



## Letter from the Manse

# Beulah CROSSROADS

The  
Monthly  
Newsletter  
of Beulah  
United  
Reformed  
Church

June  
2021



Dear Friends,

How do you feel about life at the moment? This past year has been extraordinary. We have learned new things and been isolated in our homes. We have worked flat out and found new ways of working, sometimes through screens and sometimes with masks and gloves. We have celebrated vaccines and mourned deaths of people we love. It has been a year of simple things and a year of previously unimaginable things.

And how do you feel now as you are invited to re-enter society, to go on holiday, to be in groups of people, to sit down with friends in their homes or a cafe/pub? Some of us can't wait to do everything we have missed over the last year and a bit. Some of us may be a bit hesitant to restart everything we used to do. When asked whether they would be returning to church, more than one person has said, 'Not yet.'

What have you missed in the last year? David might say he missed all the activities, being out and about seeing people and chatting at church events. Martha might say she missed meeting a person or two for a drink and a chat. What have you missed? We would both say we have missed regular visits with family.

Together we have managed to do some amazing things, getting online, have coffee mornings, musical events and quizzes as well as worship. We have found ways to raise funds for Christian Aid and other organisations. We have been inventive and creative.

As we pick up strands of our personal lives and our church life, we have an opportunity, created by the pandemic, to continue to be creative. We don't have to do everything we used to do. We can continue to try new things, to meet in different ways, to celebrate God's continued presence with us and between us.

Churches are notorious for being slow to make decisions and to change. The pandemic forced us to respond quickly and creatively and to change. Those changes may be temporary, but they have shown us that we can do things differently and we can create new ways of being church.

As we slowly and carefully return to some pre-pandemic patterns, we have opportunities to rediscover what we missed and to

*Continued on p.3*

**Part of the United Reformed Church Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate**

# CHURCH NEWS

We have now had a few more regular services in Beulah and it is nice to see people return. For those who have not yet been back to church it can seem a little bare however we do still need to keep to the 2 metre distancing.

During the last few weeks there has been a flurry of activity in the both the Canolfan and Whittaker Lounge. The lounge refurbishment is nearing completion and is looking lovely. The Canolfan has been thoroughly painted - a big thank you to both teams and volunteers. All the hard work is very much appreciated. While in the Canolfan it was good to see just how well used the garden is by both Beulah and the wider community.

As we are having more regular services in Church, Huw has provided training for audio vision. Thank you also to those who have agreed to be stewards for the services during June and July, there are a few spaces left. Please let me know if you are able to help. 'Training' will take place prior to the services.

This is also the new time of year for the change over of Elder duties. You will have received a letter about this along with nomination forms. We would be grateful for your careful consideration for both nominating and interest in taking on Elder roles. Please get in touch if you require any further information.

## Family News

Our sincere condolences go to Liz & Ken Graham on the death of Liz's sister in Canada.

Also to Jo Jones on the death of her Mum. Our thoughts are with their families.

We also heard Mary Parbery who attended Beulah and then Bethany Baptist Church before moving to New Zealand has died too.

Best wishes go to Bronwen James who is recovering well after a recent fall. Barbara Clargo and Rubina Lewis are recovering at home after time in hospital.

Good wishes to all members and friends who are unwell.

Huge congratulations to Emily Cheer who has been awarded the Synod of Wales National Lundie Memorial Award for her work at Sanyu Babies Home. It is always good to hear regularly from Emily with her blog updating us about life at Sanyu.

As always if you have news to share please let me know.

Best Wishes  
Anne



## Rotas for Reading and Intercessions

Now that we are meeting regularly in church again, we are looking for volunteers to read the Bible lessons and lead prayers of intercession.

Helen White has kindly agreed to draw up the rotas, so if you able to offer to do either of these things, please can you let her know as soon as possible.

Please note that at the moment the services are being 'livestreamed'.

