Beulah Crossroads Beulah Crossroads Beulah



Letter from the Manse
Dear Friends,
"It's Christmas!!!! Well, not quite, but it will be Christmas in the blink of an eye.

When we moved to the UK, and discovered we had to pay to walch television, we started listening to Radio 2. No one told us that as early 30 somethings we should have listened to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 2. Now as 60 somethings we should probably listen to Radio 4. This year Sara Cox is using her feet to travel over 130 miles in five days across the Northeast of England.

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CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

Church News



The time draws near the birth of Christ:

The moon is hid; the night is still; The Christmas bells from hill to hill Answer each other in the mist.

(Tennyson)

2025 seems to have gone by very quickly and it has been a busy and a sad year for Beulah.

We will remember those we have lost on 14 December in the Light for our Loss Service and of course we will remember them all year, but this is a chance to come together and share grief and loss and also be warmed by memories, love and the hope of Christmas.

In November our gardeners planted the fig tree (Variety Little Miss Figgy) that had been donated in memory of Peter Cruchley in a sunny corner in the Canolfan Garden. They made a "box" with paving slabs and a coarse gravel baase as this is recommended to encourage fruiting Let's hope the fig roots set over the winter and is fully established next summer.

We have a very full Advent that embraces the community around us – from our part in the Rhiwbina

Festival on 29 November to Singing in Rhiwbina Tap with Mingle Jingle and on December and carols around the Christmas Tree in Y Groes on 22 December and outside the Whittaker Lounge the on Saturdays in December. Our Advent services start on 30 November and we will have the opportunity to share all the elements of a Beulah Christmas as we wait in hope for the birth of Christ. Kin will be raising funds Tenovus, Space4U, for City Hospice and Papyrus during Advent.



Family News

Thank you to the Beulah Flowers Fairies for the flowers that cheered me up in my break from Secretary duties and the warm wishes and helping hands that have sustained me through this period. I hope to return in the New Year and have missed you all.

Our thoughts and best wishes go to all those who are unwell at home and in hospital particularly over Christmas and the New Year and wish them and everyone a healthy 2026.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

Every blessing, Anne





Ministers in the Pastorate:

Revd. Martha McInnes, Revd. David Dean,

Email: ministers@beulahurc.org.uk

Church Secretary: Tel: Email: secretary@beulahurc.org.uk
Church Treasurer: Barbara Rhvs. Email: treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk
Church Office: Email: bookings@beulahurc.org.uk

Letter from the Manse

(Continued from Front page)

made known to you.' We have learned from Jesus and we are friends to those we meet. We are the ones who help each other keep going. When life is tough, we rely on each other to be the love of God *now, today*. When life is good, we share the joy.

At Christmas we celebrate the baby being born once more. As the family settle into their accommodation. we lean in to hear the whispers of love. In the face of the cruelty of empire, our breath is taken away by the inclusive nature of God's love, heard in the angel's message to the shepherds and the visit of the magi. As we celebrate, we listen for the light promise of overcomes darkness. The light that is seen in Jesus, we see in people who are true friends.

May we watch for opportunities to be 'mates' to those around us embodying God's love. May we listen for God's presence with us in the 'mates' who surround us and stumble with us into a new year.

Nadolig Llawen,

Martha and David

KIN

(Beulah charity fundraising group)

You will recall that in the November newsletter we promised to let you know the final total raised from our Harvest Supper and Auctions. This came to £1,112.61. We have been able to add some other donations - £83.00 that were made previously, and the family of the late Frank Kinsey kindly donated the money raised at his funeral - £366.86. All this means that we have been able to send the sum of £1,562.47 to Christian Aid. Thank you.

By the time you read this, the Rhiwbina Winter Festival will have taken place and we will have raised money for Tenovus and Space4U. Also, all the details of our proposed fundraising Christmas over were set out in the November issue of Crossroads. quick reminder:

Community Carol Singing in aid of City Hospice;

Christmas Raffle in aid of Shelterbox;

Church Christmas Card in aid of Papyrus (please use gift aid envelopes provided to help increase the final total).

Ann Grimes will also be grateful for gifts of Christmas food for disadvantaged families in Cardiff. Please bring these along on Sunday 7 December.

A reminder that there will also be the usual donation of gifts for Space4U on 7 December.

