at Beulah provided us with an extraordinary range and depth of services, and I am grateful to all those who led worship throughout December, offering us insight, music, a chance to remember and reflect, to be challenged and disturbed, as well as comforted. Our children and young people moved, delighted, entertained and challenged us in equal measure in the services which they led. Above all, we were joined together in celebration, and the wonderful decorations provided by Karen and her team added much beauty to this. As most of you will know by now, 'Celebrating our Faith' will be our theme for the year. The strap lines: 'Celebrating the past, affirming the present and imagining the future' also link nicely with the exploration we are undertaking in our Transitional Ministry work – and I am particularly indebted to Betty Evans who is co-ordinating the theme ideas. We were grateful to the Revd. Gethin Rhys who began the theme in his service on January 22, helping us to ground our celebrations in the faith that lies behind them and which takes us out beyond the walls of the church.

The New Year began with a short act of worship led by Richard and Sarah Edwards and was followed by a magnificent Brunch, provided by Tony Webb and his 'merry men'. On January 15 we inducted our new elders (Colin Grimes, Gill Grivas, Fleur Webb, Liz Kidd, and Pat Cazenave and

Elaine Edwards) and were pleased to receive James Hall into membership. This service was led by Stephen Best who also 'launched' our Transitional Ministry Team, the members of whom are working very hard on our behalf. Please support them by signing up to one of the two dates in March where you will have the opportunity to share your stories of Beulah and contribute your ideas for 'imagining the future'.



We have just come through the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in which we shared three services with Bethany and All Saints. These followed this year's themes of Crossing Barriers, and focussed on how it is the love of Christ which compels us towards full reconciliation with each other and with God.

This time last year, we were just digesting the news that Peter was leaving, and wondering how we would manage. I think we can be re-assured that God is still working with and through us in Beulah, and we can see many signs of change and growth around us. I am so encouraged to be dealing with the happy challenge of seven Baptism requests for the next few months – what an amazing sign for us and the community around us.

### Family News

Over the Christmas and New Year period a number of church members and friends have

experienced bereavement and illness. It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Anne Escott, a long-standing member and elder at Beulah, and friend to many. Our sympathies and prayers are with all her family. A celebration of Anne's life was held in Beulah, led by the Revd. Ken Graham and the Revd. Stephen Best, and was a moving and uplifting tribute to Anne. Early in the New Year we were further saddened by the death of another much loved member, Eileen McKenzie, who died after a sudden short illness, just a few weeks before her ninetieth birthday. Her funeral was conducted movingly by the Revd. Roger Bidnell, and we send thoughts and prayers to all of her family and friends too.

Condolences are also sent to Ruth Williams and Janet McCormack, and their families, on the recent death of their aunt, and to Nicola (Graham) and Mark Coombes on the death of Mark's father. Our sympathies are also with Bethan Collins whose mother has just died – she and Richard and the children are in our thoughts and prayers this week. I have also recently heard that the Revd. Phil Dunning's father died just before Christmas, and we send him and his family assurances of our love and prayers at this sad time.

(Continued on page 3)

**Church Secretary:**

**Mrs. Louise Morgan,**

**Church Treasurer:**

**Mrs. Barbara Rhys,**

# CHURCH NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

Many members have received hospital treatment recently, or been unwell at home, and we think of all these in our prayers, including, among others: Dorothy Jones, Richard Carter, Barbara Collins, Ann Hughes (Tongwynlais), Anne Thomas (Wenallt Farm), and Ella Grandin. John Rhys was admitted to UHW suffering from a heart attack, but is making progress and has just returned home. To all these, to all those who care for them, and to any others who are undergoing treatment and anxiety, we send our very best wishes and love. We are pleased to see that Frank Kinsey has made such a good recovery from his hip replacement, and it is lovely to see Marg Jones out and about again.

We were delighted to hear that Dr Alun Jones has received a nomination from the Archbishop of Wales for his contribution to church music over the past seventy years, and some members were proud to be in the cathedral when Alun was presented with his medal.

