

CHURCH NOTES

Many of Beulah's autumn activities are now up and running and we do seem to have a very full and busy time ahead of us. I am sure that the 17 people who went on Retreat to Caldey found it a refreshing and worthwhile time, giving us time and space to 'let go' a little of our concerns and worries. We were led by the Revd. Anthony Beer to explore a range of topics which derived from our theme of Flowing Water, Bringing Life, all thoughtful, inspired and inspiring. We were so lucky to have wonderful weather and enjoyed the peace and beauty of the island while sharing in tears and laughter, lots of cake, and the renewal of our baptismal promises – this last during communion on the beach in the fading light, accompanied by a glorious sunset. If you haven't been to Caldey before, please consider it next year – look out for dates in January!

Good weather was also a feature of the Beulah camping weekend to the Forest of Dean a few weeks ago, another chance to share friendship and fellowship away from home. By contrast, the 'Forest Church' Day on the Wenallt was rather wet, but that didn't deter our young people – or their leaders! Thanks to Fleur Richards and others for organising this activity.

If you are looking for another opportunity for fellowship and reflection away from our busy lives, you could sign up for the Trefecca weekend next April. John Prosser will be happy to give you more information.

We are now making plans for the induction service of Martha and David on October 12, and look forward to marking the official beginning of their ministry in the Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate. It

has been wonderful to welcome them to a number of services, events and meetings already and hope that they are beginning to feel part of the life of our churches as they (and us) discern how we can best serve God in this city. A new Bible study and discussion group is being formed this Autumn based around the Holy Habits resources and we are grateful to Sarah Edwards for organising this. Please sign the list in the porch if you are interested.



As Beulah is such a busy church, we are looking at ways of restructuring so that the work load can be more evenly shared and people can offer their gifts in the best way possible. The group looking at this has reported to Elders, who felt that it needs more work before putting to Church Meeting. As explained at September's Church Meeting, this means that our normal elders' nomination process has been put on hold until we are ready to proceed.

FAMILY NEWS

We are pleased to hear that Denie Leech is now home from hospital after a lengthy stay and hope that she continues to make a good recovery. We also send our best wishes to Rubina Lewis who will continue her recuperation at home following her recent stay in hospital.

Other members and friends have been unwell or receiving treatment and we think of Gaynor Rees, Barbara Rhys and Heather Bishop. Rachel (Morgan) and Chris Snelson have each had stays in hospital. To them, and any others who are unwell, we send our prayers and love. We were sorry to hear of the death of Carolyn Saunders's brother and remember her, Owen and all the family in our prayers.

Other friends have had cause to celebrate lately – congratulations to Ann Brown who reached a special birthday in August; to Christine and Duncan Pugh on their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, and to Mary and Mike Warsop who have just celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Congratulations also to one of our young people – Jonathan Glanfield who has been awarded the Chief Scout's Platinum Award.

Every blessing,

Louise

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to everyone who sent us good wishes and cards for our 70th Wedding Anniversary in July. It is at such occasions that the love of the Beulah Family can be truly appreciated.

With love and gratitude,

Denie and Ron

Church Secretary:

Mrs. Louise Morgan,

Email:

secretary@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer:

Mrs. Barbara Rhys,

Email:

treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk

Three Trips with Jesus

(Continued from Front Page)

the open sky was led by Marianne and this was followed by a pub lunch and a visit to a castle. Anyone is welcome to join the camp – you'll be very well looked after!

My third Trip with Jesus was the wonderful retreat on Caldey Island. This was my third visit to Caldey but I hadn't been for a few years and it turns out they've since introduced red squirrels! Anthony Beer, who some of you may know from when he was on a training placement with Beulah, led our activities and worship and involvement could be as little or as much as wanted. The retreat theme was 'Flowing, Life-Giving Water' and we looked at topics such as 'Fruits of the Spirits' and 'Footprints and Heroes'. We worshipped with the monks as well as holding evening services by the lighthouse and communion on the beach, truly the most holy of experiences. The guest house is basic but homely and welcoming and the food tasty and plentiful! Caldey is one of the most peaceful, spiritual and blessed places I have ever been and our retreat reminded us all of what is important in life and to always make a place for Jesus in all we do.

