

CHURCH NEWS

Hallelujah

Easter is a busy time for us and on Easter Day there will be a service at 9am. This will be the first of a few services planned in the church building and will have a livestream. As we won't have the usual capacity in church, Pastorate phone, Mixcloud and Zoom services will all continue as usual too. I do hope this allows your preferred choice.

Before getting to Easter Day there will be a Zoom Communion Service on Maundy Thursday and a joint Rhiwbina Ecumenical zoom service on Good Friday.

We have just moved into British Summer time again, it already feels lighter and brighter. We can also begin to travel further afield. Slowly returning to more activities.

April also brings our AGM, again this will be on zoom on Monday 12th. It isn't quite a year since our last one I know, there has been quite a change for all our activities in 2020. Please forward any reports to Helen White:
admin@beulahurc.org.uk
Thank you to everyone for their help in each of the

areas of our church life as our connections continue.

Gill Grivas has completed her term as Pastoral Elder, and is stepping down. We thank Gill for her loyalty and compassion in this important area of work of the church.



Family News

With sadness I have heard of the death of [REDACTED], his family funeral was held on 15th March and our sincere condolences go to his family.

In recent weeks, [REDACTED] have been in hospital, and I am pleased to report that both have returned home and are recuperating.

Happy Special Birthday wishes this month go to [REDACTED] on Easter Day. I hope you have a lovely day.

Love and prayers go to all who have been unwell and I wish you a speedy recovery.
Best Wishes,

Anne

THANK YOU

To my Beulah family,

Words can never be adequate enough for the love, care and support you have and are giving me in the most sad loss of my darling Cyril. Not only for those who contributed to Cyril's moving Thanksgiving Service, but also for the cards, beautiful flowers and plants, little hearts, messages and doorstep visits that I have received. You are all my wonderful friends and family. My heart is so broken, but you are all there for me and I am most truly thankful to you all.

God Bless, with all my love,

Pat

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday through Thursday, of Holy Week, we will have a short service on Zoom at 7pm. Thursday will include communion, so please bring bread and wine.

On Friday, there will be a 10.30am Zoom service. I will forward the link later. This service will include two ecumenical guests from Rhiwbina.

Thanks, Martha

CONTACT

Ministers in the Pastorate:

Rev. Martha McInnes, [REDACTED]

Rev. David Dean, [REDACTED]

Email: ministers@beulahurc.org.uk



Church Secretary: Anne Wilkes, [REDACTED] Email: secretary@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Barbara Rhys, [REDACTED] Email: treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Office: Administrator - Helen White, [REDACTED] Email: admin@beulahurc.org.uk

Letter from the Manse

(Continued from front page)

concerns raised about the safety of women. We still see gang violence and the murder of, mostly, young men. We see people fleeing countries because of warfare and lack of acceptance of their sexuality. We face a climate crisis which does not diminish and challenges us to think about new ways to live and care for our planet. We have left Europe, to the dismay of many of us. This has been some year.

We, like the women, could each turn away afraid, without speaking, and not approach any of the issues in our world. If we do this, we collude with those who say the church is irrelevant to society. On the other hand, we can join with others who follow Jesus and work to create a resurrection community—one which cares for ALL people and which uses its skills to make a difference. We can do big and little things to honour people and planet in God's name.

Perhaps this year, as Easter dawns, we can begin with a pause, resting in the good news that resurrection brings hope to our world. After our pause/rest, perhaps together we can continue to find creative ways to join together, despite the pandemic, working to bring abundant life for all people.

As Easter dawns, may resurrection hope guide you and empower.

Yours,
Martha and David



Elinor Ludlow/Mum/Nannie/Great Nannie

Thank you to everyone for their messages, phone calls, cards, emails, gifts of cake, etc., and the lovely flowers, and pot plants, following the passing of our Mum. It has been quite overwhelming to be surrounded by so much love for Mum, and for all of us, and, the lovely words in your messages have been so heart-warming.

A very big thank you to Martha for the lovely way that she officiated at both services, and for the support and practical help we have received from both Martha and David, and Anne W, and the stewards, Ian, Louise and Beverley, in order for the Service of Thanksgiving to be held at Beulah. Also, big thanks to Huw for his technical expertise, to help me (and my family) with the visual tribute, and ensure the success of the live-streaming. Many thanks to Ken Graham for his kind words, and to Dr. Alun Jones, Naomi, John Cheer and Andrew Wilson-Dickson, and the 'Pastorate Lockdown Choir' for the music for both services. Last, but not least, a massive thank you to Karen and Beverley for the floral tributes to our Mum. They were absolutely gorgeous and Mum would have loved them.