We send congratulations to Zena Jones who has just celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and to Rhian Wilkes on her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Love and blessings,

*Louise.*



## Women's World Day of Prayer (International and Interdenominational)

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme "Am I being Unfair to You". The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used throughout the whole world on that Friday, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

In 2013 Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippine islands in the western Pacific Ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman, recounting their situations, their hopes and fears.

Why not find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service? The Day of Prayer is not just for women - everyone is welcome to attend the service.

All the churches in Rhiwbina are involved in the service and this year it will be hosted by:

**Rhiwbina Baptist Church**

**Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
2.00pm**

### Happy New Year and Thank You

6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

A belated Happy New Year to all my friends at Beulah and thank you all for flowers cards and phone calls I received over Christmas and New Year, and it was lovely to see friends. I am pleased to say I have now got my sight back in both eyes. God Bless you all and I am so glad to still be a member of Beulah.

*Ann Williams*

### THANK YOU

Barbara and John would like to say 'thank you' to you all for your kindness and support following John's recent heart attack. He has had a longer stay in hospital than anyone anticipated but is now fit and well and glad to be safely home.

Thank you for the lovely cards, texts, phone calls, lifts, etc but especially we thank you for your love and prayers.

## THANK YOU

25th December

Dear Miss Rees,

I had such a lovely time today meeting people and the lovely lunch which was provided and cooked by people from your church - I felt I must write straight away and thank you and them so much for inviting me on what would have been such a lonely day far from friends and family.

Thank you so much and please convey my sincere thanks - from the Christmas carols to the lovely meal, for the kindness and enjoyment given to me.

Best wishes to all for the New Year.  
*Cynthia Siever*

## BEULAH TRANSITIONAL TEAM

A reminder of who these are – they are drawn from across the congregation, elders, members and adherents, bringing a range of experience and skills to this important work:

Lesley Richards, Colin Grimes, Eleri John, Marion Williams, Anne Hughes, Duncan Pugh, Betty and Derek Evans, Alun Jones, Richard Edwards and Jill Ferdinando. Barbara Rhys and Louise Morgan attend meetings in an 'ex officio' capacity.

If you have any questions about the Transitional work, these are the people to contact.

Help and support is available for our team from Stephen Best and Patrick Hickey from the Synod Transitional Ministry Team.

## Pastoral Helpers for Elders

One of the many tasks of Elders is to deliver Crossroads to their own districts and to visit their flock on a fairly regular basis to keep in touch. This is an important part of Eldership but it is also time consuming and all Elders have family and commitments outside Beulah. To share the load of this part of an Elders responsibilities we have recruited a Pastoral Helper for each Elder. The new helpers will be able to fill in for Elders when they are on holiday or cannot deliver Crossroads as soon as it comes out. They will also be available to visit and keep in touch when the Elder needs extra help.

Hopefully you will soon to get to know your new Pastoral Helper as well as you know your Elder. At the moment we ask you to contact your Elder if you have any problems which you need help with. Now you will have two people who will be ready to help.

I have two Elders at the moment who are without a Pastoral Helper so if anyone feels this is a job they would be able to fulfil, please let me know.

We have a Pastoral Committee meeting on **2nd March at 7.45pm**. Everyone who is interested in the pastoral work at Beulah is welcome to join us for this meeting. I extend a very warm welcome to all the new Elders Pastoral Helpers to join us also.

*Betty Evans*

## Concerts at the Crossroads

### Wednesday Luchtime Recitals

**22<sup>nd</sup> February at 1.05 pm**

**Rhys Watkins – violin  
Caradog Williams – piano**

Rhys Watkins makes a most welcome return visit to Beulah as a soloist. Cardiff born, Rhys is an established violinist of the very first order currently playing in the first violin section of the London Symphony Orchestra.

Anyone who came to the Nidum Ensemble concert last September will remember him leading the Ensemble.

I think that we are in for a treat as he plays some show stopping pieces by Kreisler and Paganini!

