

CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

Wow – April is upon us (at the time of writing!), with its lighter nights and (mostly) drier and warmer days. Where has Spring gone? They say that time speeds up as you get older, but as I'm only 21 that surely can't be true?!?

Since our last edition of Crossroads – and a big thank you to all our contributors and of course our editors – we have journeyed through Holy Week together. From our Lenten studies, joint Palm Sunday service in City URC, and prayers during the week, to the peace, hand washing and foreboding of Maundy Thursday. From our public walk of witness of Christ's sacrifice for our salvation and the dramatic retelling of the events of Good Friday, to the news that Christ has indeed Risen on Easter Sunday. We shared reflections, fears, hopes, dreams, soup, prayers, eggs, fellowship and cake. We laughed, we cried, we gave alms, we held a raffle in aid of the Ripple Effect, we shared meals together, we worried and we hoped. So much was done and said, and we can only be grateful for the wonderful community that is Beulah and our wider pastorate. In a world which so painfully needs Christ's healing and God's love, I wish you all a very Happy

Easter.

After Easter follows our annual call for serving elders. Please do take the time to read the article elsewhere in this edition of Crossroads and, importantly, please do take the time to submit your nominations. We are grateful for all that our serving elders do and look forward to celebrating those who are coming to the end of their current periods over the Summer.

Each month in Beulah we enjoy a wide range of activities, from Theology on Tap and our Family Films, to our Community Meals and TED services to name but some. Every week we also count our blessings for our Sunday Worship, Junior Church, The Huddle, The Whittaker Lounge, Miss Tilley's Café and Caffi Dosbarth and so much more. There are also our regular meetings of groups such as KIN, Elders, Finance and Premises and this month we also had our first meeting of our Inclusive Church Working Group. Many thanks to Rachel Hazlewood for helping to taking this important work forward and to all who have contributed so far.

Outside of church, members of Beulah and City URCs and Canton Uniting Church

joined with other churches in the Cardiff Eco Churches group ahead of a Cardiff Council vote which endorsed the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. It was a joyous pastorate and ecumenical occasion. Thank you to all involved in this important campaigning work to safeguard God's world for future generations.

We also had the sad news that Val James passed away. Val was a regular worshipper at Beulah and had many friends within the congregation. Our thoughts and prayers are with Robin, Andrea, Alys and Llwyd. The funeral service is being held in Beulah at 1pm on

CONTACT

Ministers in the Pastorate:

Rev'd Martha McInnes, Mob: 07519 831405

Rev'd David Dean, Mob: 07772 714388

Email: ministers@beulahurc.org.uk



Church Secretary: Anne James, Tel: Email: secretary@beulahurc.org.uk
Church Treasurer: Nigel Barwise, Tel: 029 2062 7692 Email: treasurer@beulahurc.org.uk
Church Office: Tel: Email: admin@beulahurc.org.uk

Letter from the Manse

(Continued from Front page)

A lemur sunbathing. A belly laugh at a funeral. A dive into the Atlantic with a shark wrangler. Martha hasn't read the book yet, but we wonder if this might be part a focus for all of our lives right now - looking for the surprise, the unexpected joy that shows up despite our personal pain or the pain of the world.

We can spend our time trying to escape the pain of the world or we can spend time opening our self to the joy (which is not happiness). Jesus, during his final teaching to his disciples in John says, 'These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.' Jesus was talking to them about his death and the coming of the Holy Spirit. Despite what he knew was evolving, his promise was the faithful, loving presence of God, even in the midst of pain They would not face their futures alone. Ahead there would be challenges **and** the promise of joy.

What was true for the disciples is true for all of us - challenges and the promise of joy. Joy shows up - in children's honesty and laughter, in a beautiful flower, in a sunset or a moonlight night. When we pause, we might see the joy - even when pain/sadness are present.

So, as we move through the routines of our lives, as we face the surprises life brings, may we find joy, in community and in the unexpected.

Peace,
Martha and David

THANK YOU

Many, many thanks for all the lovely messages, cards and flowers I've received for my 80th birthday.

I cannot express how grateful I am for the love shown me.

Blessings to you all.

Lorraine. X

Editors' Note

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

June 2026

edition of **Crossroads** is **Sunday 24th May**, and **Nigel** will be editing.



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

CHURCH AND FAMILY NEWS

(Continued from Front page)

Monday 27th April. We are also thinking of David, Martha and family following the recent loss of David's brother-in-law – we wish them love and peace at this difficult time.

Coming up, a group of friends from Beulah, including John, Alice and Sebastian Cheer and Rhian Wilkes, who describe themselves very much as not being runners, will be running the May Birmingham Half Marathon in memory of Simon Ruddock. Please do sponsor them if you are able – all monies raised will be going to the Papyrus charity for prevention of young suicide.

