

Salisbury Park United Reformed Church

Newsletter

June and July 2017





Salisbury Park United Reformed Church

Percy Road, Wrexham. LL13 7EA

Morning worship every Sunday at 10.45am

Minister Rev Brian Mathews

16 Milebarn Road, Wrexham. LL13 9LX

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Serving Elders

Mrs Michelle Berry – 01978 361320

Mrs Shirley Devaney – 01978 366262

Mrs Judith Dolben – 01978 363955

Mr John Houghton – 01978 750778

Mrs Barbara Jones – 01978 755548

Mrs Yvonne Owen – 01978 513421

Mr Mark Rodgers – 01978 290687

A warm welcome to everyone

A word from our minister



Dear everyone,

I write this to you on a very sad day which is the day after the terrible atrocity in Manchester when 22 people died in a horrific attack. I expected to be sitting down to write a letter about Pentecost and the Spirit but I cannot ignore such an event.

Our first reaction as Christians is to condemn such violence, to show sympathy to the bereaved and injured and to offer hope for a better world in the love of Christ. We cannot understand what motivates anyone to commit such a crime though it is alleged that it is their religious fanaticism. Their religion is often described as being extremist but I would disagree and I would agree with the author of a newspaper article that I recently read who stated that we need more religious extremists.

His point was that if we go into faith deeply and extremely we shall discover that our faith does not take us to a place where we hate others and would destroy them, but it takes us to a place of humility before God and a deep love and concern for our fellow human beings. To love our fellows as God has loved us is extremism and is to be encouraged for all Christians.

I am not an Islamic scholar but my understanding of that faith is that they share that principle. The suicide bomber does not represent them but his or her actions come only from a surface knowledge of their faith. An extremist again will wish peace upon others.

Our faith needs to be extreme, to know the extremity of love and the joy that such knowledge brings, it is life in all its fullness in Christ. Let us pray that others enter into the true extremism of their faith to arrive at that same position of searching for the peace which comes from God.

With very best wishes,

Brian.

Sunday Morning Worship



June 4th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Brian Matthews, (Communion)

Duty Elder – Mr John Houghton

Morning Tea – Volunteers Welcome for joint service

Flowers – Mrs Susan Rowlands

Door Steward – Mrs Thelma Jones

OT Reading – John 7.37-39 **Reader TBC from Trinity**

NT Reading – Acts 2.1-21 **Mrs Shirley Devaney**

Epistle – 1 Corinthians 12.3b-13

Psalm - Psalm 104.24-34,35b

June 11th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Brian Matthews

Duty Elder – Mr John Houghton

Morning Tea – Barbara and Sheila

Flowers – Mrs Doreen Pryce Jones


Door Steward – Mrs Thelma Jones

OT Reading – Genesis 1.1–2.4a **Paul Fewings**

NT Reading – Matthew 28.16-20 **Gordon Burgess**

Epistle – 2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Psalm – Psalm 8



June 18th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Chris Howard

Duty Elder – Mr John Houghton

Morning Tea – Glenys and Merfyn

Flowers – Miss Sharon Langford

Door Steward – Mrs Thelma Jones

OT Reading – Exodus 19.2-8a **Judith Dolben**

NT Reading – Matthew 9.35–10.8 **Barbara Jones**

Epistle – Romans 5.1-8

Psalm – Psalm 100

June 25th 2017

Leading Worship – Mr Mark Rodgers

Duty Elder – Mr John Houghton

Morning Tea – Sharon and Terry

Flowers – Mr Gordon Burgess

Door Steward – Mrs Thelma Jones

OT Reading – Jeremiah 20.7-13 **Carole Blackwell**

NT Reading – Matthew 10.24-39 **Yvonne Owen**

Epistle – Romans 6.1b-11

Psalm - Psalm 69.7-10, 16-18

July 2nd 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Chris Howard

Duty Elder – Mr Mark Rodgers

Morning Tea – Gordon and Thelma

Flowers – Mrs Christine Anderson

Door Steward – Mr Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Jeremiah 28.5-9 **Sharon Langford**

NT Reading – Matthew 10.40-42 **Corbyn Winter**

Epistle – Romans 6.12-23

Psalm - Psalm 89.1-4,15-18

July 9th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Brian Matthews (Communion)

Duty Elder – Mr Mark Rodgers

Morning Tea – Mark and Collette

Flowers – Mrs Yvonne Owen


Door Steward – Mr Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Zechariah 9.9-12 **Collette Rodgers**

NT Reading – Matthew 11.16-19,25-30 **Mark Rodgers**

Epistle – Romans 7.15-25a

Psalm - Psalm 145.8-14



July 16th 2017

Leading Worship – Mrs Judith Dolben

Duty Elder – Mr Mark Rodgers

Morning Tea – Christine and Michelle

Flowers – Miss Sharon Langford

Door Steward – Mr Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Isaiah 55.10-13 **Isobel Winter**