The monthly Community lunch continues to thrive and raise much needed funds for the Cardiff Foodbank and, for information, there will be a lunch on Sunday 28 December.

Please see weekly Notices for details of all the above.















То

the Beulah Church Family, Many thanks for the lovely flowers that Andy kindly delivered to me. They are looking lovely.

I am enjoying the colours. My very best wishes to you all.

From Margaret Clee xx

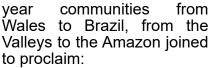




CYMRU CARES

These beautiful lanterns were made for us in Junior Church by Charlotte, Griff, Robin and Marianne. Placed first on the communion table and then in the Canolfan windows, they helped us shine a light on the need for climate justice.

Each year during the COP United Nations Climate Summit, there is a Global Day of Action. This



This world is ours - and it is not for sale.

Schools, churches, community organisations and individuals in Wales were invited to make and display lanterns declaring that CYMRU CARES for our neighbours here in our communities, and for our neighbours across the globe. We were also encouraged to



write to our elected representatives asking them to act with fairness and courage in the face of the climate crisis.

Forty members of the congregation signed our letter, which was then displayed in the Canolfan so

p a s s e r s - b y could read it and see that Beulah demands urgent and specific climate action. The letter called for climate finance

and debt justice, ethical investments, keeping those already suffering the worst impacts of the climate crisis at the heart of policy making, and signing up to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Copies of the letter, along with little photos of our lanterns, will be sent to local councillors, our MP and MSs.

Thank you to Gethin for leading worship, to Marianne and the children and to you all for supporting this powerful act of witness.

Eileen



World Day of Prayer - a date for your diaries.

The World Day of Prayer Service for 2026

will be held on Friday, 6th March at Rhiwbina Baptist Church at 2.00pm.

Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

More information to follow later.

Diane Burton Mary Bidnell.

Editors' Note

We wish all our readers and contributors a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.



The **deadline** for articles to be included in the

February 2026 edition of Crossroads is Sunday 18th January,

and Nigel will be editing.

Contributions should be sent to Nigel, in person, by post or by email at:

crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk



Editors:

Colin Grimes,

Nigel Barwise

Email:

crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk

Advance Notice of Church Spring Clean

Hopefully, some of you might have noticed how clean the church was looking in September?!

A team of volunteers worked hard to get Beulah looking spic & span for Rebecca Grimes' wedding. In doing this, we couldn't help but notice how dirty the pews and other



parts had become over time. So, in conversation with the Elders, it was agreed to trial a twice yearly deep clean, to maintain our church at a good level of cleanliness. We do employ a cleaner for an hour and a half each week, but this time is spent on the toilets and general vacuuming.

So dear members - I have been tasked with calling for volunteers to pitch in with the next deep clean which will be in early March.

More details will be given in February's Crossroads but basically, it's a bucket/bowl, marigolds and elbow grease, for a couple of hours on Day 1, and polish, cloths and more elbow grease on Day 2!

Hopefully, there will be enough volunteers to make this fun!!!!

Arlene Ramasut

Shows at Wales Millennium Centre



Anyone and everyone is welcome to join a group of show lovers to the WMC. The sign up lists are displayed on the notice-board in the church porch, so please just add your name to any or all of the lists.

If you're worried about how to get there, we all share lifts.

Any questions, please contact Ann Grimes.

The Beulah Charity Christmas Card will be at the front of the church from this Sunday. This year it is a fir cone Christmas tree with individual cards made by junior church to hang on it. All are invited to sign a card and give a donation to Papyrus using the gift aid envelopes provided as appropriate.

Congratulations Caleb

Caleb James who is a pupil at Ton-yr-Ywen Primary School in the Heath, has been selected alongside a female pupil to represent the infant pupils on the School Senedd.

Once a month they will meet with the Deputy Head and pupils from the Junior School to discuss ways of improving the school and any concerns raised by the pupils.

In the Deputy Head's own words, Caleb was chosen because he is exceptionally kind, thoughtful, caring and creative. These are all qualities which are reinforced by Beulah, and in particular at Junior Church with teacher Pat (Cazenave) and her team: Pat (Agland), Carol (Coleman), and Ann (Grimes).

Caleb was amazed and thrilled to have this opportunity.



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported this appeal in any way.

