



Letter from the Manse

Dear Friends,

July 2022

In the US school holidays usually start sometime around the beginning of June. Several of our family members have July birthdays. One of them said that on his birthday, rather than joy, he used to feel sadness because the summer was half over. School would return in less than six weeks. He loved his summer holidays! Here he would be filled with joy because his birthday would signal the beginning of summer holidays.

Summer is upon us; the school holidays are almost here. Even if our summer days hold no prospect of a holiday and our routine will be the same as any other time of year, the summer season brings the joy of light evenings and gardens rich with colour. Summer warmth offers an excuse for an ice cream or an iced coffee at the seaside.

After two summers of isolation and uncertainty, this summer feels like an opportunity to relax and rest. Several years ago we had opportunities to have sabbaticals, three months in which we were released from our pastoral work to focus on study and renewal. During Martha's sabbatical, she was reminded of the power of 'sabbath'—which shares its root with sabbatical.

As people who have a Judeo-Christian history, we know sabbath. Sabbath is the seventh day; the day God rested after the six days of creation. It is a Sunday (or a Saturday in Jewish tradition) during which no shops are open and no one does work. Walter Brueggemann suggests that 'the practice of sabbath is an act of resistance; it's a holy disruption. It disrupts our schedules, our striving . . . Sabbath provides a regular call to unplug from the information (and disinformation) flow and to remember who we are and Whose we are; it's an invitation to come back into the True Story of God.' Sabbath is disruptive in order for us to experience rest. It is a different routine from work days. It is a different path from the call of culture to prove our worth by what we do not who we are.

Sometimes we are able to use our Sundays differently and disruptively—to unplug, to turn off our phones, to change our routine. But lots of times Sundays are as full as any other day of the week. After church, if we make it to church, we finish off a piece of work or run around preparing for the week ahead. We help the

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Beulah CROSSROADS

The
Monthly
Newsletter
of Beulah
United
Reformed
Church

July
2022



Part of the United Reformed Church Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate

CHURCH NEWS

June was another busy month. It seems a long time already but started with the River of Hope banners going up which was lovely and some hard work from all in Beulah and contributions from the wider community. Then our Family BBQ, the weather couldn't have been kinder and finishing with a beautiful rainbow.

There was an opportunity to make/knit or craft flowers at Canton Uniting and then also to attend the re-arranged Synod Day out at Canton Uniting Church, linking with some of the Synod Service from Swansea and opportunity for all to join via zoom.

On 26th June we will have Dr Alison Gray lead our service, Dr Gray is the Director of Studies and Tutor in Old Testament Language, Literature & Theology at Westminster College. Staff from the college will also be at City Church that afternoon.

21st June was the second meeting of Theology on Tap at The Deri Inn, while not everyone who attended previously was able to attend there were some new faces this month too. This will be a regular monthly event and everyone is welcome.

Thank you to everyone involved in all these activities both behind the scenes and to those attending.

Nominations for Pastoral Elders have been over the last few weeks and our thanks go to Mary Bidnell and Tony Webb for all their support. Thanks also to Pat Cazenave who continued serving for an extra year. The next Church Meeting will

be after the service on Sunday 17th July.

Family News

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of Irene Bragg who died on 6th June. Her funeral service will be held on Thursday 7th July, in Beulah at 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. at Thornhill Crematorium. There will be refreshments at Beulah afterwards.

Covid is still with us (as I seem to have said last month too!). Best Wishes to all those isolating or recovering from Covid and I hope you all feel better soon. Best wishes also to those in hospital or home recovering. We are thinking of you all.

Many congratulations to David Edwards (son of Richard and Sarah) and Laura Larkin, who will be getting married on July 15 in Teconnaught, County Down.

Best wishes to Lindsey Allan who is running this year's London Marathon for Tenovus. It was great to hear Lindsey tell us about her run and if you haven't been able to donate yet there is still time before the marathon.

Finally, exam time is coming to a close and our teenagers less stressed (thankfully in our house anyway) I hope you all have a great summer and please let us know what your plans are.

If you have a special occasion or Family news to share, please let me know.

Anne

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children prepare for school or take them to multiple activities. After a busy Sunday, we may look forward to the routine of Monday.

As we think about the value of sabbath, of rest, of disruption of routine, of an unplug from our culture, we wonder whether a few of our summer weeks might be for us a sabbath. Perhaps our summer holidays can a small piece of sabbath. Yes, there will be some busy days, but maybe there will also be a few long, quiet days, with peaceful evening light, a drink in the garden, a chat with friends, the delight of children, and the loving presence of God, which fill us with peace and joy, reminding us of the goodness of life.

May you find rest, holy disruption, an invitation into God's story, some sabbath in the weeks of summer.

Summer Sabbath

Summer gratitudes:

For the long evenings, when the sun slants through our windows and the sky darkens slowly;

For the days filled with options and activities;

Church Secretary:

Mrs Anne Wilkes

Tel: 07855640634

email:

secretary@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer:

Mrs Barbara Rhys,

7 Clas Tynycae, Rhiwbina

Tel: 07707030787

email:

treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk

Ministers in the Pastorate:

Rev. Martha McInnes Mob: 07519831405

Rev. David Dean Mob: 07772714388

Email: ministers@beulahurc.org.uk

*For the growing garden,
glowing with the riot of colour;*

*For the joy of sound, laughter
of friends, waves rolling on
the shore, a gentle rain on the
roof;*

*For a different rhythm of life,
for a week, a weekend, six
weeks;*

*For the precious memories of
past summers.*

*Blessings for summer
sabbath.*

*May the days and nights of
summer hold peace and
possibility for each of us.*

*May the days and nights of
summer offer us time to see
and hear the blessings of
God's presence.*

*May the days and nights of
summer give us the
refreshment we need to face
into the requirements of the
days to come.*

*May the days and nights of
summer fill us up with love
and gratitude.*

*Peace,
Martha and David*

Theology on Tap

This idea is to provide a space for people to be together, to talk and catch up with each other in a more informal setting, the Deri pub. It is open to all – believers and non-believers alike, friends and family very welcome and we are hoping to be joined by others from across the pastorate.

