

CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

Lent will begin on 2nd March, what are you doing this year? In 2020 I decided our family would give up 1 hour of electricity a day, unfortunately this proved quite difficult! Recently our electric went out due to a fuse failure in the local sub-station. We had a good supply of candles to hand and battery lights. 2 hours was not that difficult, however, I think we proved before, giving up an hour a day wasn't going to work.

The Lenten Studies group this year, led by David, starts on Thursday 3rd March in the Whittaker Lounge by showing the film "The Way" with Martin Sheen who decides to walk the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Themes of pilgrimage, grief and healing will be explored. So, this year I plan to virtually walk the way

In February, the Eco Group led our service, reflecting on COP 26, input from Youth Fellowship looking for action from us to reduce climate change through their films of 'Love Actually' and 'Cillit Bang'. We had the second questionnaire asking about how we travel to church, including: how far we travel, what type e.g. by car, on foot. I'm sure the stormy weather had a direct impact on our travel choice that day!

Thankfully, restrictions are reducing and more things opening up. It is good to see more people back in church

again. If you haven't yet been back in church and would like further details, please let me know.

Please get in touch if you plan to attend the next Synod Meeting, which will be on Zoom on Saturday, 12th March.



FAMILY NEWS

The celebration of the life of Barbara Collins will take place on Friday 4th March at 12.30pm, in Beulah and then at Thornhill Crematorium at 2.00pm. Please join the family in the Canolfan after the Crematorium, no black ties and most colourful attire. Our sincere condolences to Bev Hampson and all the family.

Several members and friends are unwell or had major or minor surgery recently. We send you our thoughts and prayers.

I know there have been a few birthdays, and Special Birthdays, this month, ... congratulations to you all.

If you have any family news you would like included in Crossroads, please let me or your elder know.

Best Wishes, Anne

Letter from the Manse

(Continued from Front Page)

again. Do we develop a new opportunity to serve people? Do we're resurrection something we used to do together? Do we look to work in Rhiwbina, across Cardiff, or even further afield? How can we be Easter people offering hope to our broken world?

Secondly, we may need to ask ourselves where we need to experience 'Easter' in our own brokenness and pain? Our scars and fears need to be faced and offered to God for healing.

So we face into these two challenges for Lent. What is our Good Friday and how can we experience Easter for ourselves? Where and how are we called to be Easter people in this Good Friday world?

As we look forward to leaving the Pandemic behind and developing God's work together, these are questions we will ask ourselves and will be prepared to ask with you during Lent and beyond.

Yours in Christ,

Martha and David



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LENT GROUPS

David will be leading Lent Groups using a film called, 'The Way' with Martin Sheen. The film follows Sheens character, who after a personal tragedy, decides to walk the Camino de Santiago in Spain. Themes of pilgrimage, grief and healing arise in the film and will be explored in the Lent Groups.

The first evening will be on 3 March and consist of watching the film at 7.30 pm in the Margaret Whittaker Lounge. There will be another viewing at Elfed Ave. Church the same day, 3 March, at 2 pm. The following Thursday evenings will continue in person in the Margaret Whittaker Lounge. Finally, the film can also be watched at home if you prefer, prior to discussions beginning on 10 March.

If you are interested in participating, ring David on 07772 714388. If you would like to be part of a online group during the day, please let him know as well and, if enough people express interest, an online group will be arranged which is mutually convenient for those interested in participating. And, if you're interested in the Lent Study, please could you purchase the book *The Long Road to Heaven* by Tim Heaton.

Martha and David

KIN

Together we care and together we share

At our recent KIN meeting we were so pleased to be able to plan some events again! Especially as they are traditional occasions within the Beulah calendar.

Good Friday Lunch - 15th April

This will be held in the Canolfan at 12.30 pm directly after the Good Friday service. We'll be joined by our friends from All Saints and Bethany.

Donations can be made on the day.

**Please book your place by emailing
treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk
or by phoning 7707030787**

Easter Raffle Tickets £2.00

Following the success of last year's raffle, we'll be holding one again this Easter.

Look out in next month's Crossroads and on Facebook for the raffle prizes!

Tickets will be on sale over coffee nearer the time.

You can also contact Eileen (20624967) or ask your Pastoral Elder.

To buy tickets by BACS transfer to Beulah, please use the reference FRIDGES.

Easter Breakfast

Details to be confirmed.

All our Easter fundraising will be for the Fridge Twinning Emergency Appeal

Millions of people are going hungry and do not know where their next meal is coming from. Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Yemen, DR Congo and South Sudan are all on the brink of famine according to the Disasters Emergency Committee.

Conflict, natural disaster, inflation and COVID-19 are some of the reasons why millions are unable to feed themselves. By twinning a fridge for only £30, a family in Ethiopia can be provided with emergency food for almost a month.

Let's see how many fridges we can twin with our Easter events.

 **twin your fridge**

A date for your diary ...

Christian Aid Week Big Brekkie Saturday 20th May

Looking forward to fundraising again in person!