Finally, we are looking forward to our AGM and Church Meeting on the 27th April during which we will remember and celebrate all the things we have achieved and undertaken in 2025 whilst sharing fellowship over a cheese and wine supper. I very much hope to see you there!

God bless.
Andrew Glanfield

Email: crossroads@beulahurc.org.uk

The Eco Group thought you would like to see the motion that was passed by Cardiff Council endorsing the call for a Fossil Fuel Treaty as many of you have been part of our lobbying over the last 18 months. Llanishen Councillor, Bethan Proctor, proposed the motion and we were so grateful to her for her support and hard work. The subsequent article was written by the URC Press Office.

This Council believes that:

10. This Council believes that reliance on fossil fuels places unacceptable burdens on our residents, deepens global injustice, and accelerates climate breakdown, and that Cardiff has both a responsibility and an opportunity to lead by championing a rapid, just transition to renewable energy.

This Council resolves to:

11. Formally and publicly endorse the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

12. Call on the Welsh Government to endorse the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and to accelerate investment in the clean, resilient energy infrastructure needed to protect communities from volatile fossil fuel markets and ensure a secure, affordable, and sustainable energy future for Wales

13. Reaffirm our commitment to decarbonisation and achieving a carbon neutral City.

14. Write to the Welsh Local Government Assoc-

iation and raise the need for a planned phase out of fossil fuels, and to call on it to promote the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty among its members.

Cardiff Churches Help Shape Landmark Climate Decision

The efforts of campaigning local churches in Cardiff have paid off after Cardiff Council became the first in Wales to endorse the global Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, a landmark initiative aimed at phasing out fossil fuels worldwide.

For months, members of a group of Cardiff Eco Churches – including Beulah United Reformed Church (URC), City URC and Canton Uniting Church – have collaborated and campaigned together by meeting up with and writing to councillors, hosting events, inviting speakers, and finding creative ways to keep climate justice on the agenda. Cardiff Eco Churches is an ecumenical network of local churches committed to environmental stewardship and climate justice through the A Rocha Eco Church scheme.

In March, Cardiff Council voted to endorse the global call for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) which seeks to develop “a concrete, robust, binding plan to protect people and the planet from the multifaceted threats posed by oil, gas, and coal—from climate change and health crises to security and economic instability”.

Eighteen nations have

already joined the initiative and are participating in discussions on negotiating a Fossil Fuel Treaty to complement the [Paris Agreement](#), a legally binding international treaty on climate change.

Ahead of the vote, members from Beulah URC, City URC and Canton Uniting Church gathered outside County Hall alongside representatives from local Methodist churches and the Church in Wales. Working with partners including [Climate Cymru](#) and [Global Justice Now](#), they showed visible support for the motion, and for the wider vision behind it.

Reflecting on the council’s endorsement and the role of local Eco Churches, the Revd David Salsbury, Moderator of Yr Eglwys Ddiwygiedig Unedig, Synod Cenedlaethol Cymru (the URC National Synod of Wales), said: “This decision proves that when churches stand together for creation and climate justice, their faith in action can influence change even at the highest level.

“By raising their voices together, Cardiff’s Eco Churches have helped light the way toward a more sustainable and hope-filled future”

During the Climate Coalition’s [Show the Love](#) campaign, held each February, people signed letters, heard from activists, and took part in conversations about what a just future might look like. Junior church members of some churches got involved by making Cymru Cares lanterns to shine a light – both literally and

symbolically – on the need for action, helping to keep climate justice on the agenda.

And it worked.

Councillors heard those voices. The motion passed. And Cardiff now joins cities like London, Edinburgh and Birmingham, alongside countries around the world, in backing a coordinated global response to the climate crisis.

Eileen Newington, National Synod of Wales Green Advocate said: “The fossil-fuelled climate emergency is already causing flooding and extreme weather in Wales. A global exit plan will help protect people here and worldwide who are already suffering the impacts of human-induced climate change.”

For many involved, this wasn't just about environmental policy. It was about faith in action, caring for creation, standing with vulnerable communities, and speaking up where it matters.

A [short video](#) from the day, shared by Climate Cymru, captures the atmosphere and highlights the role of Eco Churches in the campaign.

Sass Adams, Communications Officer for the National Synod of Wales, added: “Moments like this can feel small in the grand scheme of things, but they're not. They're a reminder that when churches work together, build relationships, and keep showing up, change can happen.”

