

CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

Church News

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good Christmas and New Year. 2025 is now underway and we move together towards new challenges and blessings.

Christmas in Beulah was, as usual, very busy and unfortunately we had another very wet Advent. Our plans to sing outside Beulah on the three Saturdays before Christmas were cancelled because of Storm Darragh and the rain that kept on falling. We did manage it once though!

It was, however, good to see so many events well attended and that our new banner, flyers and advertising campaign helped bring more members of the local community to our Advent services and events. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to get the word out. Also Beulah was lit up for the Advent season and this has been commented on positively. It was lovely in those dark wet nights to see the lights shining out from Beulah.

So many people worked to make Christmas a moving and spiritual time thanks to Martha and David and all the worship leaders, the musicians and organists, Junior Church Leaders and children, the flower arrangers and church

decorators; and those catering throughout Advent, and for the New Year brunch, and all those who worked hard for the Winter Festival events too.

The Light for Our Loss service in early December saw increased attendance and this was also the case for our wonderful Carol Service on 22 December which saw members of the community join us, including Miss Tilley's who also took part in the service and provided the after service refreshments.

Although raining again we were able to have Carols in Y Groes on 17 December including musicians (with a gazebo) and it was well attended with many coming back to the Whittaker Lounge afterwards for coffee and mince pies.

We hope to build on these events and our outreach to the community around us in 2025.

Our thoughts and best wishes go to all those who are unwell at home or in hospital and our deepest sympathy to those who have lost a loved one recently.

Every blessing

Anne



CONTACT

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Revd. David Dean,

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Church Treasurer: Barbara Rhys, Email: treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk
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Letter from the Manse

(Continued from Front page)

Brown Taylor continues, 'Bodily practices remind the willing that faith is a way of life.' Brother Lawrence, I think, would affirm this statement. We know from Jesus that love is action not just emotion. Living a life of faith is about the work we do to create an environment of shalom and hope.

You do this each and every day. Keep up the good work. We may not see the stone transform, but our drips of love make a difference.

Peace,
Martha and David



Women's Fellowship

- Monday 1.00pm to 3.00pm

We are a small group so have decided to meet on Monday afternoons as usual.

We do enjoy our time together, so we decided to make it from 1 to 3pm, so that people can come and leave at the times that suit them.

We would be happy for you to join us when you are able, drop in for a "cuppa", and chat. You would be very welcome.

Joan Ridley.



WORLD DAY of PRAYER

Advance notice – The World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 7th March at All Saints Church, Rhiwbina at 2.00 pm and will be followed by light refreshments.

As you no doubt recall, the service is held all around the world over a 24 hour period. This year the service has been devised by the women of the Cook Islands and is entitled "I made you wonderful."

A warm welcome awaits you. We hope that you can support this important event in the calendar of churches in Rhiwbina.

Diane Burton
and Mary Bidnell.

Beulah's Pastoral Care

"Beulah is a big bunch of flowers"

These words, from our transitional ministry process a few years ago, for me, encapsulate an aspect of life in Beulah of which we are very proud. Beulah has a long tradition of elders, helpers and all the church family sharing in pastoral care for one another.

We understand how important it is that, whatever the circumstances, no-one is forgotten and no one is left out. For this to happen, pastoral elders take responsibility for a geographical area and they are each supported by a pastoral helper.

We would like to increase our network of pastoral helpers so that people can take a step back when they need to, or to offer extra support where there is a particular need.

Perhaps you have been an elder or pastoral helper previously and are now able to be involved again? Or you may have been invited to be an elder but are not able to take on that role at the moment? Maybe your circumstances have changed and you have a couple of hours to spare in the month? It's a lovely way to deepen current friendships and make new ones.

If you think this is something that you could do, or you would like to find out more, please get in touch with me.

Thank you,
Marion Williams

KIN

Together we care and together we share

The final KIN fundraising figures for the last couple of months have been finalised and are:

For Papyrus:

Carol Singing, Church Christmas Card,
KIN Coffee Morning: £695.06
Christmas Quiz £61.22,
New Year's Day Brunch: £120.00
Plus - the Papyrus Walk in October £187.20.
This is a total of £1,063.48.

For Space4U: (Christmas Festival): £669.07.

For Tenovus: (Christmas Festival): £246.95.

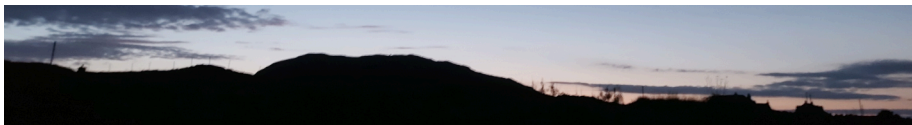
For Christian Aid (Gaza): Christmas Raffle
£301.30.