I'm sure you will appreciate how disappointed we are that we were unable to have a full Beulah, for the Service of

Thanksgiving, and a full 'Sad Party' in Canolfan Beulah after, (which I feel sure would have been offered by our amazing catering team.) However, we were humbled by the sight of so many people that came out to line the streets and pay their respects to Mum on her final journey. Our sincere thanks to everyone.

The love and support from the Beulah Family is something that many of us know all about, and have experienced first hand at one time or another. As a family we have received this in no short measure this last couple of months, for which we are very grateful. We would also like to say a big thank you to the love and support that we have been shown by members and friends across the Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate. Clearly, Mum had many friends across the Pastorate, and maybe made quite an impression on 'Zoom Church!'

Many, many thanks. xxx

Love from *Colin, Ann, Rebecca, Jonathan, Vicki and Aidan; Peter, Jenny, Adam and Karen; Linda, Brian, Edward, Sarah and Julio; Uncle Gareth, Lynette, Ian, and Kara; and the Ludlow family: Claire (Mary), Safy and Alloui; Ann, Gaby and Dani; Mark, Sue and Liam; and Frances.*

Heather Coles has moved into a nursing home.



Craft magazines to give away for free

I have a box full of craft magazines to give away to a new crafty home: 1 x "Making", 5 x "Beads", 2 x "Beads & Beyond", 2 x "Craftseller", 1 x "Make & Sell Jewellery", 13 x Supplements and 27 x "Making Jewellery" magazines. You can either have the whole box or individual magazines. Either to collect from me or I can deliver them to you.



Email Helen, if you are interested, at:-
admin@beulahurc.org.uk

THANK YOU

Thank you for all your kind messages, and flowers that I received following a recent accident to my right hand. It is beginning to heal, but will be a few more weeks before it is up to D.I.Y. standards again.

Mike Warsop

THANK YOU

I've had some lovely flowers from Beulah URC - thank the church for me, it means a lot. From Eben x

SEEDS

I was informed by another member of Beulah, that a couple, who are raising income for a charity, can make use of unwanted seeds.

If you, like me, have seeds that you are willing to donate, please send to Mr



They grow the seeds on, and sell the plants raising money for the Paediatric Oncology Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich - www.tigerward.co.uk

A friend of mine has already sent her surplus supplies and received a kind acknowledgement. They also mentioned that they raised £2,350 in 2020.

I have now sent off a package of seeds. I always wondered what I could do with them. What a worthy cause!!

Many thanks, *Ann Brown*

Canolfan Garden - spring has come!

In the Canolfan garden the tulips and the flower borders are springing into life.

The tulips and hellebores are spectacular.

The weeds are starting to grow too, both on the path and in the flower beds

If you would like a walk with a purpose, please do visit and do a little tidying up.

I gave the grass a light cut today.

Please also feel free to help yourself to herbs.

Our community green flag award renewal application has been sent and we can expect an inspection visit this summer

Thank you,

Ian



Developing Our Youth Work

Many are the times when I hear people comment appreciatively on the ways in which our young people contribute to church life; in leading worship and social activities and in their practical expressions of caring.

We are fortunate to have a small but committed core of young people, and equally committed adults who work with them!

Elders have revisited a proposal to develop our work with young people through appointment of a youth worker and has given the green light for a small group to carry out some initial research and exploration.

This is not so much about 'getting more young people into the church' however, as about identifying opportunities whereas a church we

might have something to offer to support the personal, spiritual and faith development of young people and at the same time build working relationships with other organisations in our local community.

The project would, we hope, be part funded from the URC Mission Development Fund. For this we need to know the views of community partners about where and how we might have something useful to contribute and to develop more clarity about what we are trying to achieve. 'Mission' is, after all, as much about getting 'out there' as about bringing people 'in here'.

Developing links within our local community would be one of three different aspects of a youth worker post: the others being about support and development of our work with young people within

Beulah and working with churches across the whole pastorate to identifying and encouraging opportunities for involving young people.

If you would like to help in exploring and shaping our plans during this next stage, or if you have comments or suggestions to offer, please get in touch.



Reminder: Have you returned the consent form for children and young people in your family who are part of Junior or Senior age groups or Youth Fellowship? If not, please do so, or contact Helen admin@beulahurc.org.uk for another form.