Another date for your diary:

**Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**Emyr Wyn Jones – baritone with Conal Bembridge – piano**

Tickets £5 on the door

## THANK YOU

Irene and Helen Bragg would like to thank our Beulah family for all their help, support and prayers during difficult and challenging times.

God has spoken to us through you and managed to sustain us both.

God bless.

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

## A Message from the Flower Team

Every Sunday, the Church is beautifully decorated with an array of flowers from every spectrum of the rainbow. These are generously donated by members of the congregation and lovingly arranged by either the donor or a member of the team. This is a tradition which has been in place for many years and is enjoyed by not only members of the congregation on a Sunday but also by those who attend the concerts, fund raising events, weddings and funerals.

We are extremely blessed at Beulah to have such talent in all aspects of Church life including our little team with each member creating something very special.

We have recently arranged to have a fund raising event on the 4th February to raise money for the flower fund and a number of people have questioned why this is needed. The money donated each week doesn't just have to cover the cost of the flowers, there is also the matter of the mechanics that go into each display. We need to purchase the oasis and containers, candles, items for the Christmas decoration and the Christmas tree, to name but a few things. There are also weeks when we don't have anyone to donate or we need to put extra flowers in for a special occasion. We are also in need of having some work done to the flower stand - whether this is repair, or purchasing a new one - we are unsure as yet.

I will take this opportunity to thank all those who give so generously, and I apologise if you can't have a specific date, but we couldn't do it without you. Also, a huge 'thanks' to: Heather, Beverley, Ann Brown and Viv for their creativity. A 'thank you' also to: Ann, Gill, and Elaine, who give their time to dismantle the displays each week and deliver them.

If you are around on the 4th February, please do come and join us in the Canolfan for a cup of coffee, a piece of cake, and to watch Beverley giving a demonstration.

**'A flower is not a flower alone; a thousand thoughts invest in it'**

*Love and thanks from the Flower Team xx*

## Congratulations

It's a very big **Congratulations**

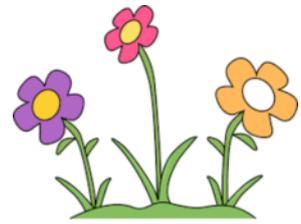
to Summer Wales, who has been selected to be one of just 19 girls in the Wales under-12 cricket squad.



Hope you all like these garden themed verses. I think they are so appropriate to us here at Beulah. If anyone wants a copy please ask me.

*Ann Brown.*

## Planning your Garden



### For Daily Living:

#### *Plant 3 Rows of Peas:*

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

#### *Plant 4 rows of Squash:*

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Grumbling
3. Squash Selfishness
4. Squash Indifference

#### *Plant 4 Rows of Lettuce:*

1. Let us be Faithful
2. Let us be Kin
3. Let us be Patient
4. Let us Really Love One Another

### **No Garden is complete without:**

#### *3 Rows of Turnips:*

1. Turn up for Meetings
2. Turn up for Services
3. Turn up to Help One Another

### **To conclude:**

#### *Plant 3 rows of Thyme:*

1. Time for Each Other
2. Time for Family
3. Time for Friends

### **Water freely with Patience and Cultivate with Love.**

**There is much in your garden because you reap what you sow.**

# KIN

## Together we care and together we share

Thank you so much to you all for your hard work, support and incredible generosity. Below is a summary prepared by Barbara of the money we raised over Christmas, and where it is to be sent.

With my thanks again,

*Eileen.*

The next KIN meeting will be on Sunday 5th February in the Studio after morning worship. Please do come along and join us .... everyone is welcome to help shape the ideas and plans.