For Shelterbox:

January Barn Dance: £210.00

Many thanks to all who have donated their time in helping to put all these events on as well everyone who supported all the events.

Geraint Richards, on behalf of KIN Committee



TREASURER'S POST

I have recently sent a letter of resignation to the Leadership Team, which has also been shared with the Elders, stating that is my intention to resign as Treasurer at the AGM on the 28 April 2025.

I have done this after much soul searching, but know it is the right decision for both myself and the Church as a whole.

I have loved being in such a privileged position for many years now, and would like to be able to complete a full hand over to my successor.

If you feel you would like to know more about the work and/or be interested in taking on the role, I would be grateful if you could please contact me so that we can have an informal chat without any obligation. My contact details are in the Beulah Directory or see me in Church on a Sunday.

Thank you,

Barbara

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for my Christmas Poinsettia, and my lovely cards. Unfortunately, on the 20th Dec, when going to Derby to be with Jayne and Martin, I left behind, in Cardiff, all my cards that I had started to write. So, sorry, but that's what being 91 and not 21 is about!
Love to my Beulah family,
Rubina x

Editors' Note



The **deadline** for articles to be included in the **March 2025** edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 16th February**.

Contributions should be sent to Nigel, in person, by post or by email at:
crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk

Editors:

Colin Grimes,

Nigel Barwise

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

Beulah Garden Plan for 2025

Apply for renewal of Green Flag Community award by 31 January 2025.

This is an award made to gardens which are open to the public which is assessed on the basis of community involvement, good management and ecological impact. It is administered by Welsh Government and Keep Britain Tidy and we were first awarded this in 2021. The award needs annual reapplication and assessment. [Canolfan Beulah Garden - Park Summary Details - Green Flag Award](#)



Apply for A Rocha Gold Eco Award

The church has a strong emphasis on eco issues and already holds a silver Eco church award. As a church we are applying for a gold award with a deadline of 31 January 2025. This application is being made by Beulah Church Eco team led by Eileen Newington with input from Ian McDowell, Marianne Barwise and Mary Edwards <https://arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/eco-church/>

Continue to maintain garden in a sustainable manner

We have a group of volunteers who maintain the garden by work parties from spring to Autumn. We do mow the grass, because it is used by children in the parent and toddler group, with the mower set at a height that allows daisies and clover to thrive.

All vegetation will be composted in a 3 part compost heap located in one corner of the garden which is also used for



vegetable peelings and waste cardboard from the kitchen.

Link with Young People

Our aim is to introduce gardening and love of nature to young people. We plan to continue our link with the junior church to grow runner beans, potatoes in sacks, tomatoes, rhubarb, apples and herbs. This year a new venture will be to grow Gourd bird houses <https://www.thompson-morgan.com/p/gourd-bird-house-seeds/wkf7191TM>.

Last year the local beaver colony (6-8 yrs old) spent an evening in the garden as part of their gardening badge and we hope to repeat this year. In previous years we have also hosted children with special needs who have come weekly to carry out garden work as part of their "service" component for Duke of Edinburgh bronze award and we would be happy to offer this again.

Links with Local Community

The Men's Sheds group that meets in the adjoining workshop will help with garden maintenance projects such as bench maintenance and repair of fencing which has rotted at the base of the posts. Previous projects have

included construction of the compost heap bins, construction of the planters and a hedgehog box.

"Grown not Flown" church flowers

The garden will continue to be a source of flowers and foliage for the church flower arranging team. In the last 2 years we have moved to sustainable flower arranging as marked by the flower festival held in our church "Grown not Flown" September 2022.

Encourage Wildlife and Biodiversity

We will not use any pesticides or herbicides with the exception of a few organic (ferric chloride) slug pellets to protect young bean plants from slugs. We have installed a bug hotel, a bird box and a hedgehog box. We plan to install a further bug hotel and bird box this year.

We plan to take part in the RSPB bird survey in January 2025 and also in international moth week in the last week of July 2025 using a moth trap borrowed from the local scout group.

Ian McDowell
22 Jan 2025

Good News for God's Earth

**The Synod
Eco Church Roadshow
is coming to City URC
on Saturday, 8th Feb 2025
from 10.00am – 3.30pm.**

The Eco Church Roadshow is open to everyone in the congregation. Ministers, Elders, Junior Church leaders, those involved with finance, buildings and church land, as well as all church members, are warmly invited and encouraged to attend. Please come along to join with other churches in the Pastorate.

We will share in worship and reflection, take a look at the updated Eco Church survey, discuss and plan our next steps and take part in creative responses and



activities. There will also be a Q&A session with Claire Boot, Synod Property Officer.