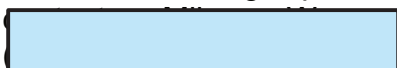
Fiona

'Lost and Found'

Last November, as part of our Covid-19 Risk Assessments, loose furniture and equipment was removed from all areas of our accommodation, and placed in storage on the Stage or in the Youth Room of the Canolfan.

As the refurbishment of the Margaret Whittaker Lounge is nearing completion, we have searched both these areas for the Alison Fear tapestry, but it has not been found.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of this tapestry, or they have taken it into safe storage, please



Beulah Directory

We will soon be beginning work on the next edition of the Directory, so we would like to encourage you to check your entry in this year's edition. If there any errors (particularly in email addresses!) please can you let me know.

Consent for all the current entries was given by you last year, following Data Protection guidelines, but if there are any amendments, deletions or additions you wish to make, again, please let me know as soon as possible, in writing, and also, if you no longer wish your details to

be printed in the Directory, please inform me of that.

If you are not listed in the Directory and would like to be, please ask me for a consent form so that you can be included.

When the time comes, please will you remember to destroy the current Directory, and not place it in your recycling bags. If you don't have a shredder, please retain the Directory and, when we are able, bring it to church for shredding in the office.

Many thanks,

Louise Morgan

**May 25th 2020 - George Floyd - 7 minutes and 46 seconds
'I can't breathe'.**

This action by police resulted in worldwide protest, including attacks on public statues and institutions.

These incidents led to a small group of people from across the pastorate to gather. We feel challenged to address uncomfortable truths about our colonial past, our participation in the slave trade and the long-term implications of slavery, and racism in our society today.

As people of God, we are clear that all people are created in the image of God. While the Bible had been used to support slavery and racism, our current understanding is that these readings of the Bible are not in keeping with the whole message—which reflects a community which is broad and all people find their place within it as God's people, welcomed and valued for who they are—no matter what their colour, age, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation. This understanding continues to shape our desire to address all forms of prejudice, including racism.

The Office for National Statistics has published numbers that show a worrying increase in a five-year period:

Race Hate crimes in England and Wales				
2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
45,440	58,294	64,829	72,041	76,070

And, recently, incidents of attacks on South East Asians due to the pandemic have been highlighted.

Here is another set of statistics which could indicate institutional racism, from The Equality and Human Rights Commission UK in October 2020:

- Unemployment rates are higher for ethnic minorities - 12.9% compared with white population at 6.3%.
- Black people who leave school with A levels typically get paid 14.3% less than White people.

In such a large subject, the Pastorate Anti-Racism Group has chosen to focus first on **education**, recognising the importance of education in attacking the roots of racism, and in society. This of course includes our own personal self-education, as well as in schools.

We are delighted to read that education is changing in Wales. A broader curriculum will include information about our colonial past, and the contributions of Black and Asian people to our society. The Education Minister Kirsty Williams has signalled support for the 51 recommendations that have been made by the working group created by the Welsh Government to look at these areas in education.

Two small steps have been taken by our Pastorate Anti-Racism Group since we began last summer.

- 1. We have shared with each other** our own experiences where we have observed racism. Some of these have been published in church magazines.
- 2. We have sent a letter** to Kirsty Williams, reflecting two concerns in connection with the new school curriculum - concerns which we had noted through our involvement with Race Alliance Wales.
 - a. A concern that the new curriculum should not limit Welsh teachers' ability to provide comprehensive coverage of colonialism that enables an understanding of different perspectives. Assurance is sought that opinions voiced in the Westminster Parliament as to what is lawful to be taught on racialised topics will not influence the Senedd to define too narrowly what is to be taught in Welsh schools.
 - b. Our belief that space should be found for the contribution of the Gypsy, Romany and Traveller communities to Welsh history and culture.

Finally, if anyone would like to join our anti-racism group, please contact a member of the group. Unfortunately, we can only meet online at present.

The Pastorate Anti-Racism Group



WHITTAKER LOUNGE

THE PAINT BRUSH COMETH!!

The budget has been approved, a risk analysis has been agreed, a work plan drawn up and work has started!!!!

The first stage was to remove counters, wall units, tiles, the tapestry and so on and that was done successfully without causing any collateral damage! The next big job was painting and that has been completed. The new tiles have arrived and we are expecting delivery of the new counters and fittings shortly. The next stage will be the

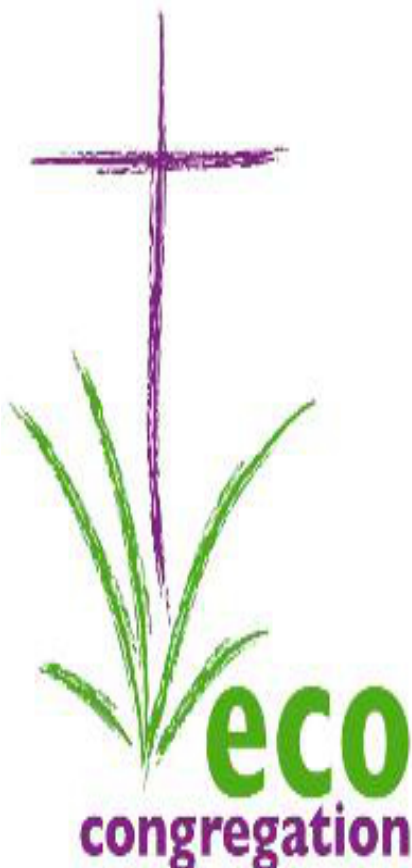


installation of the counters, followed by re-tiling work and plumbing things back in. Our electrician has completed the lighting design work and when the carpentry and plumbing work is complete, the next stage will be to install the new lights in and around the kitchen area, above a planned breakfast bar, and in the lounge seating area.

Plenty more still to do, but we are not expecting any showstoppers along the way (why did I say that?!!) so it very much a case of so far so good.

Duncan J Pugh

26.3.21



Have roller, will paint!!

Further to our Church Meeting in March, on Zoom, may I thank the following people who have kindly volunteered to help with some redecoration work during the course of the year.

Due to the current Covid Level 4 restrictions that are in place, I would rather wait until the time when the risk level drops to Level 3 or below, when a group of us can safely meet together indoors again, and apply our talents to brushes and rollers.

Fiona Liddell,
David (by proxy!)
Helen Harries,
Ann and Colin Grimes,
Marianne Barwise,
Philippa and Giles Ballisat,
Anne and Chris (by proxy!) Wilkes.
Vera Ruddock

Thanks again,

Mike Warsop

KIN at EASTER

ALMS BOWL and CHRISTIAN AID BOXES

As many of you know, each year in Beulah we invite people to set aside some small change for Christian Aid as part of their daily actions and reflections during Lent. The money is then brought to church as part of the Easter Sunday celebrations. Last year, of course, there was no opportunity to bring either your Lenten Alms Bowl collections or any Christian Aid collecting boxes you may have.

If you are able, we'd like to invite you to collect once again for the Alms Bowl during Lent this year and then we can come and pick up any money you may have at home and make sure it all gets sent off to Christian Aid. So, after Easter, please contact either Eileen Newington [redacted] or Ann Grimes [redacted] if you'd like us to collect anything from you.

The money you collect will enable Christian Aid to distribute hygiene kits to the most vulnerable families. We know only too well that **soap, masks and hand sanitiser are vital weapons against coronavirus.** In remote communities such as Benue State, Nigeria – an area ravaged by violent conflict, crop failure and HIV/AIDs – many families can't afford these essentials. They can barely afford to eat. Here, households are often run by women, orphans, and people with disabilities. Now, a new strain of Covid-19 is putting these already vulnerable lives at risk. Christian Aid urgently needs your help to distribute vital hygiene kits to those in desperate need of protection.

EASTER RAFFLE for MIND CYMRU and CHILDLINE

By the time you read this month's Crossroads, the Easter Raffle will be drawn.

Thank you so much to everyone who bought a raffle ticket, and well done to those who won a prize!

Thanks also to the KIN committee members who put together the prizes, to Barbara for handling all the money and to the Pastoral Elders for helping us run the raffle.

We'll print the totals raised next month.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10th - 16th May 2021

Challenge yourself and walk 300,000 steps in May for Christian Aid!

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/challenge-yourself>

(if you register on the website you can get a free T-shirt)

The steps challenge clocks in at just under 10,000 steps a day and you can do the challenge alone or with a team, supporting each other to reach your goal. The whole family can join in as well, with children taking on the 'little steppers' challenge and aiming to complete 30,000 steps in May. Even if you can't get out and about, we can all follow the progress of our 'steppers' across the Pastorate as we encourage them through the month and raise vital funds for Christian Aid together.