### MONIES RAISED AND DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2016 and 16 JANUARY 2017

Vivaldi's Gloria for HomeStart	£ 545.75
Retiring Collections for Oxfam (for Haiti)	£ 500.00
Annual Bazaar Donations to:	
Cardiff Council (Leaving Care)	£ 400.00
George Thomas Hospice	£ 200.00
Bobath Cymru	£ 200.00
The Samaritans	£ 200.00
Rhiwbina Winter Festival Refreshments in the Whittaker Lounge and Canolfan for Shelterbox	£1,180.00
Light for our Loss Service:	
retiring collection for CRUSE	£ 100.00
Christmas Coffee Morning for CLIC Sargent	£ 300.00

### Raised during December 2016 and distributed in January 2017

Carol Singing for Save the Children Fund	£ 601.00
Blessing the Crib Service and Junior Dept sale of Christmas Wrapping paper etc for UNICEF)	£ 522.95
Beulah Christmas Card/Christmas Eve retiring collection/small change boxes: for Christian Aid	£ 520.47
	(+ cheques for £70.00 to CAid)

*BAR*

24 Jan 17

## House Move

I would like to thank everyone for their encouragement, good wishes, cards and not least for their forbearance over our recent house move.

Please note that our telephone number has changed.

*Trix Pryce*



## Remembering Joyce Llewellyn

Recently I conducted a funeral service for Joyce Llewellyn a much loved friend of Beulah.

In the Wenallt Chapel, I stood with members of Joyce's close family around the coffin for several minutes with love in silent tribute and reflection.

That seemed entirely appropriate.

For Joyce was gentle and quiet, reserved and unassuming. But you would be making a big mistake if you thought that that was all there was to Joyce.

Quite the opposite.

Joyce was politically active:

Demonstrator and Campaigner; an activist for the Cancellation of Third World Debt; a visitor to Greenham Common Women's Action; a member and letter writer for Amnesty International; taking food to the families of striking miners; volunteer teacher of reading to foreign adult learners; supporter of Christian Aid, Greenpeace, and Medecins Sans Frontier; a friend of Fair Trade; and, so much, much more.

Not just a hearer of the word but a doer. [James 1.23]

A quiet subversive presence on behalf of God's Justice.

A woman of conscience, she would have been grief stricken over the suffering of the innocent in Syria and the Yemen.

The family quietly left the chapel to the recorded sound of the dawn chorus.

We found a letter to us signed Joyce, Emmanuel, God with us.

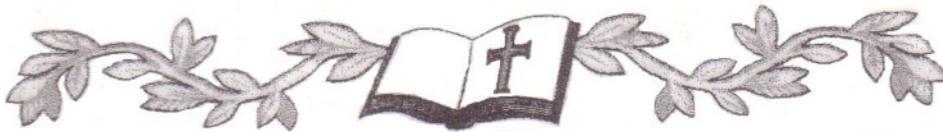
*Ken Graham*

## A Few Reminders ....

**Rotas:** We are very grateful to everyone who signs up to the many rotas around the church to do duties to ensure the smooth running of services.

The Stewards', Readers' and Sound System Rotas for the year are displayed on the noticeboards in the porch and at the foot of the back stairs. They also appear in Crossroads each month. Preparing these is a huge task which is undertaken quietly and diligently each year by Helen Harries, to whom we send our thanks. Please make a note of when you are on the rotas, and if you are unable to attend, please change with someone and then record the amendment on the relevant rotas.

**Notices:** Please can any items for the printed notices be sent to Louise by Friday.

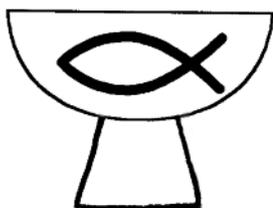


**Readers:** Please check who the Worship Leader is when it's your turn to read on a Sunday. If it's someone from Beulah, please contact them directly. If it is a visiting minister, please contact Louise a couple of days before the service.

**Stewards:** Please assist the Duty Elder and Junior Church leaders in ensuring safe crossing of the children by standing with the leaders on the edge of the pavement, so that the children do not go onto the road but wait on the pavement at the crossing.

**Intercessory Prayers:** Following some training from Stephen Best last year, a number of people now lead our prayers for others on Sunday mornings. Pat Cazenave is drawing up a rota for this, so that the task can be spread out more evenly. We will automatically offer this to all Worship Leaders, unless they request otherwise. If you would like to add your name to the list, please speak to Pat.