We took 40 filled boxes to the warehouse this year.

Thank you, *Ann*

ROTAS				
Date	AV	Readers	Intercessions	Flowers
December 7th	Richard Sweetnam	Derek Evans	Diane Burton	Flower Fund
14th	Nigel Barwise	Pat Ruddock	Marion Williams & Jenny McDowell	Flower Fund
21st	James Hall	Cathy Wales	Ian McDowell	Flower Fund
24th - 5pm	Richard Sweetnam	-	-	
24th - 11.15pm	Andrew Glanfield	-	-	
25th	lan McDowell	Anne James	Hollie, Jonathan & Eva Glanfield	Flower Fund
28th	Richard Sweetnam	Jill Ferdinando	Richard Edwards	Flower Fund
January 2026 4th	Nigel Barwise	Colin Grimes	Jonathan Grimes	tbc
11th	Andy Wales	Louise Morgan	Revd David Simpson	tbc
18th	Andrew Glanfield	Liz McCarthy	Cathy Wales	tbc
25th	lan McDowell	Naomi Williams	Kate Hampson	tbc
February 1st	Richard Sweetnam	Peter Ferdinando	Ruth Williams	tbc

Elders and Stewards Rotas December

	Duty Elder and Stewards (S)	Vestry Prayer	Minister's Right	Minister's Left	Preparation
7th December	Jonathan Grimes DE	Gaynor Rees	Kiersten Eales	Secretary	Kiersten Eales
	Cathy Wales(S)		Geraint Richards	Marion Williams	
	Fleur Richards (S)		Mary Bidnell	Mark Stephens (P)	
14th December	Colin Grimes (DE)	Kate Hampson			
Morning Service	Ann Grimes (S)				
	Viv Morgan (S)				
14th December 6pm	Anne James	N/A			
Light for our Loss	Barbara Rhys				
21st December	Colin Grimes DE	Mary Bidnell			
Morning service	Giles Ballisat (S)				
	Gaynor Rees (S)				
21st December 6pm	Geraint Richards DE	N/A			
Carol Service	Naomi Williams (S)				
	Denise Dickman (S)				
24th December 5pm	Junior Church				
Nativity service					
24th December 11.15pm	Andrew Glanfield (DE)	N/A	Andrew Glanfield	Bev Hampson	
Christmas Eve	Johnathan Glanfield (S)				
25th December	Marion Williams (DE)	N/A			
	Mary Edwards (S)				
	Barbara Clift (S)				
28th December	Kate Hampson (DE)	Ian McDowell			
	Audrey Budding (S)				
	Helen Harries (S)				

Church Life Review

In the middle of November, the General Assembly of the URC gathered for extraordinary session affirm the work of the Church Life Review. Not heard of the Church Life Review? You probably aren't alone! Over the last couple of years, a variety of folks from across the denomination have talked to each other to try to determine what some of challenges are and how to support local churches so they might 'thrive.'

Following these consultations a number of resources are being developed for us. These resources include: support with accountancy (lots of churches need bookkeeping skills though you still have to have a named treasurer); compliance i.e. making sure we policies and have procedures; and other types of admin. While this support will significant, the most exciting prospect is the

development of a fund which will primarily support the employment of lay people to work alongside churches. These workers will develop the mission and community work of the church. Some examples might be a youth and children's worker or a parish nurse.

The fund for these posts is being created with money from each of the 13 Synods. Much of how this will be done is still to be developed, but the ideas emerging are exciting opportunities for the whole URC.

Martha attended this session of General Assembly and was left wondering, 'What kind of creative post could we create to link church to community?' Are there some skills that we could use to serve our neighbours? If you have any idea, she would love to hear it!

On 10 January at City URC, David and I will be leading a morning to talk about leading worship. What are the essential elements of worship? Why do we have what we have in an order that might be the same or might be different?

The session begins at 10 and will end at noon. All who lead worship or are interested are welcome.

Elder and Steward Rota 2026

I am currently working on the Elder and Steward Rota from February to October 2026. If you wish to become a Steward please let me know, it would be good to welcome more people onto the rota.

Also please note from January Holy Communion will only require 4 Elders (apart from Lent and Advent). This was agreed at Elders.

The rota will be circulated before Christmas via email and will appear from February in Crossroads.