Christian Aid Week

10th – 16th May 2026



DELIVERY – ONLY ENVELOPES

Please think about volunteering to deliver envelopes during this year's Christian Aid Week. You don't need to go back to collect your envelopes anymore, so it's a much easier job than it used to be! We need your help so, if you can take a couple of streets, please sign the list in the church foyer. Thank you.

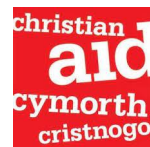
BIG BREKKIE

Saturday 16th May 9.30 – 11.30am in Canolfan
See separate notice

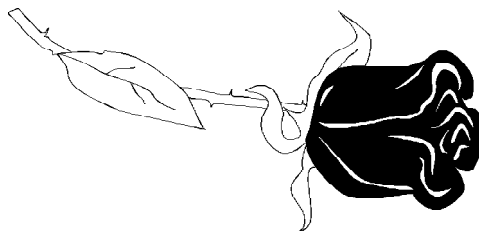
CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE Sunday 17th May

We are looking forward to being joined at our service in Beulah by Jennie Weaver, Christian Aid Wales Church Engagement and Fundraising Officer

Envelopes and the card reader will be available to make donations on Sundays 10th and 17th May.



If you have any questions, please speak to Marianne or Eileen



In the church and Canolfan there are a number of First Aid boxes. These are provided to help keep our congregation and our visitors safe. The boxes need to be checked and replenished on a quarterly basis. It takes about an hour or so to do the checks and new stock is then ordered as needed.

If you have time to take on this role, please get in touch. You don't need to be a first aider, you just need to be organised!

Thank you

Marion Williams



Join our **Big Brekkie**

Saturday, 16th May
9.30 - 11.30 am
in Canolfan Beulah
CF14 6LX



Please join us for our popular lifesaving, world-changing breakfast! Hear about Christian Aid's projects and campaigning, share in conversation over breakfast and take part in our traditional quiz.

This is a family occasion – all our very welcome.

With your support, Christian Aid can keep fighting poverty and responding to humanitarian emergencies.

Together, our gifts, actions and prayers will help to build a fairer, more peaceful world.

Please tuck in to change lives!

THANK YOU

Below is a copy of an extract from an email I recently received from Julie Morgan which I think needs to go in Crossroads. I have acknowledged and thanked her for her work for North Cardiff and Rhiwbina over the years.

Dear Barbara,

As it is my last week as a Senedd member I am writing to thank you and everyone at Beulah for the great work you are doing in the community and to say what a great pleasure it has been to work with you. We have been pleased to hold many events in your Canolfan which is the beating heart of the village. I hope all goes well in the future.

*Best wishes,
Julie*

Julie Morgan AS/MS
Aelod o'r Senedd dros
Ogledd Caerdydd
Member of the Senedd
for Cardiff North

CHANGE OF CONTACT

As you will know, Chris Wilkes will be leaving the Premises Group.

So, as from **1 May**, if you have a concern, or there is a problem with any aspect of the buildings, please contact Mike McCarthy on 07478 215606.

Thank you.

Date for Your Diary

The Beulah Christmas Meal, this year, is to be held at Whitchurch Golf Club, on the evening of Thursday, 10th December.

Details in September together with a sign-up list in the Church porch.



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

On being a Pastoral Elder

As I complete my four-year term of office as a pastoral elder, I can honestly say that I don't know where the time has gone!

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Beulah community in this role.

I have made friends along the way with whom I hope to stay in touch, but I have sadly lost others. Visiting many of our oldest members and listening to their life stories and their Beulah histories has been interesting, enlightening and, at times, moving. Whilst being a pastoral elder can be joyful, it can also be painful especially when people you have become close to are unable to live independently any longer or who pass away. Sadly, I lost seven people from my group in a period of 18 months which I found difficult. Fortunately, Martha & Marion gave me the warm & understanding pastoral support which I myself needed at that time. David Simpson also lent me a sympathetic ear.

Each pastoral elder fulfils the role in their own way. There are no specific rules

or responsibilities aside from distributing Crossroads, either electronically or in paper form, and passing on the order of service & notices each week to those who are on line. Pastoral elders keep in touch with their group members either by phone or visiting. It is really up to each individual to make of the role what they have time for and how best they think they can serve their own group. I was fortunate to have inherited my group from Tony Webb who had built a close relationship with everyone. Tony took me around and introduced me to all members of the group so they knew who I was from the beginning and welcomed me into their homes. I couldn't make them laugh in the same way as Tony had but I hope that I contributed to their feeling of still being a valued member of Beulah.