**Baptisms:** our usual practice now is for the Baptism to take place in the early part of the service, and then the children will go to Junior Church as usual.



**Communion Sundays:** the normal practice now is for the children to go to Junior Church for the first part of the service and join us for Communion.

**Elders' and Church Meetings, 2017:** A list of proposed dates is posted on the noticeboard in the vestibule. Please note that the first Church Meeting of the year is on Monday, 27th February at 7.30pm.

*Louise*

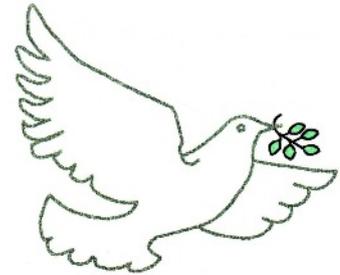
# Church Calendar

## FEBRUARY

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> 10.30am: Church Office  
 10.30am: Mid-week Meeting Point  
 Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00am: Flower Fund Coffee Morning  
 1.45pm: Memorial Service for Revd. John Humphreys, City URC

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Richard & Sarah Edwards  
 Junior Church  
 Coffee served in Canolfan after service  
 6.00pm: United Communion Service at All Saints  
 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship**

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: Women's Fellowship  
 Weds 8<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Church Office  
 10.30am: Mid-week Meeting Point  
 Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> 7.45pm: Paradise Run Meeting  
 Sat 11<sup>th</sup> 10.00am: KIN Cake Stall



**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Mrs Judy Harris: all-age worship  
 Coffee served in Canolfan after service  
 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: Women's Fellowship  
 7.30pm: Elders' Meeting  
 Weds 15<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Church Office  
 10.30am: Mid-week Meeting Point

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Revd. Roger Bidnell: Covenant Service with Communion  
 Junior Church  
 Coffee served in Canolfan after service**

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: Women's Fellowship  
 Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am: Church Office  
 10.30am: Mid-week Meeting Point  
 1.05pm: Concert at the Crossroads:  
 Rhys Watkin - violin & Caradog Williams - piano  
 Sat 25<sup>th</sup> 10.15am: WRB Prayers, St Andrews

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Revd. Ken Graham; Baptism of Seren Ann Revill Bowles  
 Paradise Run  
 Junior Church  
 Coffee served in Canolfan after service  
 Collection  
 6.00pm: Worship in MWL, service for St David's Day  
 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship**

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm: Women's Fellowship  
 7.30pm: Church Meeting

## MARCH

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> 10.30am: Church Office  
 10.30am: Mid-week Meeting Point  
 Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.45pm: Pastoral Meeting

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am: Richard & Sarah Edwards; Baptism of Harry James Brophy  
 Junior Church  
 Coffee served in Canolfan after service  
 6.00pm: United Service, Beulah: Towards the End of the Day**

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

We were delighted to receive James Hall into membership at Beulah in January – it is always a joy when someone feels able to take this step.

There are many in our congregation who have been worshipping with us for some time, contributing to the life of Beulah in so many ways.

Of course, our policy of welcome and inclusion means that we all belong together, but if you think that it may be the right time for you to start exploring church membership – maybe for the first time ever, or perhaps transferring or renewing membership you have held elsewhere – please let Louise know and we will arrange a meeting of those who would like to find out more about membership in the URC.

*Louise*

## CELEBRATING OUR FAITH

At the last church meeting it was agreed that Beulah would continue with a theme for the year in 2017. At a time of change and uncertainty, this would assist in linking our worship, our work and our celebrations. The theme will also be used by the Transitional Ministry Team who will be guiding Beulah through the changes the next few years will bring.

The URC has developed a theme of its own this year - Feasts and Festivals. The URC website has a comprehensive section on this setting out the year plan with a special focus for each month but always

celebrating a particular aspect of the Church. It provides ideas and suggestions for small groups like Mid-week Meeting Point and Beulah Alive and has suggestions which can be explored in Junior Church and by all ages through evening and morning worship. There is no suggestion that things must be done in a particular way. The notes are an aid to develop a theme relevant to the local church but always with the thought that many other churches will also be worshipping and working with this project as an incentive. For more information the website is [urc.org.uk/feasts-and-festivals/monthly-resources](http://urc.org.uk/feasts-and-festivals/monthly-resources).



