

INFORM



URC
VAN ROAD
CAERPHILLY
November 2025

Valleys Pastorate Minister

Rev. Clare Nutbrown-Hughes

Tel: 07543 687512

E-mail: valleysministerurc@gmail.com

Church Secretary

Mrs Margaret Craig

Tel: 02920 867487

E-mail: Margaret_craig@hotmail.co.uk

Church Treasurer

Mr Rob Moverley

Tel: 02920 866336

E-mail: robmoverley60@gmail.com

Pulpit Secretary

Ms Lynda Jones

Tel: 02920 884022

E-mail: lynda.jones0058@gmail.com

A Message from our Pastorate Minister, Rev. Clare Nutbrown-Hughes

Annwyl ffrindiau,

Dear friends,

Remember, remember the fifth of November! So much of November is about remembering. As well as celebrating the demise of Guy Fawkes across our communities we also honour the sacrifice of those who gave their lives in times of war. In the Church calendar, the Saints are recalled on All Saints' Day followed by a time of remembering those who have died on All Souls' Day. November connects us with what has gone before.

The Bible is big on remembering. Much of its first five books are about God pledging to remember the people of Israel and the covenant(s) made with them which the emergent nation is then urged to remember in turn.

Most of the Hebrew Bible, the Old Testament, is however, about what happens when God's people forget. Against the backdrop of all this forgetting the psalmists plead, 'Remember not the sins of my youth' (Ps 25:7) and 'Remember me, O Lord, when you show favour to your people' (Ps 106:4). It seems the habit of wanting the remembering to go our way is an ancient one.

But there's another kind of remembering in the Bible. It is one that urges us not to simply interpret the past in a manner that suits our purposes, but to look back with fresh eyes to glean new understanding. When the disciples fail to grasp what is unfolding before them regarding either the

new realm that Jesus is ushering in, or the hostility of the religious and political authorities, Jesus asks them despairingly, 'Do you not remember?' (Mk 8:18). Jesus wants them to reflect anew on all he has said and done and see what is really happening instead of just what they want to see.

On Easter morning in Luke's Gospel the women disciples arriving at the tomb are urged by two angels to *remember* what Jesus had told them (Lk 24:6), to look back with new eyes to gain a fresh perspective on what is taking place. A perspective which will help them now in their grief and their new circumstances.

Perhaps this is a reminder this month to not allow our remembering to simply shore up our existing understandings, but for it to open up new insights which help us in our lives now. As our political and cultural landscape shifts so rapidly, what new lessons from both Jesus' life and history could be just below the surface if we might only remember?

May there be both comfort and challenge in our remembering,

Pob bendith,

Every blessing,

Clare.



From the editor ...

It felt like it would never end, so to hear the news that fighting would cease in Gaza was such wonderful news. Day after day the world witnessed such horrendous bombing and fighting causing death and devastation, heartache, homelessness and starvation. Such atrocities witnessed and experienced that we can hardly imagine in this 21st century.

It was such a wonderful change to witness joy and relief on our screens. This fragile peace has been such a long time coming.

But so many of those returning home have no home to go to, The sight for them must be heart breaking and seem overwhelming. There is so much to do to bring the country back to become habitable again with homes, hospitals and schools and all the amenities that civilised societies expect and deserve.

The world 'holds its breath' and thanks are continuously given in prayers for the ending of the war (and for continued peace) and for the reuniting of loved ones. Prayers for the rebuilding of lives and homes and people given hope for the future.

We ask God to help and guide all involved in rebuilding the lives of all people affected by the conflict.

Grant them peace.



Diane

Pulpit Supply

November

2nd, 10.30am Rev Robin Wood

**9th, 10.50 for 11am Remembrance Sunday
Mr Lewis Lewis-Head**

16th, 10.30am Mr Andrew Glanfield

23rd, 10.30am Lynda and Margaret

**30th, 10.30am Advent Begins
Rev Andrew J Davies**

Mid-Week Communion

**Wednesday 12th November
10.30am**

Mr Rob Moverley



Lectionary Readings



November

- 2nd** Psalm 119:137-144; Habakkuk 1:1-4,; 2:1-4;2
Isaiah 1:10-18; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12;
Psalm 32:1-7 Luke 19:1-10
- 9th** Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 98; Job: 19:23-27a;
Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17;
Luke 20: 27-38
- 16th** Isaiah 65:17-25 and Isaiah 12:3;
Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19
- 23rd** Jeremiah 23:1-6 ; Psalm 46;
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 1: 68-79
and 23: 33-43
- 30th** First Sunday in Advent
Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:8-14;
Matthew 21:1-11; Matthew 24:36-44

A BIG HARVEST THANK YOU!

Our Harvest tea raised £175 for HHI and
Embrace.