Please contact Andrew Glanfield or David Dean if you would like to know more.

Children and young people - bits and bobs

Junior Church

Junior church will continue throughout the summer with all age activity in the Canolfan. We may spend the whole hour in the Canolfan on some weeks, but will make sure that the door stewards know where to direct you!

We have begun making celebratory bunting with the children, to celebrate the 50th year of the United Reformed Church; the actual birthday weekend is at the beginning of October, when our bunting will add to the decorations. The URC has produced a booklet 'Celebrate together' and we have copies for every family: we hope that you will enjoy reading it with your children and finding out a bit more about the URC.

We are also growing ornamental grasses for the 'no fly' flower show at Beulah in September. If you would like to join in, please ask Marianne for supplies.

Another resource you may like to use at home is the 'Families on Faith Adventures' activity sheet which is emailed weekly from our Youth and Children's worker, Judy. If you would like to get this mailing, please let Fiona know.

After many years of amazing service to Junior Church, Marion Williams is taking a break from the end of July. We express our heartfelt thanks to her.

Come and Play

On Tuesday 16th August you are invited to bring children up to and including 7 years to enjoy play, chat and refreshments together in the Canolfan - hopefully a bouncey castle too!

More details to follow, including on Beulah Friends facebook page. Meanwhile note the date and tell your friends.

Want to help?

It is a privilege to work with the wonderful children that have at Beulah. We are always keen to welcome additional helpers, so if you fancy getting involved on a Sunday or coming along to help at our August play session, have a word with Fiona (or email her Fiona.liddell1@virginmedia.com).

MARATHON!

Following on from the service last week I would like to thank all those at Beulah who donated towards my marathon run. I was overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of everyone and have raised over £400 towards my Tenovus target and marathon run.

Guess I will have to do it now!! 😊

I will keep you updated on my progress and thank you again,

Lindsey Allan. xx

If you would like to sponsor me, you can donate online at <https://tenovuscancercare.enthuse.com/pf/lindsey-allan> or let me know and I can pass on a paper sponsor form."

CHURCH CALENDAR

JULY

Sunday 3rd	10.30am	Revd David Dean: Communion Junior Church
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship
Mon 4th	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Café: MWL
	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Tues 5th	9.00am	Beulah Tots
	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe
Thurs 7th	9.30am	Whitchurch High Resource Base Café: MWL
Fri 8th	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sat 9th	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sunday 10th	10.30am	Revd. Stephen Best Junior Church
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship
Mon 11th	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Café: MWL
	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Tues 12th	9.00am	Beulah Tots
	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe
Thurs 14th	9.30am	Whitchurch High Resource Base Café: MWL
Fri 15th	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sat 16th	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sunday 17th	10.30am:	Worship Group, led by Dr Andrew Glanfield Junior Church
		Church Meeting after service
	7.15pm	Youth Fellowship
Mon 18th	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Café: MWL
	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Tues 19th	9.00am	Beulah Tots
	9.30am	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe
Thurs 21st	9.30am	Whitchurch High Resource Base Café: MWL
Fri 22nd	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sat 23rd	10.00am	Whittaker Lounge Café
Sunday 24th	10.30am	Revd. Martha McInnes/David Dean Junior Church
Mon 25th	2.00pm	Women's Fellowship
Sat 30th	10.15am	WRB Prayers, Beulah
Sunday 31st	10.30am	Synod Worship, Cardiff & Penarth Pastorate Junior Church
AUGUST		
Sunday 7th	10.30am	Revd. Martha McInnes: Communion Junior Church
Sunday 14th	10.30am	Mr Richard Edwards Junior Church

July 3rd
July 10th
July 17th
July 24th
July 31st
August 7th
August 14th
August 21st

AV System Rota

Huw Morgan
James Hall
Richard Sweetnam
Nigel Barwise
Andrew Glanfield
Huw Morgan
James Hall
Richard Sweetnam

Bible Readings

Fiona Liddell
Peter Ferdinando
Roger Bidnell
Pat Ruddock
Liz Kidd
James Hall
Liz McCarthy
Huw Morgan

Prayers

Ian McDowell
Roger Bidnell
Viv Jones
Tony Webb
Fleur Richards
Hollie Glanfield
Mary Edwards
Arlene Ramasut



EDITORS

Colin Grimes,
35 Waun-y-Groes Ave,
Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 4SZ
Tel: 029 2052 9422

Huw Morgan,
34, Heol Iscoed,
Rhiwbina, Cardiff. CF14 6PA
Tel: 029 2052 2782.

Visit us at.....

[http://
www.beulahurc.org.uk/](http://www.beulahurc.org.uk/)

**Contributions for the next
edition of Crossroads should
be submitted by
Sunday, 24th July and Huw
will be editing.**

**Please note,
editorial e-mail:
crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk**