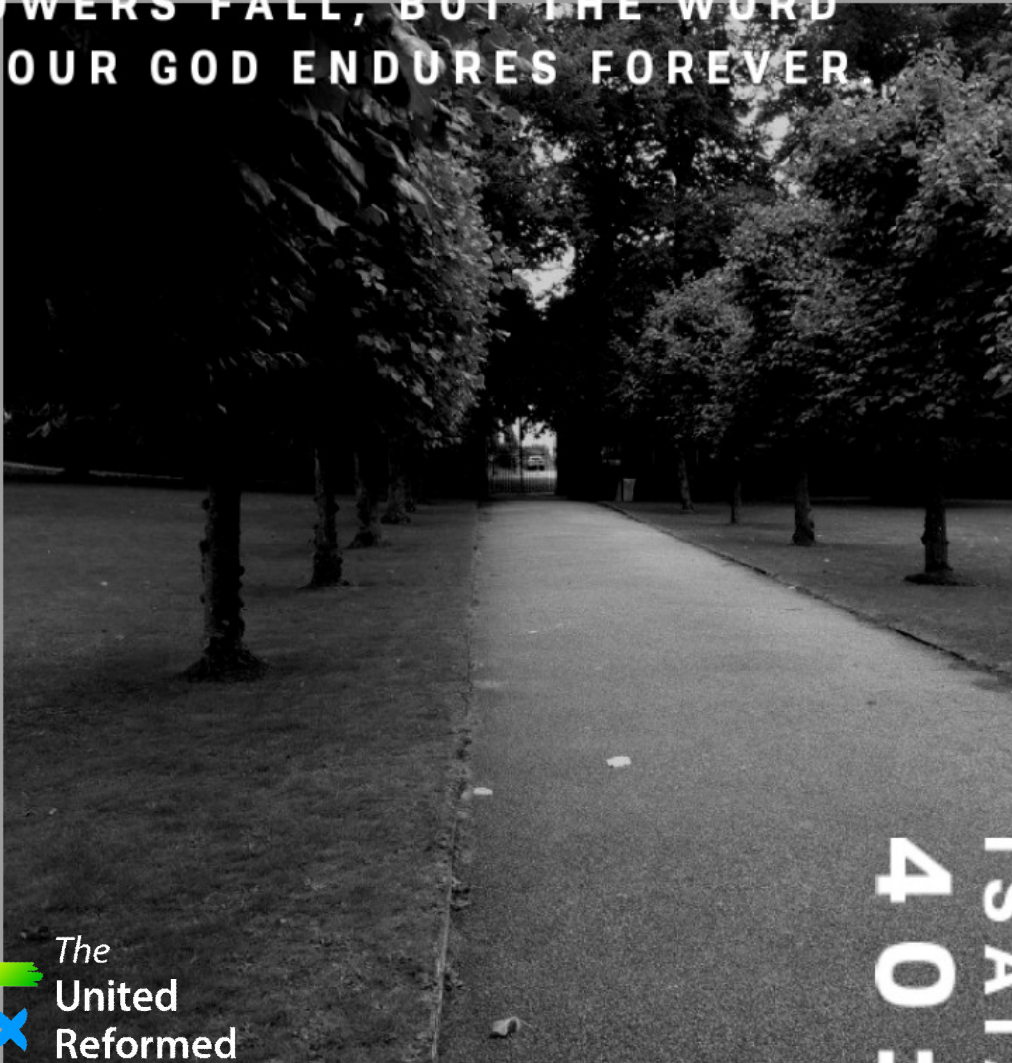


Salisbury Park URC

Minister - Rev. Brian Matthews

THE GRASS WITHERS AND THE
FLOWERS FALL, BUT THE WORD
OF OUR GOD ENDURES FOREVER.



