

# INFORM



**URC**  
**VAN ROAD**  
**CAERPHILLY**  
**February 2025**

## CHURCH OFFICERS

### **Church Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Craig

Tel: 02920 867487

E-mail: [Margaret\\_craig@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Margaret_craig@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Church Treasurer**

Mr Rob Moverley

Tel: 02920 866336

E-mail: [robmoverley60@gmail.com](mailto:robmoverley60@gmail.com)

### **Pulpit Secretary**

Ms Lynda Jones

Tel: 02920 884022

E-mail: [lynda.jones0058@gmail.com](mailto:lynda.jones0058@gmail.com)

**An Elder Writes ....**

**Where is Joy?**

As I sit here ready to write for the Inform I find it very difficult as I want to give you something encouraging, joyful and happy. But where is the joy and happiness? I look at the news and what do I see? - just one disaster after another. I need not list them all as you will also have seen and heard them all on television and radio.

Even the cold weather and grey clouds make me sad. I used to always say, 'No matter how dark the sky, above the clouds, the sun still shines brightly. '

That's when I started thinking about what else is up there. Millions of stars and planets; I don't know how many satellites all taking pictures of the wonders of space and close up pictures of creation of other planets and galaxies and sending pictures back for us to marvel at.

The most amazing one for me was a program called T'HE YEAR FROM SPACE' showing just how beautiful our planet earth is. The colours you could not create and that's why we have to do our best to look after it because, although there is a lot of things going wrong in our world, we have to do our best, no matter how small, because this is where JOY And LOVE Is. Phyllis

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* From the Editor ...  
\*  
\* It is such a joy to get communication from friends that I have  
\* not heard from for some time. A college friend got in touch  
\* after Christmas and gave us all their news and we were  
\* pleased that all their family were well.  
\*  
\* However, we hadn't expected some particularly alarming and  
\* dramatic news. Our friend's daughter has, for many years,  
\* worked in Africa. Recently she has joined a concern in  
\* Sudan. Our friend had a distressing phone call from her  
\* daughter a few weeks before Christmas . She was phoning  
\* from a plane flying over Sudan. The crew had advised  
\* passengers to phone families to say, 'Goodbye' as the plane  
\* had problems and there would be an emergency / crash  
\* landing and they didn't know how it would go.  
\*  
\* What a nightmare! Thankfully all was well. Not as much  
\* damage to the plane as expected and there were some  
\* injuries and no fatalities. What a relief!  
\*  
\* I wondered exactly what I would say in circumstances such  
\* as these. The feeling of helplessness and panic trying to get  
\* out meaningful and loving words; to say how much they are  
\* appreciated and loved etc.  
\*  
\* Perhaps, therefore, we should take the opportunity to remind  
\* ourselves and our families just how much they mean to us;  
\* how much we love and appreciate them and give thanks to  
\* God for them. Hopefully, we may then never be too late to do  
\* so.  
\*  
\* God bless,  
\*  
\* Diane.  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*



## Exciting Pastorate News

### **Weekend of March 22nd-23rd**

Clare Nutbrown-Hughes will be coming to meet the churches and to, 'Preach with a View.'

Clare completes her ministerial training in the summer. She is studying a BA in Theology, Ministry and Mission accredited to Durham University, studying at Northern College, Manchester. She lives with her husband, David, in Bristol and has 4 children.

**We will give her a very warm welcome!**

**More details to follow.**



## SAD NEWS

**We were so sorry to hear of the death of**

**Roy Angove.**

**We send our thoughts and prayers to Wendy and her family. Wendy has now taken up residence in Dyffryn FFrwyd Care Home**

## **It Happened in February**

4th, 1945 Allied leaders, Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin met at Yalta for a week of meetings that would determine the future and structure of post war Europe.

5th, 1811 Parliament declared King George III insane. After 51 years on the throne. Today we know that George suffered from an excruciatingly painful metabolic defect known as porphyria which can bring frenetic over activity and delirium. He was treated dreadfully, straight jacketed, gagged etc. as his doctor, Francis Willis, had no idea how to treat him.

6th, 1685 Charles II dies of kidney failure.

8th, 1587 Mary Queen of Scots is beheaded.

10th, 1840 Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert.

14th, AD 270 The martyrdom of St Valentine.