Each pastoral elder has a helper to share some of the visits, either on a regular basis or, occasionally, when the need arises. I am grateful to Karen Sampson who shared visits to the residential care home in St Mellons where Joyce

Matthias spent the last year of her life. I was able to liaise with David, who celebrated communion with her on several occasions together with friends from Beulah and her niece. Our ministers have a special travel 'kit' for home communion and are always ready to visit when called upon.

In addition to pastoral duties, we are full elders of the church and therefore carry out duties such as helping serve communion, saying vestry & intercessory prayers, acting as stewards for services & funerals and attending monthly meetings.

However, church leaders and other elders are very respectful of each other's strengths & weaknesses, and nobody is forced to do a job which they find uncomfortable. We are, after all, volunteers!

Being a pastoral elder is a life enriching experience which I commend to anyone thinking of taking up this role.

Arlene Thomas-Ramasut

ROTAS

Date	Readers	Intercessions	AV	Flowers	Arranger
May					
3rd	Jonathan Grimes	Giles Ballisat	Andy Wales	Jill & Peter Ferdinando	Jill
10th	June Henderson	Jenny & Marion	Andrew Glanfield	Marianne & Nigel Barwise	Marianne
17th	Giles Ballisat	Christian Aid	Ian McDowell	Anne & Frank Rees	Beverley
24th	Helen Harries	Neil Kidd	Richard Sweetnam	Andy & Cathy Wales	Beverley
31st	Ruth Williams	Roger Martin	Nigel Barwise	Bev & Ian Hampson	Beverley
June					
7th	Norman Henderson	Arlene Ramasut	Andy Wales	Mary Edwards	Marianne
14th	Geraint Richards	James Hall	James Hall	Thelma	
21st	Jenny McDowell	Roger Bidnell	Andrew Glanfield	Arlene Ramasut	Arlene
28th	Mark Stephens	David Simpson	Ian McDowell	tbc	tbc

	Elder on duty & Stewards (S)	Vestry prayer	Communion		
			Minister's right	Minister's left	Preparation
			(P = Prayer)		
3rd May Communion	Geraint Richards (DE) Fleur Richards (S) Cathy Wales (S)	Jenny McDowell	Mark Stephens Mary Bidnell	Secretary Nigel Barwise (P)	Mark Stephens
10th May	Nigel Barwise (DE) Ann Grimes (S) Hollie Thomas (S)	Ian McDowell			
17th May	Keirsten Eales (DE) Mary Edwards (S) Barbara Clift (S)	Kate Hampson			
24th May	TBC (DE) Norman Henderson (S) June Henderson (S)	Andrew Glanfield			
31st May	Arlene Ramasut (DE) Denise Dickman (S) Giles Ballisat (S)	Keirsten Eales			
7th June Communion	Marianne Barwise (DE) Eleri John (S) Hollie Thomas (S)	Nigel Barwise	Jenny McDowell Louise Morgan (P)	Secretary Marion Williams	Jenny McDowell
14th June	Mary Bidnell (DE) Audrey Budding (S) Liz McCarthy (S)	Arlene Ramasut			
21st June	Kate Hampson (DE) Mary Edwards (S) Barbara Clift (S)	Bev Hampson			
28th June	Mark Stephens (DE) Giles Ballisat (S) Fleur Richards (S)	Jonathan Grimes			

What's On in our Pastorate

This news page is where we celebrate everything that is happening in the churches of the URC Cardiff and Penarth Pastorate. Everyone is always welcome at any of the churches at any time but here we share information of events and services which may be of particular interest.

Tuesday 12th May 7.30-9pm: Theology on Tap at the Deri Inn, Rhiwbina CF14 6UH

Theology on Tap is a meeting of people from across the pastorate and beyond held every 2nd Tuesday for informal discussion on a wide range of topics over a drink of your choice (if you've never been before...the first drink is free!). No questions are off limits! The group explores matters of life and faith in a relaxed and open way. Topics are suggested within the group and May's discussion will probably be around the question, "What's the point of the Old Testament?" If you would like to know more, come along on the 12th or contact James Hall orchardcastle@gmail.com.

At City URC Church (Windsor Place CF10 3BZ)

Sunday 3rd May: our communion worship service will be led by Revd Tom Arthur.

Sunday 10th May: is Christian Aid week, and our Reflective worship service will be led by Dr Carol Barrett - and will include a collection for Christian Aid.

Friday 15th May 6.30pm: City Cinema Night. The film will be Shadowlands, a story from the life of CS Lewis. Starring Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger.

At Canton Uniting Church Theobald Rd, Canton CF5 1QL

FUNDRAISING for Building Development/Community Garden Fund:

Sunday 3rd May 3pm: Concert - Strings and Voices: talented degree finalists from the RWCMD, Alice Martin and Emma Evans sing with a small orchestra a varied programme of music from Americas north and south, Germany, France and Italy.

