



## CHURCH NOTES

As we move into the season of Lent, we have the opportunity to think a little more deeply about our faith and beliefs, and where these will take us. The Revd. Roger Bidnell recently led us in a most thoughtful service based on the Methodist Covenant Service, where we were challenged to think about our relationships with God, and affirm again our commitment to him. This service offered comfort and reassurance, but also contained the seeds of challenge, as we think about what that commitment means in our lives, and how discipleship can be costly and unsettling in terms of comfort and certainty.

We are pleased that the Revd. Ken Graham is organising a series of Lent Study discussions to be held jointly with City URC. These will be based on a book by the theologian, Marcus Borg, 'Meeting Jesus in Mark', and will be an opportunity to meet together fairly informally and talk about the issues raised. Reflecting his belief that the decisive revelation of God is in a human being, Jesus, Borg explores questions about what looking at Jesus shows us about God, and the way of life into which that message of revelation leads us.

We are grateful to Eileen Newington and others who have worked hard to help Beulah respond to Christian Aid's Big Switch campaign, and we are now nearly ready to make the change to a greener energy supplier. Further campaigns will be about encouraging the banks to increase investment in renewable energy in the fight against climate change. Come along to The Big Shift Coffee Morning on March 18 to learn

more about these campaigns, and ways of changing our own behaviour in order to make a difference.



### FAMILY NEWS

It was with sadness that we learned of the deaths of two longstanding members this month. Firstly, Eileen Calford, who had been living in a Nursing Home in Swansea for the past couple of years, and then Dorothy Jones, who had been ill for a few months at home. We send our deepest sympathies to Eileen's daughters, Angela and Shirley, and to Dorothy's daughters, Alison and Carolyn, and all their families and friends. At the time of writing, the funeral services have not yet taken place, but we are grateful to the Revd. Ken Graham for conducting them, and for all his support to us as a congregation.

Several friends are, or have been in hospital this month, and we send warmest wishes to Anne Hughes (Tongwynlais) and Ann Williams. Magi Gwen Stevenson has had her adenoids out and is recovering well. Others continue to have health problems at home, and we send greetings to Barbara Clargo, Dennis Richards, Elinor Ludlow and John Rhys. We also hope that Rubina Lewis recovers quickly from a very painful broken ankle. All these, and others, we continue to remember in our prayers.

We have some happier news too – congratulations to Nia Williams on her engagement to Chris – we wish them every happiness and look forward to their wedding next year.

Two of our families have welcomed new granddaughters in recent weeks – many congratulations to Christine and Duncan Pugh, and to Liz and Neil Kidd, and all their families at this very special time.

We send birthday wishes to two of our young people, Sam Stanbury on his eighteenth birthday, and Emily Cheer, who recently celebrated her twenty first birthday.

Every blessing,

*Louise*

### ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

A reminder that this will be held on Monday, 24th April, at 7.30pm in the church.

This is the time when we present our reports and hear news from all of our organisations.

If you are the Secretary or representative of an organisation, please can you prepare a report to share at the meeting, and also please can you give a copy to Louise for our records.

The report should be for the year January – December 2016.

#### Church Secretary:

Mrs. Louise Morgan,

#### Church Treasurer:

Mrs. Barbara Rhys,

The Cheer Family would like to invite you to a

## BARN DANCE!

on

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

6.30pm till 10.30pm in Canolfan Beulah

Free entry – there will be a collection for Sanyu Babies' Home in Kampala. Emily is returning to volunteer there this summer and hopes to be able to buy much needed new cots for the children while she is there. More info about Sanyu in next month's Crossroads.

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.

### KNITTING

I have been collecting knitted items for Africa for nearly 2 years.

The total is amazing:-

83 blankets	607 vests with hats
48 teddies	148 cardigans with hats
216 vests	196 hats

For me, as a non-knitter, I feel that is incredible. A big thank you to everybody who knits for this appeal. Thank you to: the knitting group, which meets at MW lounge every Monday; Beulah Knitters; friends and family (of Mary Richards), at St Matthias in Treharris; friends and family, in West Wales, of Non (from Yoga); and anybody else that I don't know of personally. The circle of knitters is increasing rapidly.

I'm now taking the vests to Mrs Angela Gorman, who has spoken to Beulah organisations in the past, and will transport them to Africa. Her own charity, 'Life for African Mothers', has a warehouse locally, and can store the knitting until it is time for a shipment.

Angela has, again, kindly agreed to come and talk about her work. The meeting is arranged for 27th April at 7.30pm, in the Margaret Whittaker Lounge. Please come along and hear about the work that is being carried out. You don't have to be a knitter!!

Thank you all, and carry on knitting.

*Love Elaine.*

### KIN in 2017

#### Together We Care and Together We Share

At our recent KIN meeting we discussed a slight change to the way KIN will run, and I am very pleased and grateful that Eleri John has agreed to share the leadership role with me. We would also like to invite others to come forward and lead on particular events. This way of working will be reviewed next year, but we hope very much that by sharing tasks we will create interest in the work of KIN and generate ideas for future fundraising and projects, as well as encouraging others to get involved. We would be very glad to hear from you if you have an interest in, or personal connection to any particular charity. Please have a word with Eleri, as KIN has always tried to support and raise money for causes and concerns which are dear to members of the congregation.

Over recent years we have added a new slant to KIN in the campaigning we have undertaken on Tax and Climate Change. This has been led by the major charities, in particular Christian Aid, and reflects their new approach to global poverty. I will continue to work on Christian Aid campaigning and issues around climate change and hope to do this alongside and in line with KIN.

With my particular thanks to Eleri, and thanks to you all for your continued support and generosity,

*Eileen*

#### Dates for your Diary:

**Fairtrade Fortnight**  
**27th February - 12th March**  
Fairtrade cakes will be on sale  
at coffee after worship  
on Sunday 12th March

**Eve Appeal Coffee Morning**  
Saturday 4th March  
10.00 am - 12.30 pm

**Big Shift Coffee Morning**  
Saturday 18th March  
10.00 am - 12 Noon

#### ALMS BOWL COLLECTION

As is our custom, and as you are able, we invite you to put aside money during Lent as part of our Alms Bowl collection. Money raised will be collected at our Easter Morning worship and will be sent to Christian Aid.

Thank you.

## THEME SUNDAY

Our March 'Theme Sunday' will be on 12th March, and will be led by members of the Seniors Department of Junior Church.

The theme is 'Celebrating our Worldwide Partnerships' which has led us to explore 'mission' and 'missionaries' in various contexts past and present. Several members of the congregation have already been helping us with our research and we look forward to sharing what we have discovered.

Marion Williams, our Seniors Department Leader, has provided the following background information:

"The URC resources website for March highlights the story of the London Missionary Society:-

John & Mary Williams were missionaries in the South Seas sent there by the London Missionary Society (LMS). Although John was attacked and killed in the New Hebrides in 1839, their work continued through the John Williams ships operated by the LMS. The LMS had a series of small missionary ships, which transported missionaries and supplies through the mission fields, mostly in the Pacific. In the mid-20th century children from Sunday Schools in the UK, New Zealand and Australia raised money for the ships, collecting ship half-pennies (there was a picture a bit like one of the John Williams ships on the reverse of the coin)."

The following short prayer for March is a good one to carry with us in our day to day life:

***Let us bring healing where it is needed  
Friendship in loneliness  
Love where there is hatred  
Peace to the broken places.***

You can find out more at;

[www.urchurch.org.uk/feasts-and-festivals/monthly-resources.html](http://www.urchurch.org.uk/feasts-and-festivals/monthly-resources.html).

*Anne James*

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

I know Christmas seems a long time ago, but I wanted to express my gratitude to everybody who contributed to the shoe boxes. Apologies for the lateness of this thank you. I missed the last crossroads.

Yet again, Beulah was marvellous in their support. We sent 125 boxes to our local warehouse in Llantrisant. It is such a pleasure to take the boxes and see all the work being done there by so many volunteers. They are always so grateful for Beulah's contribution.

Operation Christmas Child sent 882,647 boxes to 17 countries in Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Africa and the Middle East. Somewhere in the world a child received one of your boxes and felt that somebody cared. It made a difference to their life.

Thank you to all you very kind people who contribute in any way to this appeal. I have already received donations for this year so I know people think about the boxes all year round. Look out for bargains. You are so generous and giving.

Thank you,

*Love Elaine*



## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS FOR SUNDAY ROTA

Each Sunday, a group of ladies emerge from a car outside the doors at Beulah, for Sunday morning worship, who otherwise would have some difficulty getting there. After coffee (after worship), these lovely, and very appreciative ladies are then returned to the comfort of their own homes.

This service is voluntarily provided by a small, but dedicated 'band' of drivers, with their own cars, who operate on a rota of approximately one week in every seven.

If you drive and have your own 4 door car, would you be ready and willing to help us keep this much appreciated service going, to transport 'our ladies' to Sunday worship each week?

If you would like more information, or indeed would like to volunteer, please contact me  
Thank you, in anticipation,

*Colin*

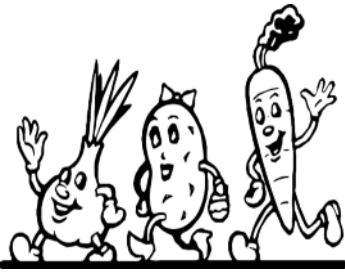
## Editorial Team

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**One potato, two potato,  
Three potato, four,  
Five potato, six potato,  
Seven potato, more!**

The potato growing project is back again for a further year by popular demand!