15th, 1564 Galileo is born in Pisa.

18th, 1546 Martin Luther dies aged 62.

29th, 45 BC The western world celebrates its first Leap Year created by Julius Caesar's new calendar, in effect since Jan 1st.

## **Young Wives**

*Mondays 7.30pm*

*All ladies, any age, welcome*



**Meetings start again in February**

**Van-Guard  
Concert**

**Sunday 2nd February**

**3PM**

**THE SIGLO SECTION  
AND  
KAT REES  
AN AFTERNOON OF BIG BAND SWING**

**£10**



**Worship**



**February**

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>2nd, 10.30am</b>   | <b>Rev Malcolm Shapland<br/>(Communion)</b> |
| <b>9th, 10.30am</b>   | <b>Lynda and Margaret</b>                   |
| <b>16th, 10.30 am</b> | <b>Rev Andrew J Davies</b>                  |
| <b>23rd, 10.30am</b>  | <b>Dr Peter Speakman</b>                    |

**Mid Week Communion**

**Wednesday 12th February  
10.30am**

**Rev Malcolm Shapland**





# Good News for God's Earth



"Go into all the world and preach  
the gospel to all creation"  
(Mark 16:15)

It is time to be . . .

Reflective Informed Creative Together

Come along on

Saturday, 8th February 2025

10:00am to 3:30pm

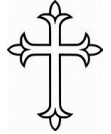
to your Eco Church Regional Roadshow  
at City URC, Windsor Place, Cardiff, CF10 3BZ



For more information contact [tdourcwales@gmail.com](mailto:tdourcwales@gmail.com)

I intend going to this so let me know if you would like to  
join me. Diane.

## Lectionary Readings



February

2nd **Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 7:1-6;  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30**

9th **Isaiah 6:1-13; Psalm 138;  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11**

16th **Jeremiah 17:1-10; Psalm 1;  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6: 17-26**

23rd **genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40;  
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38**



## IMPORTANT MEETING

**Monday 3rd Feb, 10.30 am**

**Members of the church and Van-guard meet  
to discuss the way forward for Van-guard.**

## Candlemas Day February 2nd

### AD1

Called Candlemas because of the custom of lighting the candles during the festival. Today commemorates the day in the year 1 when Mary went to be purified at the Temple of Jerusalem 40 days after the birth of Jesus and to present him to God as is described in the 2nd chapter of Luke.

The earliest record of Candlemas comes from 4th century Jerusalem when it was celebrated on 14th February, 40 days after the eve of Epiphany Emperor Justinian set Candlemas on 2nd February, 40 days after Christmas Eve., but the holiday was celebrated only in Justinian's eastern empire.

In 7th century, Pope Sergius I introduced Candlemas to his catholic subjects in Rome and over the centuries it made its way across Europe and into Great Britain. There small children celebrated with this song ...,

'If Candlemas be fair and bright  
Come, Winter, have another flight;  
If Candlemas brings clouds and rain,  
Go, Winter and not come again.'

*(From, ' A Leap year of Great Stories from history for every day of the year.)*

## Calendar of Regular Events in the Church

- Coffee Morning, 10.30am First Wednesday each month
- 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.**

### Coffee Morning

Wednesday 5th February

10.30am

**ALL WELCOME!**



## OLD TESTAMENT

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

LAMENTATIONS SAMUEL MALACHI AMOS RUTH  
 JEREMIAH EXODUS NUMBERS DANIEL PSALMS  
 HOSEA NAHUM JOSHUA JUDGES ESTHER ISIAH  
 GENESIS DEUTERONOMY JOB MICAH LEVITICUS  
 JOEL

## We hold in our prayers -



**Rev Malcolm Shapland**

**Enfys Hawthorn**

**Carol Booth**

**Cathy Vernalls**

**Hilary and Steve Akerman**

**Phyllis Frayling**

**Frank Frayling**

**Wendy Angove and family**

**Barbara Stewart**

**Diana Hibbert**

**Those suffering in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank.  
 Hostages and refugees.**

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

**All those without a home or warm shelter.**

**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.**

**World leaders that they make sound, fair and just  
 decisions particularly in the USA new administration.**

## 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)



**I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I  
will tell of all your wonders.**

**Psalm 9:1**