*Thank you from
all the KIN committee.*

Editor's Note

The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **April 2022** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 20th March** and **Huw** will be editing.

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

Concern for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

The UK Government's Nationality and Borders Bill

A number of members of Beulah URC are actively involved in supporting refugees and asylum seekers at The Trinity Centre, in Cardiff. Many of you have been generous in your interest and support for this work. For this reason we want to draw to your attention to changes the government of the UK are proposing to the asylum system, which we already know is highly flawed.

The Government's Nationality and Borders Bill, which passed through the House of Commons in December 2021, is currently being debated by the Lords. The changes proposed will severely restrict refugee family reunion, the route by which thousands of mainly women and children at risk of war, conflict, violence and persecution have been able to safely settle in Britain in recent years. It also plans to create two tiers of refugees, making the way they arrive into the UK a determining factor in their ability to claim asylum, rather than their need for protection.

Under current plans, the Government intends to reduce the leave and family reunion rights of most new refugees, and criminalise many people making asylum claims. They will also house increasing numbers of

people seeking asylum in inappropriate and unsuitable reception centres, and try to process asylum claims offshore, despite the large body of evidence showing how damaging this approach would be. For refugee children, they also intend to change the way that their age is assessed, removing safe-guards in that area, and introducing unproven and intrusive 'scientific methods'.

The bill's advocates argue that the whole package is about stopping dangerous small boat journeys across the British Channel, and with it, tackling the business model of people smugglers. Sadly, these claims are not based in reality. No evidence has been presented to show that treating refugees poorly will reduce these journeys. Furthermore, reducing the rights of people seeking asylum in the UK will have no bearing on smugglers – who operate across Europe and therefore require co-operation across the continent. Almost nothing in the bill is directed at smugglers themselves, but instead at vulnerable refugees.

Fortunately, scrutiny of the bill is far from over. As increasing numbers of

parliamentarians become concerned about the legality of the measures, the opposition is growing. Throughout the drafting of the legislation, the Government has also been keen to reiterate its support for safe and legal routes, yet many people have noted that the bill does nothing to increase safe routes. Alongside opposing the negative changes in the bill, voices are growing louder for an increased commitment to refugee resettlement, and more family reunion routes.

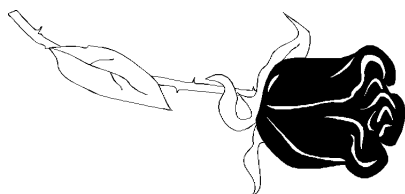
We would encourage you to write to your MP or a representative in the House of Lords and raise your concerns about the injustice of the current proposals within the Nationality and Borders Bill.

If you wish to know more about the bill or the campaigns to challenge it please view:-

Nationality-and-Borders-Bill-House-of-Commons-Report-Stage-Refugee-Council-briefing.pdf

<https://act.refugeecouncil.org.uk/campaign/create-safe-routes-refugees-and-save-lives>

*Marianne Barwise
and Jenny McDowell*



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CHURCH CALENDAR

March

Sunday 6th	10.30am	Worship with Communion Revd. David Dean	
	10.30am	Junior Church	
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	
Sunday 13th	10.30am	Worship: Dr Andrew Glanfield	
	10.30am	Junior Church	
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	
Sunday 20th	10.30am	Worship: Mr Pat Ruddock	
	10.30am	Junior Church	
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	
Saturday 26th	10.15 – 10.45am	Whitchurch, Rhiwbina, Birchgrove (WRB) Prayers, St. Andrews Methodist Church, Caerphilly Road, Birchgrove. CF14 4AE	
Sunday 27th	10.30am	Worship: Revd. David Dean/Revd. Martha McInnes	
	10.30am	Junior Church	
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship	

**Our services are also available to be watched 'livestreamed via the internet.
Contact secretary@beulahurc.org.uk or Tel: 07855 640634 for further details.**

AV, Readers' and Intercessions Rotas

These rotas are now on display on the church noticeboard in the foyer. They will also appear in Crossroads each month. If you are unable to do your Sunday, please can you arrange a swap and amend the sheet accordingly (and it would also help to let Louise know too).

If you would like to join the AV or Readers' rotas, please contact Louise. Full training in using the AV equipment will be given! If you are interested in leading prayers, please contact Pat Cazenave.
Many thanks.

ROTAS

	AV System	Bible Readers	Intercessions
March 6	Huw Morgan	Andrew Glanfield	Roger Bidnell
March 13	Andrew Glanfield	Louise Morgan	Pat Ruddock
March 20	Nigel Barwise	Colin Grimes	Janet McCormack
March 27	James Hall	Richard Sweetnam	Jill Ferdinando
April 3	Richard Sweetnam	Marion Williams	Duncan Pugh
April 10	Huw Morgan	Vicki Grimes	Mary Bidnell
April 15	Huw Morgan		
April 17	Nigel Barwise	Audrey Budding	Marion Williams
April 24	Andrew Glanfield	Jonathan Grimes	Colin Grimes