A few key elements are already in place:

- A new hymn by Dr. Alun Jones, entitled 'Celebrate', has been written for us and was sung in church for the first time on Sunday 15th January.
- A set of introductory sentences to be used throughout the year have also been written by Dr. Alun Jones.
- Regular items will appear in Crossroads to update and share the theme and suggest readings.

### February

5th February will be a theme Sunday when Richard and Sarah Edwards are leading the service. The suggested reading is the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37.

The information for March will appear in the March Crossroads but theme Sunday is 12th March and will be led by the Senior Department of Junior Church.

**Event for your diary:** The URC are planning a BIG DAY OUT on 20th May to Warwick Castle and it is hoped that a coach from Beulah can take part in celebrating with the wider church.

So, 2017 is a year for the whole of the URC to celebrate all that we have been, are now and are called to be as we continue walking in the way of Jesus Christ.

*Anne James*



## 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>February</b>					
5th am	<b>Colin Grimes</b>	<b>Ian McDowell</b>	<b>Rubina Lewis &amp; Keirsten Eales</b>	Vera Ruddock	<b>Alan Wilson</b>
pm			United Communion Service in All Saints		
12th am	<b>Harley Jones</b>	<b>Elaine Edwards</b>	<b>Peter Stevenson &amp; Mary Prosser</b>	Trix Pryce	<b>TBC</b>
19th am	<b>Mike Warsop</b>	<b>Gill Grivas</b>	<b>Peter and Jill Ferdinando</b>	Ruth Williams	<b>Ron &amp; Denie Leech</b>
26th am	<b>Huw Morgan</b>	<b>Gaynor Rees</b>	<b>Pam Penny &amp; Denise Dickman</b>	Richard Edwards	<b>TBC</b>
pm		<b>Gaynor Rees</b>			
<b>March</b>					
5th am	<b>Phillip Edwards</b>	<b>Phillip Edwards</b>	<b>Lynne Davies &amp; Richard Sweetnam</b>	Cathy Wales	<b>Lesley &amp; Mary Richards</b>
pm		<b>Phillip Edwards</b>	United Service in Beulah	Peter Stevenson	
12th am	<b>Keith Jones</b>	<b>Pat Cazenave</b>	<b>Mary Edwards &amp; Kaye Mundy</b>	Mary Prosser	<b>Christine Pugh</b>
19th am	<b>Ian Budding</b>	<b>Fleur Richards</b>	<b>Kate Stanbury &amp; Karen Sampson</b>	Peter Ferdinando	<b>Rhian &amp; Sally Jones</b>
26th am	<b>Tony Webb</b>	<b>Liz McCarthy</b>	<b>Helen Harries &amp; Jenny McDowell</b>	Phillip Edwards	<b>Alun &amp; Marg Jones</b>
<b>April</b>					
2nd am	<b>Colin Grimes</b>	<b>Viv Jones</b>	<b>Glenys Scott &amp; Marion Williams</b>	Pat Ruddock	<b>Ann &amp; Colin Grimes</b>
pm	<b>Harley Jones</b>		United Communion Service in Bethany		
9th am		<b>Colin Grimes</b>	<b>John Prosser &amp; Elinor Ludlow</b>	Lynne Davies	<b>Cathryn Hales</b>
pm	<b>Mike Warsop</b>	<b>Colin Grimes</b>	Palm Sunday Music at Beulah		



## THANK YOU

Dear Members of Beulah Church,

I am writing to thank you for the gift of Christmas food which you donated for us to deliver to the families with whom we work.

May I thank you again for your continued support and wish you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours Sincerely,

*Claire*

Claire Vincent  
F.I.S.S. Community Team Manager

## Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **March 2017** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 19th February** and **Colin** will be editing.