Andrew Glanfield

Lunchtime Recital

Wednesday 30th October
at 1.05pm

Mavron Quartet

Christiana Mavron – violin

Rachael Elliot – violin

Niamh Aston – viola

Beatrice Newman – cello

This Cardiff based quartet has already made a name for itself and it is with great pleasure that we welcome them to Beulah for the first time. This will be a classical concert with two quartets being performed. Firstly a Haydn quartet – always easy to listen to - followed by the popular Dvorak 'American quartet'.

Great Autumnal listening.

Another date for your diary

Wednesday 27th November
at 1.05pm

A quartet of singers from *Only Men Aloud*.
Watch this space!

Sine Nomine Christmas Concert

Sine Nomine are very pleased to announce that we'll be back in Beulah again this Christmas. In a change from our past Beulah performances, this year's concert will be an evening event, so we very much hope that more of you will be able to come to hear our range of music for the Advent and Christmas season. As for previous concerts there is no charge for entry, but there will be a retiring collection, this year, for The Cardiff Institute for the Blind.

So put the date and time in your diaries now:

Wednesday, 18th December

at 7.30pm

at Beulah

We look forward to seeing you there.

Peter Ferdinando



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2019

It's shoebox time again! Time to wrap, pack and fill those shoe boxes with treasures. Our shoe boxes are already wrapped - thanks to Lynne Davies. Wrapped boxes can be collected from the church, or ask Lynne Davies. The next step is to collect the items to fill the boxes. Please include small toys,

toothpaste, toothbrush, flannel, soap, cuddly toy, stationary items, hat, scarf, gloves, small games etc.

Please continue to fill a shoebox even if you cannot donate £5 for the shipping cost. We have been given a donation from the skittles night, so thank you to all the skittlers. We

would be grateful for donations of items to fill the boxes, and monetary donations.

Please bring your filled shoeboxes to church on Sundays 3rd or 10th November for collection by Ann and Colin.

Thanking you for your continued generosity.

Team Shoebox

Dear Friends,

October 2019

When we moved to the Wirral, there are many things we had to learn. Obviously, we had to learn our way around—which became clear as we walked the wrong way home from the town centre with bags and our daughter, Hannah, in her pushchair. Some times we had to learn the meaning of a word we didn't understand. Sometimes we deciphered a cultural reference that we could not know given we had been raised in a different culture. In this process of discovery one of the phrase we learned, "Are you sitting comfortably, then I'll begin."

We are not sure we are all sitting comfortably, though the manse is much more comfortable than it was when Martha arrived! But we have begun. We have begun our new ministry together.

It has been a very different way to begin for all of us. In some ways it may seem strange because you have new ministers, but you may have only seen us a couple of times, if at all. It seems strange to us too as we are having to get to know six different communities and churches. Yet we have begun.

Beginnings are always exciting. There is potential and hope. There are new ideas and stories to share. There is history to learn. It is a good time. We are developing relationships and are open to the ways God may work with us and through us.

In this new time, please feel free to let us know about events you think we might find interesting to attend. Please ask us to join in, stop us to tell us a story, or invite us to meet with you. If we cannot participate at that moment, we will find another time to be present, to share time, to listen.

Journalist, Malcolm Gladwell, says, "The visionary starts with a clean sheet of paper, and re-imagines the world." Though each congregation has been working and serving God for years, in a sense we are starting with a clean sheet of paper, not to wipe out the past, but to reimagine how God may work through us.

When Jesus invited the disciples to follow him, St. Mark says they got up immediately and joined him. We are not thinking that lots of things will happen immediately, but we are hopeful that together our lives will reflect God's love and deepen our discipleship.

Yours in Christ,

David and Martha

Walking in the Footsteps of Mary Jones

'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.' (Psalm 119:105)

I am sure that most of you will know the story of Mary Jones, the young girl who walked, barefoot, from her home at the foot of Cadair Idris to Bala to buy a copy of the newly translated Welsh bible from Thomas Charles. It was a journey of about 28 miles.