Helen's contact details are:

Email:

[admin@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:admin@beulahurc.org.uk)



## Church Secretary:

Mrs Anne Wilkes

email:

[secretary@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@beulahurc.org.uk)

## Church Treasurer:

Mrs Barbara Rhys,

## Ministers in the Pastorate:

Revd. Martha McInnes

Revd. David Dean

Email: [ministers@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:ministers@beulahurc.org.uk)

From p.1

create new rituals. Let's experiment. If it doesn't work, that's fine, but let's give new ideas a try.

And let's continue to be kind and compassionate toward one another. It was a tough year. Some of us will continue to carry the stress of our pandemic experiences for awhile. We need your kindness and understanding, as well as your friendship and presence.

The poet, Mary Oliver wrote: *Someone I loved once gave me a box full of darkness. It took me years to understand that this, too, was a gift.*

The pandemic experience may have seemed bleak, but it also held gifts. As communities of faith, we continue to listen for the gifts and embody them in our life together. Creativity and kindness are but two of the gifts. May they be central to our life together as we move forward.

Yours in Christ,

Martha and David

I would like to say a big thank you to my friends at Beulah for the flowers received after my visit to UHW. They are beautiful. Thanks also to Philippa for her enjoyable visit. With love,  
Barbara (Clargo)

## Beulah Directory

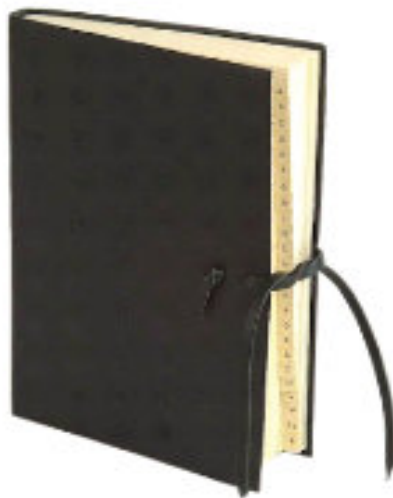
**W**e will soon be beginning work on the next edition of the Directory, so we would like to encourage you to check your entry in this year's edition. If there any errors (particularly in email addresses!) please can you let me know.

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.*



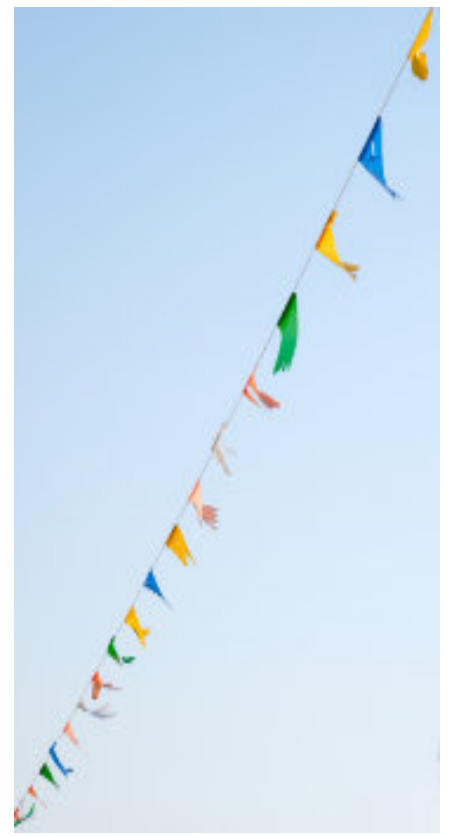
## Create your own bunting

**to add to the One Rhiwbina celebrations this summer**

Beulah Eco Group are planning to join with other groups in Rhiwbina to create bunting for the Village Festival.

Gaynor and Marianne have created packs and instructions for bunting making, and they are now ready to be distributed. Please contact Marianne Barwise or Gaynor Rees if you would like to collect a pack, or have one delivered. Packs can be hand or machine sewn and are suitable for those with basic or experienced sewing skills.

The Festival Committee hope to have the whole village decorated in bunting, so we need as many sewing volunteers as possible.



Visit us at..... <http://www.beulahurc.org.uk/>



## INTERNAL REDECORATION OF CANOLFAN CENTRE

You will no doubt remember the discussions on finance at our Church Meeting on 28th February 2021, where I offered a saving towards the projected overspend for 2021, for the internal redecoration of the Canolfan Centre to be carried out by volunteers, instead of appointing contractors. During the meeting 12 people volunteered to help with the decoration, and their kind offer was duly acknowledged.

However, Level 4 Covid restrictions were in place at the time, and I thought it safer to wait until restrictions were reduced to Level 3, which permitted the re-opening of Community Centres, and the holding of 'organised groups' for up to 15 people to meet

safely.

Covid restrictions were reduced to Level 3 with effect from 3rd May, and as no bookings for the Centre had been made, it was agreed to hold the opening until 17th May, to allow time for the internal redecoration to proceed.

As soon as the 'green light' was apparent, I contacted all of the people that had volunteered, to arrange a suitable programme for our 'organised painting group'. Unfortunately, some of the original volunteers were not available, and our group moving forward were Marianne Barwise, Colin Grimes, Helen Harries, Fiona Liddell, Chris and Anne Wilkes, and myself.

I am extremely grateful for all of the effort put in by everybody, and in particular to Chris who helped me with all the preparatory works, and to those who were working full time, but still gave of their time in evenings and weekends.

As a consequence, we were able to achieve our goal, and to apply 65 litres of paint to brighten up the Canolfan Centre, and ensure it opened on schedule on 17th May.

Well done to everybody,  
Mike Warsop



Dear Beulah Family,

I was so delighted to receive a beautiful Easter card from you, which is still in pride of place on my table as I write. It also contained the Seeds of Hope - the image of our planet which held them inside it was so lovely, I almost didn't want to plant the seeds! But plant them I did, and green seedlings have already appeared. I send my heartfelt thanks for this thoughtful gift.

With love from

Valerie Hannagan Lewis x

## Thank You from Jeff Grivas and family

Thank you all for the many messages of sympathy received following the sad loss of Gill.

Special thanks to the many people who couldn't attend the funeral service, because of Covid restrictions, but paid their respects outside Beulah Church. Gill would have been genuinely surprised by this gesture, but at the same time very happy.

Donations, in lieu of flowers, to Cancer Research UK, in Gill's memory, raised a total of £435.60.

With the church starting to reopen, we will be looking to restart the flower rota, and I am looking for people to donate flowers on the 1st and 3rd Sunday's of each month (and the 5th Sunday, when there is one!). If you would like to add your name to the rota please email me or leave me a message 'A flower is not a flower alone; a thousand thoughts invest in it'

Look forward to hearing from you  
Karen



## Junior church news

It is so good to be able to meet again face to face, little by little, as Covid restrictions ease. There are activities planned in the coming months for children and young people of all ages:

For the **creche, beginners and primary children**, junior church has begun to resume in Beulah garden (see Calendar) Contact: Ann Grimes, Pat Agland or Pat Cazenave.

**Juniors and Seniors** fortnightly zoom sessions continue. We hope to be able to resume Junior church in the Canolfan on some Sundays from September and will keep you posted.

Monthly Outdoor church is for **children of all ages with their families** (see Calendar). An email with details of where to meet, what to bring and a phone contact number is sent out from [admin@beuahurc.org.uk](mailto:admin@beuahurc.org.uk) to Junior Church families during the preceding week. Look out for this- or contact Fiona Liddell for details. All church members and friends are welcome to book and come along – not only those with children!

**Youth Fellowship** will start meeting back in the Canolfan in June. Contact: Liz McCarthy.

**Thank You Audrey. Thank you Gill.** For many years Audrey Budding has overseen the safe crossing of children and parents across Beulah Rd as they leave the main service for Junior church on a Sunday morning. She has decided to step down from this and we thank her for ensuring everyone's safety so diligently.

Gill Grivas served Junior Church faithfully over many years and has been a friend to children and parents alike. We thank God for her life and her witness and will sorely miss her from the Junior Church team.