There are churches at different stages of the Eco Church journey within our Pastorate and the hope is that the day will provide an opportunity for us to share our stories and ideas.

From September 2024 through to March 2026, the Synod environmental steering group is taking the roadshow to every

region within the Synod of Wales. Revd. Jason Askew, Judy Harris and Eileen Newington (Synod Green Advocate) will lead the activities. Claire Boot and Chris Atherton will be available for Q&A sessions and Delyth Higgins, Eco Church Officer for Wales, will join us when she can.

We hope the roadshow will provide an opportunity for churches to network and support each other on the Eco Church journey across the Synod.

Full details will be published nearer the time along with a sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please speak to Eileen

ROTAS

Date	AV	Readers	Intercessions	Flowers	Arranger
February					
2nd	Nigel Barwise	Hollie Glanfield	Tony Webb	Bev Hampson	Beverley
9th	Andy Wales	Matt Jones	Ruth Williams	Barbara Rhys	Marianne
16th	Andrew Glanfield	Elin James	Richard Edwards	Liz Yardley	Beverley
23rd	Ian McDowell	Giles Ballisat	Anne James	Andy & Cathy Wales	Ann Brown
March					
2nd	Richard Sweetnam	Helen Harries	Mary Bidnell	Mary & Lesley Richards	Karen
9th	James Hall	Ruth Williams	Marion Williams	Arlene	Arlene
16th	Nigel Barwise	Roger Bidnell	Jill Ferdinando	Marion & Kevin Williams	Beverley
23rd	Andy Wales	Derek Evans	Keirsten Eales	Rhian Jones	Ann Brown
30th	Andrew Glanfield	Pat Ruddock	David Simpson	Karen & Fleur	Karen

Beulah URC

Family Film Shows

Family favourites on the big screen
Suitable for all ages*



Saturday afternoons 3.00pm
18th Jan, 15th Feb & 15th Mar 2025

Canolfan Beulah, Rhiwbina Village

FREE of charge

Interval ice cream No booking required

** Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult*



Wales Millennium Centre

If you would like to join with us to see the following shows at the Wales Millennium Centre, please sign the lists in the church porch.

Everyone is welcome.
(seats are in the raised stalls)

The Book of Mormon

10th July 2025

7.30pm £52

Payment date 3 March 2025

Tina Turner The Musical

26th February 2026

7.30pm £38

Payment date 7 April 2025

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT THE CROSSROADS

Wednesday, 26th February, at 1.00pm

Gwenllian Llyr - harp

(Nicola Rose writes)

Gwenllian last performed in Beulah in 2014. An outstanding harpist she has since been in great demand as a soloist, teacher and orchestral player. We are delighted to welcome her back to the concert series. Her programme includes beautiful harp pieces by Faure and Debussy.

Tickets £8 on the door

Trix

BEULAH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

February 2025

Sunday 2 February	10.30am	Communion – Revd David Dean/Revd Martha McInnes Junior Church
	6.00pm	Bwise – Young Teens Group
Sunday 9 February	10.30am	Worship – Mr Iestyn Henson Junior Church
Monday 10 February	7.30pm	Elders' meeting
Tuesday 11 February		7.30pm - Theology on Tap, Deri Inn
Saturday 15 February	3.00pm	Family Film, Canolfan
Sunday 16 February	10.30am	Worship – Mr Richard Edwards Junior Church
	12.00pm	Community Lunch - Canolfan
Sunday 23 February	10.30am	Worship - Revd David Dean/Revd Martha McInnes Junior Church



Mondays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe
	1.00-3.00	Women's Fellowship
Tuesdays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe
	9.30-11.00	Beulah Tots (term time only)
Wednesdays	11.0-12.00	The Huddle (term time only)
Thursday	9.30-12.30	Cafe Dosbarth (Term time only)
Fridays & Saturdays	10-12.30	Whittaker Lounge Cafe (Warm space)
Sundays	7.15-9.00	Youth Fellowship (term time only)

Duty Elders and Stewards Rota

		Vestry Prayer	Communion		Preparation
2nd February Communion	Jonathan Grimes (DE) Liz McCarthy (S) Fleur Richards (S)	Bev Hampson	Kate Hampson Mark Stephens Eileen Newington	Secretary Jenny McDowell Colin Grimes (P)	Kate Hampson
9th February	Keirsten Eales (DE) Hollie Thomas (S) Audrey Budding (S)	Eleanor Mills			
16th February	Marion Williams (DE) Tony Webb (S) Liz McCarthy (S)	Ian McDowell			
23rd February	Arlene Ramasut (DE) Gaynor Rees (S) Viv Morgan (S)	Anne James			