Interested? Potato grow bags will be available with instructions, 3 seed potatoes, and fertiliser. You will need to provide the compost (eg multipurpose).

Suitable for all ages, Friends and family can take part too – a community project. Cost is held at £2.00 per pack though any extra will be donated to KIN

If you would like a pack or two (or more) you can pick them up after church in the Canolfan foyer most Sundays from end of Feb to Mid March.

***"Celebrating our past -  
affirming the present -  
imagining the future"***

**Saturday 11 March: 10.00am to 12.00  
(refreshments available from 9.30)**

**Saturday 25 March: 2.30 to 4.30pm  
(refreshments available from 2.00pm)**

We've blocked the exit from Church, pulled up chairs in front of the coffee queue, and menacingly brandished our clipboards on the street corner ... and I'm pleased to say that, so far, almost 100 people have signed up to come along to one or other of these meetings.

To remind you, the purpose is to celebrate our past - identifying, acknowledging and rejoicing in everything that's good about Beulah; to affirm the present - recognising

that, despite being in a period of tremendous change, we're learning that what we do and why we do it remains the same - it's just the way we do it that has had to change; and to imagine the future - working together to create a vision of how we'd like Beulah to look, what our priorities for mission and ministry should be, and how this fits in with the requirements of the other Cardiff churches.

As we've said before, please don't underestimate the importance of your involvement in these discussions, so if you haven't already put your name down, please speak to one of us as soon as possible.

We look forward to sharing stories, thoughts and ideas with you that will shape the next stage of Beulah's journey.

## Concerts at the Crossroads

### Wednesday Lunchtime Recitals

**29<sup>th</sup> March at 1.05 pm**

**Emyr Wyn Jones – baritone  
Jeffrey Howard – piano**

Emyr has been to Beulah before and made a great impression at that time He has a lovely baritone voice and performing presence. Since last coming to Beulah he has gone on to win a couple of major prizes - so important these days for young musicians. Last summer he won the Ian Stoutsker prize at the RWCMD for the most outstanding musician in the College. His accompanist is Jeffrey Howard who needs no introduction to Beulah audiences. Just a case of welcoming him back!

Another date for your diary:

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 1.05pm**

**Ballaré Piano Trio**

**George Fradley – piano  
Dayna Townsend – violin  
Katja Cross - cello**

**Tickets £5 on the door**

## Pastoral

The quarterly meeting of the Pastoral Group will take place on:

**Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.45pm  
in the Whittaker Lounge**

Everyone who is interested in the Pastoral work in Beulah is very welcome to come along to this meeting.

I would also like to give a personal invitation to all the people who have recently offered to be Pastoral Helpers for Elders. It is important for us to co-ordinate all aspects of pastoral care for the Church Family to make sure that the work we do is effective.

Betty Evans – Chair



# CHURCH CALENDAR

## MARCH

Weds 1st	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-week Meeting Point
Thurs 2nd	7.45pm	Pastoral Team Meeting
Fri 3rd	2.00pm	Service at Rhiwbina Baptist Church for Women's World Day of Prayer
Sat 4th	10.00am	Coffee Morning for the Eve Appeal
<b>Sunday 5th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Richard &amp; Sarah Edwards - Baptism of Harry James Brophy Junior Church</b>
		<b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>6.15pm</b>	<b>United Communion Service, Beulah: Towards the End of the Day (5.00pm – practice for Music; come by 6.00pm for tea)</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Three Choirs Practice</b>
	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon 6th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Weds 8th	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-week Meeting Point
Sat 11th	10.00am	KIN Cake Stall
	10.00am	Transitional Ministry Meeting (1)
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Family Worship led by the Senior Department: Theme Sunday Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Three Choirs practice</b>
	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon 13th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Weds 15th	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-week Meeting Point
	7.15pm	Lent Study at City URC
Sat 18th	10.00am - 12.00 noon	The Big Shift Coffee Morning
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Mrs Vera Ruddock and Revd. Catherine Reynolds with Communion Junior Church</b>
		<b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Worship in MWL: Dr. Alun Jones</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Three Choirs Practice</b>
	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon 20th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Weds 22nd	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-week Meeting Point
	7.15pm	Lent Study at Beulah URC
Sat 25th	10.15am	WRB Prayers at Beulah
	2.30pm	Transitional Ministry Meeting (2)
<b>Sunday 26th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Revd. Stephen Best - Baptism of Dylan Thomas Price Junior Church</b>
<b>Paradise Run Collection</b>		<b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Three Choirs Practice</b>
	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon 27th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Weds 29th	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	1.05pm	Concert at the Crossroads: Emyr Wyn Jones – bass baritone and Conal Bembridge - piano
	7.15pm	Lent Study at City URC