NT Reading – Matthew 13.1-9,18-23 **Megan Winter**

Epistle – Romans 8.1-11

Psalm - Psalm 65.(1-8),9-13

July 23rd 2017

Leading Worship – Rev David Salsbury

Duty Elder – Mr Mark Rodgers

Morning Tea – Susan Rowlands

Flowers – Mrs Thelma Jones

Door Steward – Mr Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Isaiah 44. 6-8 **Merfyn Jones**

NT Reading – Matthew 13.24-30,36-43 **Glenys Jones**

Epistle – Romans 8.12-25

Psalm - Psalm 86.11-17

July 30th 2017

Leading Worship – Mr Paul Wynne

Duty Elder – Mr Mark Rodgers

Morning Tea – Shirley and Thelma

Flowers – Mrs Pat Taylor

Door Steward – Mr Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – 1 Kings 3.5-12 **Christine Anderson**

NT Reading – Matthew 13.31-33,44-52 **Michelle Berry**

Epistle – Romans 8.26-39

Psalm - Psalm 119.129-136

Church activities for June and July

June 3rd – Coffee Morning 10.30 – 12 noon. AGM

June 5th and 8th – The Railwaymen

June 8th – Keep Fit 11am. Craft Club 11.30. Soup – 12.30 All Welcome

June 11th – Baptism

June 12th and 15th, 19th and 22nd, 26th – The Railwaymen

July 1st – Coffee Morning 10.30 – 12 noon

July 3rd – The Railwaymen

July 5th – Elders meeting

July 6th, 10th and 13th – The Railwaymen

July 13th – Keep Fit 11am. Craft Club 11.30. Soup – 12.30 All Welcome

July 17th and 20th, 24th and 27th – The Railwaymen

Services At Sea

Recently, coming back from a cruise a friend asked "Don't you miss church services when you are away on holiday?"

I was astounded by the question as nothing could be further from the truth..... we have church services on the cruise ships with whom we sail.

In fact on our last cruise we had five Sunday services, just as we would have done in our home town.

There are hymns, prayers and Bible readings and even a sermon and a particular favourite, a choir's selection of songs, just like any ordinary church service.

But there are differences, too. On our ship the service takes place in the ballroom or lecture theatre, its a multi purpose area and sometimes if we are having a Bible study session it takes place in the more intimate setting of the cinema/yoga studio. On a long cruise of a month or more we have a resident Chaplain and s/he will usually lead worship. If that is not possible the Captain or the Cruise Director may lead worship and also preside at Communion. Occasionally we have ordained Lay Readers who assist the Chaplain or Captain and often Officers will read the lesson.

On our last cruise, the Chaplain was the Canon of an Abbey in Dorset and he had a few of the Service books they use for Communion for our use, of course they were counted out and checked back, only on loan for the duration of our time away. Music is provided by the resident pianist, seated at the Grand Piano, a far cry from some ancient instruments still in use in some chapels.

But it is the start of every service that is special -the Filipino Choir. This group of men and women come from all areas of the ship, galley staff, cabin stewards, chefs, receptionists, entertainers, laundry personnel, even the nurses when not required to attend ill passengers. They assemble on the stage and under the direction of a senior Filipino cruise member perform a number of pieces to the congregation. "Shine Jesus Shine" is a favourite as is "Give Me Oil in my Lamp/Sing Hosanna" and many others not found in our hymn books. Having sung their hearts out to the congregation they return to their various duties and we sing the hymns from the books provided. The Service is an Interdenominational style which means it does not conform to any one tradition but uses elements from many and most passengers will find some recognition in some part of it, possibly the Bible text or the Collect for the day or even the collected prayers. Sermons are often short but vary greatly, sometimes a poem can form a sermon text, depends who is leading the worship.

After the blessing a short pause allows passengers to leave who do not want communion. Communion follows the Anglican style, from the given service books, starting with the Comfortable Words or the Invitation to the Table of the Lord. Having blessed the elements the Chaplain is aided by lay readers; He offers the wafer or a blessing and his assistants offer wine. We take this in the form of a tincture, meaning that we come forward to receive the wafer and dip it in the goblet of wine before returning to our seats. In common with most congregations, any infirm or unsteady passengers remain seated and the elements are taken to them, on a moving sea it is much the safest way to proceed. The Lords Prayer usually ends the communion Service and the Benediction or Grace.

The Canon has a gentle sense of humour and when passengers commented that they were unfamiliar with the chosen hymns and the Canon suggested more frequent attendance or different places of worship!! We might not know either words or tune but a new song is a new form of worship, Canon Eric had a fine voice and the volume soon swelled even in formerly unknown works.