Saturday 16th May 7pm to 9.30pm: Barn Dance

At Parkminster (Minster Road, Cardiff CF23 5AS)

Worship on 3rd May will be led by Christine Clarke and on 17th May by David or Martha with tea and coffee after.

At Beulah, Beulah Road, Rhiwbina, CF14 6LT

Sundays 26th April and 7th June: TED (Towards the End of the Day) services. These services are held most months in Canolfan Beulah. They are led by John and Brenda Cheer and are 'a simple service with 'music, words and a little space for reflection'. We are invited to gather at 5.45 for Tea & cake ahead of the service at 6.00.

Saturday 16th May 3pm: Family Film Show in Canolfan Beulah. Family favourites on the big screen, suitable for all ages. FREE of charge, Interval ice cream provided. No booking required. Call or text 07891 707039 for enquiries or further detail.

Sunday 24th May 12.00pm: Community Meal in Canolfan

Wednesday 27th May at 1pm:

Concert at the Crossroads featuring Chris Gibbons – clarinet and Paul Turner – piano. We are thrilled to welcome Chris Gibbons back to Concerts at the Crossroads after his last recital for us in 2024 with his clarinet duo. This time, Chris returns with pianist Paul Turner, and they will be sharing a lunchtime concert of delicious music for clarinet and piano, to include music by Finzi and Poulenc.

Wednesday 20th May at 6.30pm: Bible Study in the Whittaker Lounge. David and Martha are leading us in an exploration of Matthew's gospel.

Diary Date: Our next joint pastorate worship will be on **Sunday 28th June** in Beulah – further details to follow.



BEULAH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

MAY 2026

ALL WELCOME

Sunday 3 May	10.30am	Rev'd Martha McInnes – Communion Junior Church
	7.15pm	BWise
Sunday 10 May	10.30am	Worship – Mrs Jenny McDowell/Mrs Marion Williams Junior Church
Tuesday 12 May	7.30pm	Theology on Tap, Deri Inn
Saturday 16 May	3.00pm	Family film – Canolfan
Sunday 17 May	10.30am	Worship – Christian Aid Service Junior Church
Weds 20 May	6.30pm	Bible Study in the Whittaker Lounge.
Sunday 24 May	7.30pm	Worship – Rev'd Martha McInnes/Rev'd David Dean Junior Church
	12.00	Community Lunch - Canolfan
Sunday 31 May	10.30am	Worship - Rev'd Gareth Dyer Junior Church

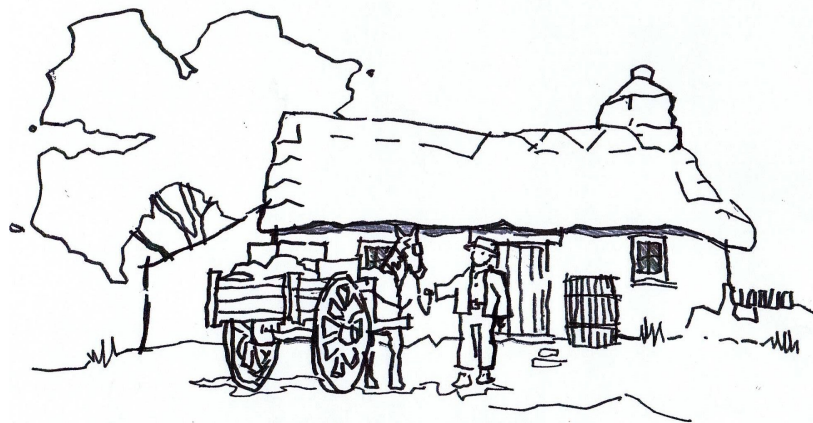
Mondays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe (term time only)
	1.00-3.00	Women's Fellowship (term time only)
Tuesdays	9.30-12.00	Miss Tilley's Community Cafe (term time only)
	9.30-11.00	Beulah Tots (term time only)
Wednesdays	11.0-12.00	The Huddle (term time only)
Thursdays	9.30-12.30	Cafe Dosbarth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

The Rhiwbina Society



The Early Story and History of Beulah

Illustrated talk by Nigel Lewis



BEULAH COTTAGE
1848

The story of Beulah Chapel, from its beginnings in 1812, a tiny cottage in 1848, a first chapel, itinerant preachers, and then a shiny new Beulah Chapel on the corner
And all the twists and turns on the way.

7.30 pm Tuesday 19th May 2026

Leaver Room, Canolfan Beulah
Admission £2.00 to members, £4.00 to guests.
including refreshments.