**Want to help Junior Church?** Planning for Junior church in the autumn will need to take account of many changes including changes to the leaders team, the number/ age distribution of returning children and continuing Covid restrictions. We would really welcome additional leaders or helpers as we start to build back toward to more regular Junior Church. If this interests you and you would like to discuss this, please contact Fiona.

*Fiona Liddell*

## Church Calendar

### June

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Worship with Communion Martha / David	Live-streamed
	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	11:30 a.m.	Junior Church ZOOM	
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	All-Age Children & Families	Outdoor Church @ Heath Park
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting: Joint Church Life & Pastoral Elders	
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Worship: Jenny McDowell & Louise Morgan	Live-streamed
	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	10:30 a.m.	Creche, Beginners, Primary - Junior Church	Beulah Garden
	11:30 a.m.	Junior Church ZOOM Crossroads deadline	
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:15 a.m.	WRB Prayers	
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	Followed by	Church Meeting	

### July

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Worship with Communion Martha / David	Live-streamed
	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	11:30 a.m.	Junior Church ZOOM	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	All-Age Children & Families	Outdoor Church @ Heath Park
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Worship: Richard Edwards	Live-streamed
	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	
	10:30 a.m.	Creche, Beginners, Primary - Junior Church	Beulah Garden
	11:30 a.m.	Junior Church ZOOM	
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 a.m.	Pastorate ZOOM Service	

- *Please book (with Helen) for Beulah services by the preceding Thursday.*
- *During the current restrictions, for Communion services on the first Sunday of the month please bring your own bread and wine.*
- *The Junior Church ZOOM sessions are fun, sociable events for junior and senior age groups and will include a murder mystery event and microwave doughnut making, amongst other things. Keep a look out for the email reminders and let Helen know if you need to be added to the contact list (admin@beulahurc.org.uk).*

# KIN

**Together we care and together we share**

## **Christian Aid Week**

**A huge thank you to you all for your generosity during this year's Christian Aid Week**

**The JustGiving page total is standing at £975.00 (plus £218.75 Gift Aid)  
£355 of the total was raised by the Big Brekkie**

### **Thank you to everyone who shared in the Big Zoom Brekkie**

It was a great way to catch up with each other over breakfast and to raise funds for Christian Aid. Many thanks to Eleri for all her hard work in preparing the thirty-six breakfast boxes and to Jonathan for his technical help on the day.

### **The Step Challenge continues!**

So far, as from 25<sup>th</sup> May, we've notched up an amazing 1,722,016 steps across the Pastorate!! Brilliant ... imagine how many steps we could have taken if the sun had been shining! By the time you read this, the total will be even higher but we still have a bit to go to reach our 3,000,000 step target! Let's see if we can do it as we get out and about over the Bank Holiday! Remember to send Helen your steps ([admin@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:admin@beulahurc.org.uk)) and to ask people to support our efforts by donating to the Pastorate Christian Aid JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cardiffandpenarthfundraising>

Thank you again  
from the KIN Committee

## **Foodbank and Rainbow of Hope**

Many thanks for all the food donations which people have left in my porch. 9 carrier bags full of food and toiletries have been delivered to the Foodbank Warehouse this week, and a few weeks ago we took 7 carrier bags directly to Rainbow of Hope in Broadway. I know some of the supermarkets are collecting for Foodbank too. Everything helps in these continuing difficult times. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Eleri

### **EDITORS**

Colin Grimes,

Huw Morgan,



Contributions for the next edition of Crossroads should be submitted by Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, and Colin will be editing.

Please note,  
editorial e-mail:  
[crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk](mailto:crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk)

And God said

# “Take care of your Buildings”

First steps to avoiding waste,  
reducing consumption, saving costs,  
and driving down emissions.

**Chris Atherton**

**Claire Boot**



Saturday 12th June 2021

10:00am to 11:30am

email: [jason.askew.urcwales@urc.org.uk](mailto:jason.askew.urcwales@urc.org.uk)

to register and obtain the ZOOM link

The United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales  
**Journeying together as Eco Church**