The
United
Reformed
Church

ISAIAH
40:8

*October and November 2018
Newsletter*

Our Church **Your Church**

Salisbury Park United Reformed Church

9 Percy Road, Wrexham LL13 7EA

Minister Rev Brian Matthews – 16 Mile Barn Road, Wrexham
LL13 9LX

☎ 01978 357845

✉ milebarn@waitrose.com

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 – 07899 301530

***Regular morning worship
every Sunday at 10.45am
A church for everyone***

Minister Matters

Dear everyone,

I write this to you on September 25th which means that there is only three months to Christmas and even less by the time you are reading this. But before then we have the beautiful autumn colours to look forward to, Hallowe'en, Remembrance Sunday, Advent with its promise of chocolate everyday taken from the calendar one by one, then the big day itself followed very quickly by New Year. Wow, exciting isn't it?

These events are a mixture of the beautiful, the silly and the serious but we like, as human beings, to have milestones in life.

We are temporal beings, not immortal in these earthly bodies. We may be in a blissful state when listening to a piece of music but eventually an empty tummy will be making more important noises; we may be sat watching an enthralling sporting contest but how awful it would be if there was no ending and no change to what we are doing. We may enjoy standing at the kerb waiting for the bus in the pouring rain when three eventually come along together. In this life, events begin and end and it is how we want it.

Yet our faith is for this life and the eternity of God, a strange and difficult mixture. I hope that the resurrection makes us much different from what we are now, the thought of an unending harp concerto played by angels does not excite me at all. This is bridged for us by Jesus who was of our earthly flesh with routine being important with beginnings and endings, yet telling us about the Divine which is eternal. The Communion Service is here and now and we take the bread and wine which grow in seasons which begin and end, yet it is a "foretaste of the Heavenly banquet prepared for all mankind." It is where heaven and earth meet.

Jesus broke into our lives with the good news of the Kingdom of God showing us the eternal opportunities even in our temporal lives and it leaves us in awe, I hope, and expectant of the opportunities which it offers us. A beautiful place to be and the one which gives us our Christian Hope.

Blessings to you all,

Brian.

What When Who?

Leading Service

October 7 th	Rev Chris Howard
October 14 th	Rev Brian Matthews
October 21 st	Rev Colin Richards
October 28 th	Rev Brian Matthews
November 4 th	Rev Brian Matthews
November 11 th	Rev Chris Howard
November 18 th	Rev Brian Matthews
November 25 th	Moderator Rev Simon Walkling

Duty Elders

October	Michelle Berry
November	Yvonne Owen

Flower Rota

October

7 th	Mrs Glenys Jones
14 th	Mrs Christine Anderson
21 st	Mrs Carole Blackwell
28 th	Mrs Christine Anderson

November

4 th	Mrs Susan Rowlands
11 th	Mrs Judith Dolben
18 th	Mrs Shirley Devaney
25 th	Mrs Barbara Jones

What When Who?

Morning Tea

October

7th	Yvonne
14th	Sheila and Barbara
21st	Glenys and Merfyn
28th	Christine and Michelle

November

4th	Gordon
11th	Sheila and Barbara
18th	Sharon and Terry
25th	Shirley

Door Stewards

October	Shirley Devaney
November	Thelma Jones

If anyone would like to volunteer for any of the rotas please contact Barbara Jones. If there is anything you would like included in the newsletter please contact me markrodgers73@outlook.com Cheers

What When Who?

Readings

October

- 7th – OT Reading: Genesis 2.18-24 **Barbara Jones**
NT Reading: Mark 10.2-16 **Barbara Jones**
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12
Psalm: Psalm 8
- 14th – OT Reading: Amos 5.6-7,10-15 **Shirley Devaney**
NT Reading: Mark 10.17-31 **Shirley Devaney**
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 4.12-16
Psalm: Psalm 90.12-17
- 21st – OT Reading: Isaiah 53.4-12 **Gordon Burgess**
NT Reading: Mark 10.35-45 **Gordon Burgess**
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 5.1-10
Psalm: Psalm 91.9-16
- 28th – OT Reading: Jeremiah 31.7-9 **Paul Fewings**
NT Reading: Mark 10.46-52 **Paul Fewings**
Epistle Reading: Hebrews 7.23-28
Psalm: Psalm 126

What When Who?

Readings

November

4th – OT Reading: Deuteronomy 6.1-9 **Judith Dolben**

NT Reading: Mark 12.28-34 **Judith Dolben**

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 9.11-14

Psalm: Psalm 119.1-8

11th – OT Reading: 1 Kings 17.8-16 **Mark Rodgers**

NT Reading: Mark 12.38-44 **Mark Rodgers**

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 9.24-28

Psalm: Psalm 146

18th – OT Reading: Daniel 12.1-3 **Christine Anderson**

NT Reading: Mark 13.1-8 **Christine Anderson**

Epistle Reading: Heb 10.11-14,(15-18),19-25

Psalm: Psalm 16

25th – OT Reading: Daniel 7.9-10,13-14 **Michelle Berry**

NT Reading: John 18.33-37 **Michelle Berry**


Epistle Reading: Revelation 1.4b-8

Psalm: Psalm 93

Due to a shortage of readers to fill both months we are asking that readers read both readings for the week. If you are unable to attend or need a hand with one of the readings just ask, we'll be more than happy to help out.

Church

Fundraising



A generous person
will prosper;
whoever refreshes
others will
be refreshed.

PROVERBS
11:25

Many church members view fundraising as simply a worrying necessity, with bank accounts ever teetering on the edge of disaster.

"If only we could get on with the spiritual life of the church without worrying about money....." Of course, if God is part of every aspect of our lives, it follows that this includes money.

The attitude of Christians varies from the "give and it shall be given to you" approach, to the "the love of money is the root of all evil" viewpoint. Some are disdainful of fundraising activities, saying, "If people gave enough in the weekly offering it wouldn't be necessary." *

But it gives endless opportunities to work together, to enjoy one another's company, developing new ideas and carrying them out. It encourages those who might never come to church to venture through its doors for the concert or the book sale and who knows, they may find more than a book or an evenings entertainment.

* Are you in either of these categories?

With these points in mind may we draw your attention to our Christmas Fair on the 1st December, more news will come from the social events committee and details of what is planned for this occasion.

Judith Dolben

Our thoughts are with...

It was with sadness that we heard the news that Brian Pierce, Elfair's husband had passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with Elfair and her family at this time.

Get Well Wishes

We send get well wishes to Pat who has recently had an operation and hope that you are resting and are on the road to recovery. We also remember Yvonne who recently broke her arm. We hope you are feeling better.

Congratulations

Well done to the young people of the Church (Megan, Bethan, Hannah, Lydia, Olivia, Molly and Tomos) who recently celebrated their GCSE, AS and A Level results. You all worked very hard and your results are well deserved. New challenges are facing you going into your final year of secondary school, starting Sixth Form college and leaving home to go off to University. I am sure parents and grandparents have found this a stressful and challenging time. I know I have as a Mum, having someone go off to University. It has been a very emotional time, but all part of growing up and a new chapter in life.

We wish you all well and congratulations.

Thank you

Thanks, are given to Glenys and Mervyn for the lovely planting at the entrance to the church. It is a lovely splash of colour and sight when entering the church on a Sunday morning. Thank you very much for your work.

I would like to say thank you to everyone for their kind thoughts, cards, chocolate and flowers following my short stay in hospital. The cards I received from the children were lovely and brought a smile to my face. Your thoughts were very much appreciated during my time of recovery.

Michelle Berry

Bang Bang went the trolley

REALLY.... well, almost ! For about ten years members of a band of stalwart persons have pushed, pulled, wriggled and generally struggled to manoeuvre the Hospital League of Friends trolleys round the wards. If you have ever had a supermarket trolley cart with a wheel that won't go in the direction you want, and decides to wander up aisles you don't use then you might have some idea of what the "pushers " and "pullers" of said trolley tried to do. Not only did they have to find a lift that was empty and working for the upstairs wards but once on the selected ward then negotiate the misbehaving trolley round desks, beds, oxygen tubes, cleaning carts and staff with medicine and the little yellow triangles that remind us "wet floor" or "Cleaning in Progress"

....But negotiate these hazards they did and were rewarded with sales of newspapers, magazines, sweets, biscuits, crisps and sundry other items that ward confined persons need. Often a patient would want one of the "Heavy " newspapers that there just wasn't room for on the trolley and one "trolley dolly" would have to scamper down to the main shop for said paper then dash back to the ward with the item, hoping to remember at which ward they had left the trolley parked.... Ward staff were usually pleased to see us and most patients were grateful for a different face for a few moments and their favourite brand of chocolate or juice to tempt appetites.

Sadly, the group have decided that their muscles and strength are no longer able to manage the task they have done regularly for the fifth Wednesday and Saturday of each month.

Due to the vagaries of our calendar we had to check carefully which months we would be required and Carole, our team leader, would have a quick word on Sundays when the task was due to ensure that six people were available for the due date..... six because two worked on each trolley and two remained in the shop to serve the visitors en route to the wards and staff off duty for their breaks. Pale blue scrubs meant theatre staff, darker blue senior persons and green for auxiliaries and ambulance crews.... porters were also often served with chocolate or peppermints while staff with stethoscopes balanced round their necks denoted doctors who, to my eyes, didn't look old enough in some cases to have left school!!

So the League of Friends continues its necessary work. But it is without the gallant crew of SPURC , alphabetically they were Carole, Judith, Frank, Helen, Mike, Peter, Shirley, Stacey and Yvonne and many thanks are extended to you all for the service you each gave in true Christian style.

Judith

If I have omitted anyone who was called on occasionally to assist, my apologies, please consider it a very "senior memory moment"

In memory of...

This month it was my sombre duty to inform the congregation of the death of Brian Pierce, beloved husband of Elfair and father to Mark and Barry.

While Brian rarely attended Church he was unstinting in his support for Elfair and all that she did in service here, as a Social Events committee member, stall holder, tea maker and all the other occasions when he brought her to the building and was the taxi service home.

That he was much loved by all his family and friends was shown by the packed pews at Pentre Bychan crematorium on Tuesday 25th September and remarked upon in the tributes contributed by the family and read to the congregation by the presiding minister Rev Brian Matthews.

Thank you all

Although a sad time for Elfair at present, she would still like to thank everyone for their kind words and thoughts after the sudden death of her husband Brian.

She would also like to thank everyone for their cards and flowers she received on her 80th birthday.

Paems from Carole

So Little Time

Three score and ten, the Bible says
The span of life is set
But sometimes as we live our lives
Quite often we forget
That each new day is given to us
To act the best we can
To do the will of God above
And serve our fellow man
It isn't hard to give a smile
To people in the street
And show that we are Christian folk
To everyone we meet
Better by far to do some good
For those who are in need
The Lord will show us what to do
If we let him take the lead
In guiding us to serve his flock
And seeking out the lost
Especially those who have lost hope
And feel they're tempest tossed
Our lives are short, the years pass by
There's no time for delay
Let's shine and lighten up the world
As we follow Him, today

Praise Your name

Yes the Lord is love, from His throne
above

He came down to Earth, to reform me
with new birth

Spirit so divine, cleanse this soul of
mine

Lord of Heaven and Earth, I praise
Your name

Be my strength and guide, never leave
my side

Let me shine for you, in the tasks I
plan to do

I will trust, obey, show me Lord the
way

Lord of Heaven and Earth, I praise
Your name

Help me every day, guide me, come
what may

Keep me close to you, 'til my life on
Earth is through

Father, faithful friend, your love will
never end

Lord of Heaven and Earth, I praise
Your name

Ecumenically Speaking

Hi

I am contacting you on behalf of St John's Church, Rhosnesni. I am organising a community Christmas meal on the 4th December in our church hall where by we invite the needy, vulnerable, lonely and people with

disabilities to enjoy a three course meal and entertainment. This initiative is run by the Church with the assistance of local volunteers and funded by local businesses. The event starts with a carol concert in our church, followed by the meal.

I am reaching out to local organisations such as yourself to ask for assistance in identifying guests for the meal. I was wondering if you know of anyone that you feel may benefit from attending our meal? I am

happy to talk over the phone if you have some time in the next week or so to talk to me?

Kind regards

Gemma

If anyone thinks they know someone who would benefit or enjoy this concert and meal, I have Gemma's number.

Thanks, Mark

Ecumenically Speaking



HEALING CAFE

Weds 24th October

The Diner, Queens Court
Complex, Queensway, Wrexham

7:30pm



Invite someone along & buy them a drink.