The harvest grocery gifts and cash donations
meant 87.3 kg of food was donated.

Van-guard Events

Saturday 1st November 7p.m.

Serenata Singers Autumn Concert (£10, under16 £5)

Thursday 13th November 1pm

Royal Welsh College of Drama Student Recital
(Free entry, retiring collection)

Monday 24th –Wednesday 26th

Christmas Unwrapped'

Club 707 working with classes from schools

Friday 5th December 7pm TBC

Caerphilly Chorus Christmas Concert

Sunday 7th December pm

Young Stars Concert

Thursday 11th 1pm

Royal Welsh College of Drama Student Recital
(Free entry, retiring collection)

Saturday 13th December 7pm,

In Winter's Heart £10

Songs and Carols for a Winter Evening
Joelene Griffiths-Soprano
Scott Baker-Lute



Van-guard Events (contd.)

20th December pm

Wind and Strings Christmas Concert

NB More details and Pricing TBC

Vanguard News

During October, the Vanguard Centre has hosted a number of concerts that have all been well received. The month started with a Gala concert from the Melody Makers. They were supported by the Jukebox Ukulele who were thoroughly entertaining with their humorous renditions of various 1960's hits. The Melody Makers sang songs from various shows and they introduced two of their children - one giving a duet with his mum and the other playing a solo violin piece.

The Affinity Choir gave an excellent performance of both Welsh and English songs. They were joined by 2 choirs from over the border to perform both individually and together. It was great to see the stage full of singers.

The Classical Caerphilly series of free lunchtime concerts also started in October. This was an opportunity for three post-graduate singers from the Royal College of Music and Drama (Rhys Archer, Kirsty McRobbie and Emma Evans) to perform in a setting other than 'as part of our assessment in college'. The audience enjoyed it and the singers seemed to too. These concerts will continue monthly on a Thursday lunchtime. The next one on 13th November will give 3 undergraduates the opportunity to perform at Vanguard.

Other regular activities include U3A that meet on the 1st Friday of each month and the Community Chorus that meet during Friday evenings in term time and Only Boys aloud that meet on Monday evenings. We also have occasional visits of Only Men Aloud and Paul Chegwidden from Puresonics who uses the Worship Space to record singers so they can present their work for auditions. A new contact is Sarah Conway from Blossom Brilliance who is using one of the rooms as a space for Primary pupil tuition. She started sessions in September on a Tuesday after school and will soon have additional sessions on a Monday.

It was with some sadness that we recently read of Nigel Jones' decision to end his role as Musical director of Wind and Strings. Nigel has been a great supporter of Vanguard, having originally established the Caerphilly Community Chorus in 2009. He was instrumental in acquiring the baby grand piano for the Chorus and has continued to support Vanguard through regular concerts, initially with the Chorus and subsequently with the Wind and Strings. He will be sorely missed.

Since the beginning of the year Vanguard has been grateful to Chris Harling and Jan Holdsworth for helping out at concerts. Going forward, a small group consisting of David Forte, Margaret Baldwin, Phyllis Frayling, John Wade and Rob Moverley have begun to meet to help organise the future of Vanguard events. If you would like to be involved in this, or would just like to know when meetings are going to be held, please let Rob or John know and we'll add you to the mailing.

Young Wives

Mondays 7.30pm
All ladies, any age, welcome

November

- 3rd Chit and Chat evening
- 10th A talk on Raki by Ceri O'Callahan
- 17th Santa Drive
- 24th Trinkets and Treasures



Bible Study

We are currently studying the
1st letter of John.

Thursdays 6th and 20th November

10.30am

All are welcome.

Lynda

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)

U3A singing group Thursdays fortnightly, 2pm

'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 4th November

10.30am

Raising funds for RNLI



AUTUMN

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

NOVEMBER	AUTUMN	OCTOBER	HARVEST
SPIDERS' WEBS	SEPTEMBER	ACORNS	RED
BERRIES	CONKERS	BROWN	YELLOW CHILL
ORANGE	HEDGEHOG	SQUIRREL	DARKER CLOCKS

We hold in our prayers -



Rev Malcolm Shapland

Enfys Hawthorn

Carol Booth

Cathy Vernalls

Hilary and Steve Akerman

Phyllis and family Wendy Angove's family

Barbara Stewart Diana Hibbert

Dave Jenkins and all the family

The people of Gaza, Israel and Palestine and the fragile peace.

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.

Permanent peace in Gaza

CHURCH ELDERS

Ms Lynda Jones 02920 884022

Mr Robert Moverley 02920 866336

Dr Peter Speakman 02920 883968

Mrs Phyllis Frayling 07870 752306

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



**At the going down of the sun
We will remember them.**

