

INFORM



URC
VAN ROAD
CAERPHILLY
October 2023

CHURCH OFFICERS

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From the Editor

Rob and I have been travelling during September on a lovely holiday in Namibia and have stayed in many lodges and hotels, all of them different but all wonderful. Yet what they all had in common was that every one we stayed in had a Gideon Bible in the bedroom. I think at one time this was standard in UK hotels but don't remember seeing one in hotels in recent years. Perhaps I don't check carefully enough.

We thought back to the start of our secondary education and remembered that every child got a copy of the Gideon's Authorised version of the New Testament along with another complete Bible (Authorised) from the Local Authority's education department. Looking on the shelf we also found our Gideon copies (dated 1965) and Paul, our son's copy (his was the New International Version) of the New Testament which was also given to him and Helen in school. Our grandsons also received copies when they started secondary school. I looked on the Gideon website and I quote...

'We place and distribute Bibles and New Testaments because we believe God's word is not only relevant, but powerful. Those who read it and apply God's truth to their lives experience hope, joy and redemption'

In the front of the full Authorised Bible we were given, it says ...

'This Bible is given to mark your entry into a Cardiff High School. It is intended for your personal use at school and at home. Please read it regularly, and it will become your guide, help and comfort at all times.'
(Chair of the Education Committee)

Diane

Strawberry Tea

A big Thank you to all who were able to support the church and Van-guard joint effort when we came together for the Strawberry Tea. I was so pleased to see so many attending considering it was not an easy day for any of us.

It was a success and £210 was raised which was shared between the Church and Van-guard. So thank you again for without your support such events would not be a success.

Margaret B

HARVEST GIFTS

OCTOBER 1st Service

**Grocery donations for Caerphilly Food Bank
please—**

**Packets, tins, UHT milk, squashes etc. (Pasta
and beans not needed at the moment)**

**Monetary donations to Christian Aid's Libya
appeal.**

Zimbabwean farmer, Jane Paramanzi showing off some of the products harvested from her fields.



A Prayer for Just Leadership

Jesus, you call us to sow the seeds of peace,

And to nurture justice.

Jesus, you call us to lead through service,

And to cultivate humility.

Servant king, direct our steps.

May we act boldly, according to your will,

In the service of those excluded from power.

May we see your kingdom come,

In the green shoots and ripe fruits of a more just world.

May those in power lead, according to your example,

With compassion and selflessness.

In your name, Lord Jesus, Amen.

(Adapted from a Christian Aid prayer offered at the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, 2023)



Worship



October

1st, 10.30am

Mr Lewis Lewis-Head
Communion and Harvest
Lunch after service

8th, 10.30am

Richard and Sarah Edwards

15th, 10.30am

Rev David Salsbury

22nd, 10.30am

Rev Andrew J. Davies

29th, 10.30 am

Rob and Diane Moverley
Café Church



Mid-month Communion
Wednesday October 11th, 10.30am
Rev Malcolm Shapland



A message from John Wade:

I would like to thank all the church membership for their kind words, messages of condolence and the arrangements around the well organised funeral for Mair.

This church and its members meant a great deal to Mair, in many ways. The pleasure Mair had from preparing and delivering her Bible Study to the faithful group that supported her and the legacy that Vanguard has become.

The services that Mair prepared and delivered gave her more pleasure and joy in preparation than you will ever know. The same goes for the Remembrance Day services, prepared mainly by Mair, over seventeen years, in which I had the privilege of presenting them.

Mair will be greatly missed.

John.

(Mair was greatly loved and respected, we all miss her.

Diane)



Together in Prayer

In the summer the Prayer group met and after discussion and creative thought came up with the following contribution for the Synod's 'Together in Prayer' in October, This is included in the Synod's newsletter and sent out to all the churches and those giving permission for it to be sent to them.

For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for his gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God

F Pratt Green

At this time of year many churches are celebrating harvest. The prayer group at Van Rd Caerphilly spent some time considering the ways we could be thinking about harvest this year - what does harvest mean in the food bank; what does harvest mean in the context of Black History month; October used to be the time we could engage with 'One World Week' though that has now combined with 'Global Education Week' in the 3rd week in November; regardless of the timing, do we adequately remember what people from around the world have contributed to our harvest? Not only the fruits, rice and other produce but also culture and different forms of faith?