Further Details:

Gareth Jones

Dave Rowlands

07545 866597

gazzapigeon@sky.com



Ecumenically Speaking

Step Up

An Intentional Year of Growing
in Discipleship

Discover
Release
Equip

Welcome

The aim of the booklet is to introduce the scheme, why we do what we do and suggest ways in which you can join us.

Step Up is an intentional year of discipleship, and one which we hope and pray leaves people better equipped to be disciples who go and make disciples.

We believe in the local church, and want people to **discover** God's calling, be **equipped** with new skills and understanding, and be **released** to serve in the context God has placed them.

We want Step Up to be low maintenance and provide high reward, not removing people from the context God has placed them. We create 'Hubs', which are led and administered locally working in partnership with the Step Up family.

Here is a little more information about how hubs work, how the pilot system works, and what the next steps might be to get you and your church involved.

The Year

At the heart of Step Up is the biblical theology of Covenant and Kingdom. In tandem with this is the continued dynamic interaction of the Step Up participants with the core discipleship question of "What am I hearing from God? How am I going to respond?"

Sessions are run weekly (for 2 hours), during term-time, across a number of hubs. Each session provides participants with the time and space to engage, process, and discuss with others what God is 'up to' in their lives, and how he is speaking to them through what they are learning as they journey together.

As well as led-sessions, participants are offered a mentor from their worshipping community to discuss at different points of the year what they are hearing God say, and how they are responding to this.

Throughout the year there are four Saturday morning sessions where all the Hubs come together. This provides an introduction at the start, two retreats across the year and commissioning at the end of the year.

The weekly sessions during the year focus on 5 main elements, which are, Discipleship Tools, Covenant and Kingdom, Mission, Kingdom Advance and Book groups.

What can you expect from us throughout your pilot year

- Support and training for all stepping into a leadership and/or mentoring roles
- Support in all aspects of the year from administration to delivery of sessions
- A copy of the Step Up Guide for all participants, leaders and mentors
- Copies of the assigned reading books will be ordered and administered centrally
- Retreat days will be planned and delivered by the Management Team
- Prayer support

What we expect from you

- Each hub will have a leader and a team around them. This team can be small to start and grow as more people engage with Step Up.
- For the pilot year we would expect that there be one group of no more than 12 people, thereafter, the number of groups can increase, but the maximum number per group should remain at 12
- A commitment to the vision and values of Step Up

The benefits of Step Up

- Enables church leaders to be focussed and intentional about developing discipleship in their church contexts.
- Releases people in their local churches to be yeast in the dough, influencing the discipleship of all through their own personal development
- Helps churches to deploy and release people to the right places to suit their gifts, talents and calling.
- For all involved there is a growth in confidence for discipleship and disciple making.

What are the next steps

If you think that Step Up is something that you or your church could be involved in then:

- Pray about it
 - Discuss it with others in your church
 - Contact us
- If it looks likely that involvement in Step Up is the right way forward...
- Consider starting, or joining an existing hub
 - Continue conversations with the Step Up Team

DISCOVER An opportunity to test and develop gifts and calling in the safety of a community journeying together in learning

RELEASE Putting into practice our calling not just to be 'hearers' of the word but also 'doers' as you hear and respond to God's voice.

EQUIP A mutual learning environment in which there will be discussion and reflection on how it is that we can love, live and lead more like Jesus

The cost of the course will be £150. Weekly from January to December.

For more details or to register for the course please contact

Gareth Jones 01978 354805

ChristChurch, c/o 7 Heol Penally, Little Acton, Wrexham, LL12 8UT

<https://stepupteam.wordpress.com/>



The
United
Reformed
Church

Walking
the Way
Living the life of Jesus today

National Synod of Wales

BIG DAY OUT

*Jesus said, 'follow me'.
Come.*

Saturday 29th June 2019

Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground

Further information to follow

www.urc.wales.org.uk
Find us on

An introduction to

Stepwise: for all of life

Stepwise



Everyone at Salisbury Park URC would like to wish Rev David Salsbury all the best in his new position as Program Manager of Stepwise. Our thoughts and prayers will be with him and his family during this exciting time. Good luck David.

For more information about Stepwise visit the URC website at
<https://urc.org.uk/stepwise>