Anne James

LITTLE MISS FIGGY



On the morning of Thursday 20 November, we planted the Fig Tree (Variety Little Miss Figgy) that has been donated in memory of Peter Cruchley in a sunny corner in the Canolfan Garden.

We made a "box" with paving slabs and coarse gravel base — this is recommended to encourage fruiting. Lets hope she gets her roots set over the winter and is fully established next summer.

lan

Christmas Post Box

This year we will be having our

"Christmas Post Box" once again.



The post box will be for the Beulah church family only and will be available for posting during December.

The cards will be available for collection at

the KIN Coffee Morning

on

Saturday, 20th December.

Elders and Stewards Rotas January & February 2026

Please note: Communion is 4 Elders apart from certain times in Lent and Advent

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		Helen Harries (S)				

BEULAH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

January 2026

		•	andary 2020
Sunday 4 January	10.30am		ip – Revd David Dean/Revd Martha McInnes Church
	6.00pm 5.45pm	BWise Toward	ds the End of the Day - Canolfan
Sunday 11 January	10.30am		ip – Rev David Simpson Church
Monday 12 January	7.30pm	Elders	Meeting
Tuesday 13 January	7.30pm	Theolo	gy on Tap, Deri Inn
Saturday 17 January	3.00pm	Family	Film
Sunday 18 January	10.30am		ip – Revd James Hall Church
Sunday 25 January	10.30am		ip - Revd David Dean/Revd Martha McInnes Church
	*	*****	******
Mondays	9.30am -12 1.00 -3.00pi		Miss Tilley's Community Cafe Women's Fellowship
Tuesdays	9.30am -12. 9.30am -11.		Miss Tilley's Community Cafe Beulah Tots (term time only)
Wednesdays	11.00am - 12.	.00	The Huddle (term time only)
Thursday	9.30am -12	.30	Cafe Dosbarth (term time only)
Fridays &Saturdays	10.00am -12	.30	Whittaker Lounge Cafe
Sundays	7.15 - 9.00p	m	Youth Fellowship (term time only)

Lunchtime Recital

Wednesday 28th January 2026

There isn't a Wednesday lunchtime recital in December as there is a very full Beulah diary that month! As in previous years we jump to the month of January and a musical celebration during the early months of winter! This year we are welcoming students from the David Seligman Opera School at the RWCMD with Head of Opera James Southall.

The date for your diary is the 28th January 2026.

The audience numbers continue to climb under the leadership of Nicola Rose and the band of Beulah helpers. Do come and sample what these recitals are like.

Tickets are £8 on the door or more if you are able.
All monies raised go to the artists and admin.



In our November Elders Meeting, we explored, with Rachel Hazelwood who kindly joined us, how we might become a more neurodiversity church. We friendly are already a welcoming and open church, but there are plenty of things we can do, some bigger, some smaller, to make Beulah a more inclusive and inviting place for everyone. Watch this space! Later in the meeting we had further discussion around the wording and form of a new, far more inclusive, welcome poster. We need to get this right, and a draft will be brought to Church for consideration Meeting when we are ready.

We heard the great news that the Summer art project will be on the wall before the Rhiwbina Winter Festival, that the building work is complete (save snagging), that work on the new constitution continues and that some glitches have been ironed out in our new sound system. Many thanks to all involved for all of this important work.

We discussed our current challenge in finding replacement Treasurer. Barbara Rhys has now kindly served an entire additional year than intended and we are closer to finding replacement. This is extremely urgent as we have to have a Treasurer to continue to operate as a church. It should be noted that the role going forward is quite different from that Barbara has undertaken for so many years as we now have a paid finance administrator who will look after all the day-to-day payments and invoices, Barbara is kindly continuing to manage the KIN fund and we are moving the accounts to an easy online system called 'Quickbooks'. Barbara is going to finish on the 31st December this year (but is very happy to work alongside someone new for a number of months), so if anyone might be interested in in the role please do speak to either Barbara or myself.

We agreed with a proposal to start a new Beulah Bible Study Group, the first session of which will be 6:30pm on Wednesday, 28th January, and we thanked Martha for her work leading on this. All will be very welcome – please watch the notices for more details nearer the time.