Ann Sheldon (nee Sunderland) was very taken with this story, which she probably first heard in Beulah Sunday School in the 1960s. When she learned about the marking out of this walk in 2000 to commemorate the bicentenary of Mary's achievement, 'doing Mary Jones' became one of her aims. At a get together in the summer of 2009, Ann suggested that we should do the walk 'next year'. ('We' being a small group of old Beulah friends who had been through Sunday School and Youth Fellowship together, plus two spouses.) Sadly, for Ann, this was an ambition never to be realised. Already being treated for cancer, Ann died a few months later in November 2009 at the age of 53.

The rest of us were determined that one day we would 'do Mary Jones', but for one reason or another, it never quite happened. Finally, a few months ago it was decided that 2019, the year that marks the 10th anniversary of Ann's death, would be the year! All but one of us are now retired with the time to devote a week to this challenge, which we will undertake in October, over 4 or 5 days.

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Editorial Team

Colin Grimes,

Huw Morgan,

Please note, new editorial email address: crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk

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

Walking in the Footsteps of Mary Jones

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We are doing this walk primarily as a challenge for ourselves, but there are other things too – to remember the dedication and faith of Mary herself who had saved for several years to acquire her Bible, and how that inspired Thomas Charles and others to set up the British and Foreign Bible Society (now the Bible Society) with the aim of enabling every Christian to read the Bible in their own language – something we perhaps take for granted. The fellowship that we will share will also keep alive the memory of our friend, and the inspiration that Ann was to so many, in her friendships, her work, her church life and finally as an ordained Minister of Word and Sacraments – which she did for all too short a time.

Finally, we would like to use this walk as an opportunity to raise some money – for the Bible Society, but also for Cancer Research, in memory of Ann. Beulah was the church that formed her, and the church in Hereford that two of our group now attend was also her sending church, so it seems appropriate that we ask members of these two URC fellowships if they would be willing to contribute to these two causes. We have also recently discovered the coincidence that Martha McInnes, our new Minister to the Cardiff Pastorate, was minister at Sutton Coldfield immediately before Ann.

As I try to get fit enough to do this walk, tramping up the steepest sections of Coed y Wenallt and Caerphilly Mountain at odd times of day, it feels as though it is, perhaps, a somewhat over-literal interpretation of 'walking the way', but one that is worth attempting, and I hope will be rewarding in ways other than aching legs and sore feet!

Louise

KIN (Kindred in Need)

Together we care and together we share

KIN

We have some 'after church/retiring' collections which you may be interested in contributing towards for various charities over the next few months

- **October 6th** - wear something green or blue to church on Sunday October 6th: donations of £1 to Bobath Cymru
- **October 27th** - a few people are undertaking the Mary Jones Walk in memory of Ann Sheldon (see separate announcement): donations to the Bible Society and Cancer Research
- **November 17th** - Jonathan Grimes is running the Snowdonia Marathon, in October, in memory of Elaine: donations to the British Heart Foundation.

Beulah Bazaar : November 23rd

10.00 am - 12.30 pm in the Canolfan

We will be raising money for local children's charities and need your help and creativity in lots of different ways!

We are hoping to have a **Hand Made Crafts theme** this year and are looking for items you have made and are happy to sell e.g. paintings, table decorations, cards, Christmas tree decorations, knitted items, plants/ flowers, crafts, food, e.g. bread, cakes, jams, etc.

Please can you let me know what items you may be able to make and sell, so we can allocate spaces? (You can share a table with other people, so a few items is fine!)

We will also have a Bathroom Stall, Bottle Stall, raffles with Hampers, Lucky Dip, and Jewellery for sale, along with Games.

N.B. There will be no Bric-a-Brac this year!

We will need help on the day, and the evening before, to set up, sell, and clear away. So please let me know if you can help - we just need a little of your time to raise some money for others!

Rhiwbina Winter Festival

November 30th - more details to follow

Thanks,

Eleri

Beulah Church Family Christmas Meal

The Christmas Meal is to be held at **Whitchurch Golf Club, on Friday 13th December, at 7pm**. The sign up sheet will go up in the church porch in the early part of October, so if you wish to attend, please add your name and make your menu choices.

Thank you, *Ann and Colin*.