One challenge, your rules: there are lots of ways to get involved but remember ...

- try to get as much sponsorship as you can from outside the church
- all donations must go on the JustGiving page set up by Beulah nearer the time
- there will opportunities to donate for those not using JustGiving
- keep track of your steps on a phone App
- please encourage each other by posting your walks/runs/photos/progress on Facebook

GOOD LUCK!

Follow Beulah's Eco Group on their Facebook page ...

Eco-church Group: Beulah URC Cardiff

Beulah's Eco Church Facebook page is a great way to keep up to date with environmental concerns, campaigns and actions within Beulah, the Synod, the Rhiwbina community and beyond.

The page was originally created by Liz and Neil Kidd to provide a useful narrative and log of all the church's eco initiatives as we worked towards our Eco Congregation Award. At present the group has about seventy members and links in with Beulah Friends when appropriate. As the Eco Church page is an open group and a single issue page, there is lots of room for photographs, chat and discussion. The Eco Group is keen to work alongside other groups in Rhiwbina who are also working on environmental issues and Beulah's Eco Church Facebook page will hopefully be a good opportunity for us all to share ideas, initiatives, problems and successes!



Please have a look!!

Eileen Newington

Have you any shoes or coats you could donate to SPACE4U?

Although Space4U has been closed for the last year as a drop-in centre, distribution of food and clothing has continued on a referral basis. Asylum seekers continue to arrive in Cardiff and many have very little in the way of clothes



and shoes when they get to our city. We are very short of coats and shoes for men, women and children (including school shoes). Unfortunately, at the moment, these are the only items we have need of or can accept.

If you can help, please contact Jenny McDowell () or Eileen Newington (). Many thanks.

Editor's Note

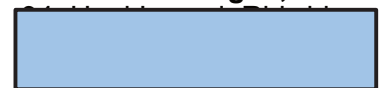
The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **May 2021** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 18th April** and **Colin** will be editing.

Editorial Team

Colin Grimes,



Huw Morgan,



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

Trinity Sanctuary Project

As you walk or drive down Newport Road you will see the distinctive spire of the former Trinity Methodist Church, just opposite the petrol station. A number of years ago it ceased operating as a Methodist Congregation but took on a new role as a Hub for organisations serving the local community.

Space4U has been based here for the last thirteen years, providing help, support and friendship to asylum seekers and refugees in Cardiff. I got involved with the project in 2007 following a visit by Sister Ruth to Beulah

Elders where she outlined the work she had recently started. Space4U has grown to become a Registered Charity providing clothing, (our clothing store is headed up by Eileen Newington), food for the destitute, English classes (which I help with) and One to One Help and Information.

However, just as importantly we provide a meeting place where people can come, relax, make

friends, play pool and table tennis and receive a hot meal. It is a safe place to meet, and before lockdown up to 200 asylum seekers and refugees were attending each Monday and Thursday. We have a team of over 50 volunteers, some Cardiff people and some asylum seekers and refugees. There is also an active **Families and Children's Group**. Space4U's activities are currently restricted because of COVID 19, but we are still delivering food parcels to the destitute and clothing on request, especially to new arrivals in Cardiff. One to one work continues on an appointment basis and a regular Zoom meeting helps volunteers and asylum seekers stay in touch.

The Trinity Centre is used by other groups too. The **Aurora craft group** meets weekly, attracting women, from the refugee and asylum-seeking community. Marianne Barwise is part of the team which organises this group which has produced some beautiful individual work and colourful wall hangings for the Centre. During the closure of the premises, sewing machines have been distributed to the group who continue to meet by zoom weekly, and skills, confidence and friendships have blossomed.

Although no longer a Methodist Church, the Trinity centre provides a worship space for Christians from ethnic minority groups such as the **Urdu Church, the Malayalan Church and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church**, all of whom can worship in their own language and in their own way.

Trinity Centre building is now old and tired, having been well-used for over 100 years. There is a **scheme to refurbish the building** and we are very excited about these plans but these will cost a considerable amount to realise. I am therefore attaching a link to the **Trinity Centre's Local Giving page** which provides some more detail in the hope that some members of Beulah might like to support this project. It will provide a building designed to create a safe and welcoming sanctuary in the heart of Cardiff. Your support and interest is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

<https://localgiving.org/appeal/TrinityCentreSanctuaryProject/> (ctrl and left click)



Jenny McDowell