We agreed our calendar of meetings (Elders, Church, AGM) for next vear and these will be publicised. This included establishing themed meetings around our Church Life areas (Worship, Pastoral, Engagement, Community and Communications – noting that we still have a vacancy for an elder to be the shepherd for our work in the area of Youth and Young People - so we will try and pick this up as best we can between us) as well as yearly meetings devoted to key topics such as safeguarding and fire safety.

Earlier in the year, Martha led a review of our current eldership structures which involved a questionnaire completed by a number of our current and previous serving elders. This indicated that we are not doing anything fundamentally wrong, but that there were a number of improvements we could make to improve communications, clarity and inclusivity. We are currently considering a range of things we might change or do, but importantly, going forward, all elders (Pastoral and Church Life) are warmly invited to all Elders Meetings. As was reported previously, we have also retired the Leadership Team (with thanks for all their hard work over many years guiding our church and keeping us safe), and will instead look to institute regular meetings of our Officers Church and our Ministers from 2026, as we once

We've also been looking at how we document our key processes

and the prioritisation of our wealth of activities as we become a smaller membership over time. Everything we do in Beulah means something to at least one person, often to many, but we know we cannot carry on doing everything with the number of volunteers we have (particularly when we cannot fill key vacancies we need to be a church), so we will need to think further on this in 2026. In this vein, we agreed to retire the New Years Day brunch, which Tony and Chris (and their band of willing helpers) so ably looked after for 17 years, rather than looking to seek replacements as they step down from this service.

We discussed how far right groups are using scripture to drive their narrative and we learnt of a workshop that is being run in Cardiff at the end of January to look at the use of how we challenge the use of Biblical rhetoric in antiimmigration campaigns. This will be held from 1-3pm on the 31st January at City URC and all are welcome. Please contact Martha for more details.

As we do every meeting, we think about and pray for the members of one of our districts. Our pastoral work is a key element of Beulah's mission, and this part of the meeting is both important and special to us.

We were sad not to be joined by Anne James at this meeting, but very pleased that she has made the right decision to rest up for the colder months to charge up her health batteries. We are grateful for the amazing job she does for Beulah, and look forward to her picking up the Secretary role again when she feels ready.

With God's Blessings,

Andrew Glanfield

Chair of Elders

& Church Meetings

Beulah URC

Family Film Shows

Family favourites on the big screen Suitable for all ages*



Saturday afternoons 3.00pm 17th Jan, 21st Feb & 21st Mar 2026

Canolfan Beulah, Rhiwbina Village

FREE of charge

Interval ice cream No booking required Call or text 07891 707039 for enquiries or further details

* Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult

BEULAH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH





December 2025

Sunday 30 November	10.30am	First Sunday of Advent - Andrew Glanfield Junior Church
Sunday 7 December	10.30am 5.45pm 6.00pm	Second Sunday of Advent - Revd Martha McInnes/Revd David Dean Towards the End of the Day Service, Canolfan BWise – Young Teens Group
Weds 10 December	7pm	Jingle and Mingle in Rhiwbina Tap
Sunday 14 December	10.30am	Third Sunday of Advent – Jenny McDowell and Marion Williams Junior Church
	6.00pm	Light for our Loss Service
Monday 15 December	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Saturday 20 December	10.45am	Christmas Charity Coffee morning – Canolfan
Sunday 21 December	10.30am 6.00pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent – Revd Stephen Best Community Carol Service
Monday 22 December	6.00pm	Community Carol Singing in Y Groes
Weds 24 December	5.00pm 11.15pm	Family-friendly Nativity Service let by our younger children Christmas Eve Communion Service
Thursday 25 December	10.30am	Family Service
Sunday 28 December	10.30am	Worship – Mr Richard Edwards, Junior Church

• Coffee will be served in the Canolfan after Sunday worship unless otherwise stated

Carol singing outside the church - Saturdays 6, 13, & 20, at 10.00am - all proceeds to charity

Mondays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe*
	2.00-3.00	Women's Fellowship
Tuesdays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe*
	9.30-11.00	Beulah Tots
Wednesdays	11-12.30	The Huddle
Thursdays	9.30-12.00	Cafe Dosbarth (Term Time)
Fridays and Saturdays	10-12.30	Whittaker Lounge Cafe
Sundays	7.15-9.00	Youth Fellowship (term time)

• Miss Tilley's closes for Christmas on 22 December and reopens on 5 January.