CHURCH CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Wed	2 nd	10.30am 10.30am	Church Office Mid Week Meeting Point
Sun	6th	10.30am 6.00pm 7.15pm	Revd Roger Bidnell Junior Church United Communion – Beulah Youth Fellowship
Mon	7 th	7.30pm	Advent Planning Meeting
Wed	9 th	10.30am 10.30am 7.30pm	Church Office Mid Week Meeting Point Cardiff Churches Discussion Group – Beulah
Sat	12 th	10.00am 2.30pm	KIN Cake Stall Induction service of Revd. David Dean & Revd. Martha McInnes
Sun	13th	10.30am 7.15pm	Revd Roy Jenkins Junior Church Youth Fellowship
Mon	14 th	2.00pm 7.30pm	Women’s Fellowship Elders’ Meeting
Wed	16 th	10.30am 10.30am	Church Office Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	19 th		Autumn Synod Meeting Llandrindod Wells
Sun	20th	10.30am 7.30pm	Mr Geraint Richards and Louise Morgan Junior Church Crossroads Deadline Youth Fellowship
Mon	21 st	2.00pm	Women’s Fellowship
Wed	23 nd	10.30am 10.30am	Church Office Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	26 th	10.15am	WRB Prayers All Saint’s Llandaff
Sun	27th	10.30am 7.30pm	Revd Martha McInnes Junior Church Paradise Run Collection
Mon	28 th	2.00pm	Women’s Fellowship
Wed	30 th	10.30am 10.30am 1.05pm	Church Office Mid-Week Meeting Point Lunchtime Concert – Mavron Quartet



NOVEMBER

Sun	3rd	10.30am 6.00pm	Stephen Best and Helen Stenson Junior Church United Communion at Bethany Baptist
Mon	4 th	2.00pm	Women’s Fellowship
Wed	6 th	10.30am 10.30am	Church Office Mid-Week Meeting Point
Sat	9 th	10.00am	KIN Cake Stall
Sun	10th	10.30am 7.15pm	Mr Lewis Lewis Head Remembrance Sunday Junior Church Youth Fellowship
Mon	11 th	2.00pm 7.45pm	Women’s Fellowship Elders’ Meeting

BATH COACH TRIP

Saturday,
16th November, 2019

Leaving alongside Deri Pub,
Rhiwbina, at 8.30a.m.

Returning from Bath
at 5.00p.m.

Cost £12

Please contact:
Kaye Mundy

Profits to KIN

Divestment Resolution at the Synod of Wales Meeting in October

Most of you will know by now that Beulah voted at the Church Meeting in June to end our investments in fossil fuels. Bright Now is the divestment campaign run by Operation Noah, and you can see an article about our divestment in their blog on the following link:

<http://brightnow.org.uk/blog/>

As well as taking the decision to divest from fossil fuels, Beulah also voted to urge the National Synod of Wales to do likewise.

As a result, the following resolution will be debated at the Synod Meeting in Llandrindod Wells on Saturday, 19th October.

"The National Synod of Wales requests the URC (Wales) Trust Company Limited to amend its portfolio at the earliest opportunity in order to divest from fossil fuels, and encourages other churches within the Synod to do likewise."

I will be presenting the resolution at the Synod meeting and the Eco Group will be preparing the presentation over the next few weeks. The Supporting Statement, adjacent, has already been submitted by Beulah.

Anyone who would like to come along to the Synod Meeting to be part of the day would be very welcome to join us. Please let me know.

Thank you,

Eileen

Supporting Statement on Divestment for National Synod of Wales

The ethics of investment in fossil fuels

The climate crisis is an issue of the utmost urgency, with increasingly severe impacts on our brothers and sisters around the world.

Churches have a duty to ensure that their investments do not compromise the ethical position of their institutions.

In 2018 Christian Aid stated: 'Continuing to profit from fossil fuel production is ... morally wrong; investing in the alternatives is the Churches' prophetic responsibility.' [1]

The impact of fossil fuel divestment

Over 1,100 institutions with more than \$11 trillion (£9 trillion) of assets under management have committed to divest from fossil fuels.