We were reminded that we have a banner in Church -

'Bless All God's children under the sun.'



As part of our reflection we decided to express our thoughts through the form of HAIKU and ACROSTIC poems. This is what we came up with:

Golden autumn sun
Showers of life giving rain
God's generous bounty

From near and far away
Coffee, cocoa, sugar, tea
Precious gifts from God

World of plenty

Offerings for all

Renewing, receiving

Labours of love

Delights of creation

Hope for justice

Accelerating fair-trade

Reaching out

Voice to the powerless

Enlightened thinking

Sharing creation's bounty

Trust in God

A prayer

Creator God,
creator of all things and in all things,
we live in such a wonderful world
but one marred by the actions of humankind

Help us -

- to do what we can in the cause of love and justice,
- to show we care for our neighbours near and far,
- to try to play our part for a better, fairer world of justice and peace.

AMEN!

Lectionary Readings



October

- 1st** Exodus 17:1-7; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13;
Matthew 21: 23-32
- 8th** Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Isaiah 5:1-7;
Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b -14;
Matthew 21:33-46
- 15th** Exodus 32:1-14; Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23:
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22: 1-14
- 22nd** Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99;
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
- 29th** Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18;
1Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

CHURCH COFFEE MORNING

WEDNESDAY

October 4th, 10.30am

In aid of Water Aid

ALL WELCOME!



Barbara Lloyd

We were sad to hear of the death of Barbara who would have been 98 in November. Although she spent many years at Mount Carmel and still had friends there, she felt very much at home in Van Road and was a very faithful member until she moved into Residential Care.

Up to her last days she always asked after everyone in the congregation and was very appreciative of her time worshipping there. We bless her memory.



Calendar of Regular Events in the Church

Coffee Morning, 10.30am First Wednesday each month

Prayer Time, 5pm Every Tuesday

Communion service 2nd Wednesday each month, 10.30am

'Only Boys Aloud' rehearse Every Monday, 6.30,

Arts and Crafts afternoon Every Thursday, 1pm

Caerphilly Chorus rehearse Every Friday, 7.30pm,

University of the Third Age (U3A) First Friday each month
1.30pm (usually)

'Goldies' 2nd Monday of the month, 11am-12.

'Young Wives' (All ladies welcome) Every Monday 7.30pm

Bible Study, 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the month, 10.30am

NB Some activities stop during school holidays.

Young Wives

Mondays 7.30pm

All ladies, any age, welcome

October

- 2nd Pictionary –Mrs Chris Harling
9th Cruising with Mrs Phyllis Frayling
16th Joining the Navy– Mrs Jackie Conway
23rd Leprosy mission– Mr Trevor Grant
30th HALF TERM –No MEETING



Van-guard Concert

Saturday 30th September

7pm

Matthew Tilley (baritone)

Accompanied by Daniel Cushing on piano.

Tickets £10 at the door



We hold in our prayers -



John Wade and family

Rev Malcolm Shapland

Diana Hibbert

Vernon Holland

Barbara Lloyd's family

Carol Booth

Hilary and Steve Akerman

Sally Ball

Frank and Phyllis Frayling

Judy and Rod Jarman

Shelagh Pollard and family

All those affected and / or helping in Libya

All those working in the NHS and in Social Care.

Those who have lost their employment and those fearful for their jobs and struggling with the rising cost of living.

Those countries facing hardships, particularly in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Iran, Sudan and Yemen and all those desperate for their safety and future, particularly the people of Ukraine.

Those people helping to welcome and settle refugees.

Charities such as Christian Aid as they set about helping those in need.

Those affected by wild fires and particularly Tahiti and the island of Maui. Flooding in Pakistan and Libya.

CHURCH ELDERS

Ms Lynda Jones 02920 884022

Mr Robert Moverley 02920 866336

Dr Peter Speakman 02920 883968

Mrs Phyllis Frayling 02920 862285

Mrs Margaret Baldwin 02920 867027

Mrs Cathy Vernalls 07527 598127

Any items for the next edition should be

submitted by the 19th of the month

to



Mrs Diane Moverley

dianemoverley60@gmail.com



**'Lord of the Harvest
Lord of the field,
Give thanks now to God
In nature revealed.'**