But what about the collection, I hear you ask.... Well that is not forgotten either. A voluntary contribution can be placed in the plates provided and at each service the name of the recipient stated. We gave to the RNLI, the Mission To Seafarers, the Saga Charitable Trust and the RNIB. One Sunday we were in port and so the service was in the evening when we were under sail again. Every Monday the daily programme *Today* details the collection given, it's the sort of thing that treasurers notice - a total collection of £1192.85

Judith Dolben

PS David commented that we had not sung "Eternal father.... restless wave" a favourite hymn of his but the Canon remarked that the weather had been kind to us and the story of Jesus calming the storm was not among the Lectionary readings set while we were at sea!!

And here's a riddle

" A father's child, a mother's child, yet no one's son. who am I?"

Please see Judith for the answer, as I have no idea!!

Carole's poetry corner

Cheer Up

Laughter is good medicine!
That's what I've heard folks say
The mirth that's shared by one and all
Is a tonic every day.

If we can laugh when things go wrong
Our outlook will be bright
Each gloomy cloud will pass us by
And smiles will make it right

In this big world, there is no time
To dwell on what seems bad
We must look up and think of things
That really makes us glad

If everyone could try to smile
The worries soon would cease
And day by day we all would find
That joys would soon increase.

News Flash!

I will most probably be travelling down to Elstree studios between the 4th and 7th of July to appear on a certain, well known afternoon quiz broadcast on ITV. A little bit vague, I know, but that is all I can tell you at this time. More to follow, with pictures, in the next newsletter. Mark

Good Luck

We would like to wish Good Luck to the young people in the church who are currently doing GCSE and AS exams. We wish you all the very best and hope you do well.

Prayers



Our Father's prayer

O most Holy God, who reigns in the realms of eternity,

How sacred is your name.

May your domain come soon, and ensure that what you have planned for the whole world, will come into being.

Each day, please nourish us with manna, and pardon us from our wrong doings when we pardon those who offend us.

Please be with us Lord when we are tempted to sin, and may we escape from the evil snares which surround us constantly.

You are the mighty God, the King of Kings, and hold power and glory forever more.

Amen

A Heartfelt Prayer

Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Hear us as we pray

Give us hearts and minds to serve you

Each and every day

Make us glad to be of service

In this world of sin and woe

May we be a true example

Shining everywhere we go

As we journey through this lifetime

Let us live the way you taught

Keep us strong, as Christian soldiers

Proud to serve – the battle fought

Keep us near to you, Lord Jesus

Never let us go astray

Guide us to the Heavenly Kingdom

Lead us home, and light the way

Gift Aid

Gift Aid

Thank you to everyone who has completed a Gift Aid declaration form agreeing that their weekly offerings or donations can be taken into account when claiming Gift Aid.

We are able to claim 25 pence in every pound on all collections and donations given by you, provided you are an Income Tax payer, and that the total amount of your yearly donations does not exceed the total amount of Income Tax you pay each year. This provides valuable additional income for the work of the church and for 2016/17 we were able to claim £1,463.

If you are an Income Tax payer and are yet to complete a declaration form and would like to do so, then please let me know and I will gladly complete a form for you. Thank you for your continued help and support.

Michelle Berry

Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to Merfyn, Glenys and Gordon for their hard work in removing weeds, tidying the church grounds and planting. Your help and work is greatly appreciated.

**And thank you Michelle
for all your hard work,
on behalf of all of us**

EMMERDALE

Lydia's Birthday present

Although Lydia was 16 in March, her present wasn't available until May, when we as a family travelled to Yorkshire to tour the set of Emmerdale, Lydia's favourite programme of all time.

We were taken by bus to the 300 acre estate, where we were given a guided tour of all the well known landmarks – The Dingle's house, Noah's Ark, Bob's Café, David's shop, Cain's garage and of course Emmerdale's very own church, (one of the few buildings you can actually go in and they use for filming. If you think Salisbury Park is small!!!)

No famous people were on set the day we went, but Lydia enjoyed it and Collette was very glad we went!!





Statement on the United Reformed Church Past Case Review



We have all made mistakes and we want to learn from those mistakes.

People have been hurt by bullying or abuse in churches in the past. Things went wrong and people may be carrying the hurt inside them. We want to learn from the past and do better in the future. The Past Case Review is a way for the United Reformed Church to listen and to learn.

We truly want to hear about any behaviour which may need challenging, or if you have been hurt in the past by anyone in the United Reformed Church.

If anyone who has had any connection with your church wishes to share something that has happened to them within any United Reformed Church, we would ask them to get in touch with the Past Case Review team.

We want our churches to be safer places, where people can grow without fear.

Telephone: 020 7916 8682

Website: www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review

Email: pastcase.review@urc.org.uk

Further resources and information are available online at www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review



INFORMATION NIGHT

Tues 13th JUNE

St Mark`s Caia Park



7.30-9pm

ALL WELCOME

Further Details:

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