The United Reformed Church, the URC Synods of Scotland, Yorkshire and Wessex and several local churches have made divestment commitments.

The resolution passed unanimously at URC Mission Council in May 2019 'encourage[s] URC synods and local URC churches with investments to divest from fossil fuels, and reinvest in clean alternatives'. [2]

The financial case for divestment

Climate change poses risks to the entire global economy, threatens assets in the Churches' portfolios and could lead to an 'uninsurable' world. [3]

Oil and gas companies, and those who invest in them, risk being left with worthless fuel reserves, which cannot be burned if we are to meet the Paris Agreement targets.

CCLA recently announced that its COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund will become 'fossil free' no later than 1st December 2019. [4]

Engagement with fossil fuel companies

Several Churches have chosen a policy of engagement with oil and gas companies.

Yet companies such as BP and Shell are still pursuing business strategies that would lead to 3-5°C global warming. As well as the URC, the National Trust decided to divest in 2019, citing lack of progress in response to engagement. [5]

None of the major oil and gas companies are aligned with the Paris climate goals. [6]

In conclusion, now is the time for the Church to act prophetically in response to the climate emergency by divesting from fossil fuels and investing in the future.

1. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/campaigns/time-divest-fossil-fuels>

2. <https://urc.org.uk/latest-news/3058-urc-votes-unanimously-to-divest-from-fossil-fuel-companies>

3. <https://www.axa.com/en/newsroom/press-releases/axa-accelerates-its-commitment-to-fight-climate-change>

4. <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2019/9-august/news/world/climate-change-report-urges-better-use-of-land-to-fight-hunger>

5. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-48853217>

6. <https://www.carbontracker.org/reports/breaking-the-habit/>

Who's Doing What and When

	<i>Driver on Rota</i>	<i>Duty Elder</i>	<i>Stewards</i>	<i>Pulpit Reader</i>
October				
6th am	Mike Warsop & Keith Jones	Gill Grivas & pm	Jenny McDowell & Ann Grimes	Richard Sweetnam
pm	Ecumenical Communion Service at Beulah			Huw Morgan
13th am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Anne James	Eleanor Mills & Mary Prosser	Pat Ruddock
20th am	Harley Jones & Catherine Tyler	Liz McCarthy	Pam Penny & Denise Dickman	Trix Pryce
27th am	Huw Morgan & Bill Sampson	Ruth Williams	Keirsten Eales & Richard Sweetnam	Peter Ferdinando
November				
3rd am	Giles Ballisat & Colin Grimes	TBC	Betty Evans & Bev Hampson	Mary Edwards
pm	Ecumenical Communion Service at Bethany Baptist			
10th am	Mike Warsop & Keith Jones	Liz Kidd	Chris Phelps & Andrew Glanfield	Brenda Cheer
17th am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Eleri John	Diane Burton & Fiona Liddell	James Hall
24th am	Harley Jones & Catherine Tyler	Lynne Davies	Giles & Philippa Ballisat	Cathy Wales
December				
1st am	Bill Sampson & Colin Grimes	Audrey Budding	Kate Stanbury & Marianne Barwise	Andrew Glanfield
8th am	Huw Morgan & Giles Ballisat	Viv Jones	Helen Harries & Nesta Thomas	Kate Hampson
15th am	Mike Warsop & Keith Jones	John Prosser	Jill & Peter Ferdinando	Eleanor Mills
22nd am	Tony Webb & Audrey Budding	Colin Grimes	Jenny McDowell & Keirsten Eales	Anne Thomas
24th pm		Fleur Richards	Trix Pryce	Jenny McDowell
25th am		TBC	Eleri John & Andrew Glanfield	Ruth Williams
29th am	Harley Jones & Catherine Tyler	Mary Bidnell	Mair Haywood & Kaye Mundy	Chris Phelps



COFFEE MORNING CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & BAZAAR

Saturday, 19th October 2019
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

Flower Rota

October
6th Lorraine Larcombe
13th Alan Wilson
20th Glenys Scott
27th TBC

November
3rd Barbara Clift
10th Alan Wilson
17th Grace Weaver
24th Eleri John



Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **November 2019** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 27th October** and **Huw** will be editing.