## APRIL

<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Worship Team, led by Mrs. Anne Wilkes Junior Church</b>
		<b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>7.15pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>
Mon 3rd	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
	7.30pm	Junior Church Leaders' Meeting
Weds 5th	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-Week Meeting Point
	7.15pm	Lent Study at Beulah URC
Sat 8th	10.00am	KIN Cake Stall
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Revd. James Hall</b>
<b>Palm Sunday</b>		<b>All Age Junior Church - Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Music for Palm Sunday – Three Choirs at Beulah</b>

For Holy Week, see back page

# THE BIG SHIFT COFFEE MORNING

*Love does no harm to its neighbour (Romans 13:10),  
yet the way our energy is sourced  
is harming the world's poorest and harming creation.*

## The Big Church Switch

The Big Church Switch enables us as individuals and as a church to switch our energy supply from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Please come along to our coffee morning to celebrate Beulah's forthcoming move to Ecotricity, and to find out how you too could move to a renewable energy provider.



Join **THE BIG SHIFT** today

## Clean Up Our Cash

It is finance that will either generate the low-carbon energy we need or lock us into a high-carbon future. The money from customers of UK banks adds up to trillions of pounds and the decisions made with that money are crucial. At the moment, our money is funding the fossil fuel industry - and the climate crisis - in lots of ways. To build a zero carbon world, we need to see a shift in the finance that makes fossil fuel extraction possible. Your voice is critical to getting this issue heard and winning the changes we need. At our coffee morning you can join Christian Aid's call to Clean Up Our Cash.

# THE BIG SHIFT COFFEE MORNING

**Canolfan Beulah  
Church Community Centre  
Rhiwbina CF14 6LX**

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
10.00 am - 12.00 pm**

**Coffee, cakes and campaigning ....  
please join us!**



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

## 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>March</b>					
5th am	Ian Budding	Phillip Edwards	Lynne Davies & Richard Sweetnam	Peter Ferdinando	Lesley & Mary Richards
pm		Phillip Edwards	United Communion Service in Beulah	Peter Stevenson	
12th am	Keith Jones	Pat Cazenave	Mary Edwards & Kaye Mundy	Mary Prosser	Christine Pugh
19th am	Phillip Edwards	Fleur Richards	Kate Stanbury & Karen Sampson	Cathy Wales	Rhian & Sally Jones
pm		Fleur Richards			
26th am	Tony Webb	Liz McCarthy	Helen Harries & Jenny McDowell	Phillip Edwards	Alun & Marg Jones
pm		Liz McCarthy			
<b>April</b>					
2nd am	Colin Grimes	Viv Jones	Glenys Scott & Marion Williams	Pat Ruddock	Fleur Richards
9th am	Harley Jones	Colin Grimes	John Prosser & Elinor Ludlow	Lynne Davies	Cathryn Hales
pm		Colin Grimes	Palm Sunday Music at Beulah		
13th pm		Liz Kidd			
16th am	Mike Warsop	Andrew Glanfield	Frank Kinsey & Eleanor Mills	Lorraine Larcombe	Ann & Colin Grimes
pm		Andrew Glanfield		Louise Morgan	
23rd am	Huw Morgan	Marianne Barwise	Duncan & Christine Pugh	Liz McCarthy	Gaynor Rees
30th am	Phillip Edwards	Audrey Budding	Diane Burton & Chris Phelps	Kate Hampson	Jill & Peter Ferdinando

## CHURCH CALENDAR FOR HOLY WEEK

### Holy Week

Mon 10th	7.30pm	Prayers for Holy Week
Tues 11th	7.30pm	Prayers for Holy Week
Weds 12th	10.30am	Church Office
	10.30am	Mid-week Meeting Point
	7.30pm	Prayers for Holy Week
<b>Thurs 13th</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Communion in the Upper Room – Revd. Roger Bidnell</b>
Fri 14th	9.30am	Children & Young People's Workshop
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>12.00 Noon</b>	<b>Worship for Good Friday led by children &amp; young people</b>
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	<b>8.45am</b>	<b>Worship in the Garden followed by Easter Breakfast</b>
<b>Easter Day</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Easter Celebration</b>
		<b>Family Service with Communion: Mr Geraint Richards &amp; Dr. Alun Jones</b>
		<b>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Communion Service in MWL – Mr Richard Edwards &amp; Mrs Sarah Edwards</b>



## Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **April 2017** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 26th March** and **Huw** will be editing.