

# **INFORM**



**URC**  
**VAN ROAD**  
**CAERPHILLY**  
**September 2024**

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **Church Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Craig

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### **Church Treasurer**

Mr Rob Moverley

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### **Pulpit Secretary**

Ms Lynda Jones

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### An Elder Writes ....

Food, or should I say eating, is an obsession of our times! Meals are used to celebrate birthdays, weddings and many other family occasions. We are told that large sections of our society are overweight, that we eat the wrong sort of food that it is either over processed or called "junk food". Society consumes too much food, becomes obese and then seeks to obtain the many weight loss drugs which are now on offer to lose the weight!

The Bible begins and ends with meals. We can literally eat our way through the Bible. The first words of God to humans are an invitation to eat; the first conflict in the Bible is over a forbidden meal; the last act of Jesus before His death was to share a meaning-laden feast with His disciples; and the final vision of the new world is of a massive, joyful banquet.

No figure in the Bible is more associated with food than Jesus. His first miracle was in response to a catering crisis at a wedding. (The couple had run out of wine. Jesus' response was to turn four hundred and fifty litres of water into the best wine the guests had ever tasted.)

Jesus seemed to spend a disproportionate amount of time at dinner parties—winning for Him a bad reputation as a friend of the *wrong sort of people*.

Perhaps this shouldn't surprise us. Jesus did much of His teaching as a dinner party guest. On at least three occasions, He turned into host and caterer, providing miraculous quantities of wine, fish, and bread. After His

resurrection, He cooked a breakfast of fish over hot coals for His disciples. At another post-resurrection incident, on the road to Emmaus, His friends only realised who He was when He broke bread and shared it with them at table. Jesus invited His followers to continue to eat a meal "in memory of Him". Jesus believed in the power of shared meals.

So, as the year turns to the season of Harvest, let us enjoy all our locally grown fruits and vegetables and give thanks to God for His bountiful harvest.

Lynda



### CHURCH COFFEE MORNINGS

**WEDNESDAY 4th September 10.30am**

**ALL WELCOME!**



**Congratulations to Isaac Godfrey and Luke Moverley on obtaining their places at Exeter University.**

From the editor .....

I have recently had this 'worm' going around my head -

'Summer suns are glowing over land and sea,  
Happy light is flowing bountiful and free.  
Everything rejoices in the mellow rays  
All earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of  
praise.'

I haven't sung this for many years so why it has  
popped into my head I don't know. I'm not sure how  
often our summer suns have been shining over the last  
few months but I must admit that despite the  
changeable weather, I have had a 'glowing' summer.

Rob and I were fortunate to spend a few days at the  
home of an old friend. It was great to experience living  
in a French home and with very good company.

We then went to the pretty Guerande area with our son  
and daughter's families. We stayed in caravans in a  
huge, very spacious park with a massive water park. Of  
course the children loved it.

Rob and I loved it as well because it gave us the  
opportunity to spend quality time together with the  
family. Our children acknowledge that they love to  
have the opportunity to store up memories as well.

So, although the verse above might not ring true in a  
literal sense, the spirit of it has given me light and joy  
and great appreciation of togetherness.

Diane



# The David Hawthorn Memorial Gala Concert



*Sing with Us Choir Pontypridd*



*Georgia Barley*  
Vocal Soloist



*Shappelles*  
Dance Centre



*Heather Dolly*  
Vocal Soloist

**Saturday 7th September at 7pm**

**The Vanguard Centre, Van Road, Caerphilly**

**Tickets £10 - available on the door - (under 16's free)**

**All proceeds in aid of  
Tenovus Cancer Care**



**Young Wives**  
*Mondays 7.30pm*  
*All ladies, any age, welcome*



**September**

- 2nd No Meeting
- 9th Business and Biscuits
- 16th Mrs Louise Lewis-Maggies (Velindre Charity)
- 23rd Mrs Chris Harling, The history of Nursery Rhymes
- 30th Bingo

From A Rocha—Possible Easy Eco Tip for September

Step outside this Season of Creation (1st September—4th October) Connect with nature and dedicate this time to God as the Creator and sustainer of all life.

Resources free to download -

[Arocha.org.uk/step-outside-this-season-of-creation-resource/](http://Arocha.org.uk/step-outside-this-season-of-creation-resource/)



**SOUND OF HOPE**

On **Sunday 1st September at 9:30am** the churches of Caerphilly have the opportunity to join together to celebrate Jesus in what is called the **Leaning Tower Main Stage** in the **Tommy Cooper Car Park in the centre of Caerphilly**. The worship band who will lead us, is made up of musicians from across a number of the Caerphilly Churches and we are inviting you to bring your church congregations to join us for about 45 minutes of praise and worship and an opportunity to celebrate the hope that we have in Him.

We were able to do this two years ago and we had an amazing time and many gathered to worship and celebrate together.

It will be finished by 10:15am in good time for us to move off to our various local church gathering for our Sunday services.

We hope that you and your church congregations can join us as we ring our a Sound of Hope.

Thanks

Steve



Rev Steve Harris  
 Pastor at Connect Life on Behalf of the Churches of Caerphilly

[steve.harris@connectlife.org.uk](mailto:steve.harris@connectlife.org.uk)

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT**



**MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER - SUNDAY 22ND**

**A reminder that we are a Fairtrade Church**

**Caerphilly and Cardiff are a Fairtrade town/city**

**Wales was the first Fairtrade country**

**Please consider purchasing fair trade products when possible**

**Fairtrade is an international movement and is in partnership with 2 million farmers and workers.**

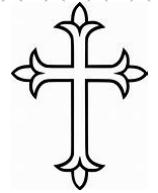
**'Fairtrade has a vision of a world in which all producers enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential and decide on their future.'**

**'THE LITTLE CHEESE'**

**Caerffili Town Centre**

**31st August-1st September**

**Worship**



**September**

**1st, 10.30 am**

**Mr Robert Moverley  
Communion**

**8th, 10.30 am**

**Mr Lewis Lewis-Head**

**15th, 10.30 am**

**Mrs June Maxwell**

**22nd, 10.30 am**

**Lynda and Margaret**

**29th, 10.30am**

**Sarah and Richard Edwards**

**Mid Week Communion  
Wednesday 10th September**

**10.30am**

**Rev Malcolm Shapland**



**It is Mount Carmel's 150th Anniversary.  
Representatives from our church will attend the  
service on 15th September.**

## Lectionary Readings

### September

- 1st** Song of Solomon 2:8-13;  
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9;  
James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
- 8th** Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125;  
Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 2:1-17; Mark 7:24-37
- 15th** Proverbs 22:20-33;  
Song of Solomon 7:26-8:1; Isaiah 50:4-9a;  
Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
- 22nd** Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1;  
Song of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22; Psalm 54;  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
- 29th** Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124;  
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; James 5:13-20;  
Mark 9:38-50



## 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,

Caerphilly Chorus rehearse Every Friday, 7.30pm,

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

‘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. Please check for any changes to this list.

Dear Van Road Church,

We are writing to you to thank you so much for the time and effort you all put into organising and hosting mum’s funeral.

Mum would have been very proud of how her church family pulled together to make the celebration of her life very special. Many of those that attended the service and the wake said how welcoming you all were.

Your tireless efficient service behind the scenes at the wake were very much appreciated and we really appreciated the fact that nothing was too much trouble for you.

Thank you gain and we hope to see you again in the not too distant future.

Love from Judith and Elizabeth

### All in the Stars

G	E	P	P	E	G	A	S	U	S	U	A
M	S	U	R	U	A	T	T	J	L	C	S
C	A	U	R	S	A	M	A	J	O	R	A
B	G	S	O	N	G	Y	C	R	J	R	R
R	I	C	A	N	H	H	I	P	I	O	T
O	T	A	A	T	T	O	J	E	N	O	T
N	T	P	B	N	N	L	S	U	I	G	S
I	A	R	S	E	C	S	I	P	M	R	L
M	R	I	P	N	L	E	R	O	E	I	I
A	I	C	M	E	L	O	R	P	G	V	B
S	U	O	O	J	C	Q	G	H	Q	U	R
R	S	R	J	S	U	I	R	A	U	Q	A
U	B	N	M	Q	H	G	U	O	L	P	S

AQUARIUS    SCORPIO    GEMINI    SAGITTARIUS

PISCES    CANCER    CAPRICORN    LIBRA    ARIES

VIRGO    TAURUS    PLOUGH    URSA MAJOR

LEO    ORION    URSA MINOR    CYGNOS

PEGASUS

### We hold in our prayers -



John Wade                  Rev Malcolm Shapland

Carolyn and Dave Jenkins and family Dorothy Lewis

Carol Booth                  Cathy Vernalls    Martin Holdsworth

Hilary and Steve Akerman    Judy and Rod Jarman

Frank Frayling              Wendy & Roy Angove

Barbara Stewart    Diana Hibbert

Those in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank.

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.

Those affected by the recent riots.

Young people starting university or college or seeking work following the end of their school education.

## 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](mailto:dianemoverley60@gmail.com)



**You chart the path ahead of me and tell me  
where to stop and rest. Every moment you know  
where I am,**

**Psalm 139:3**