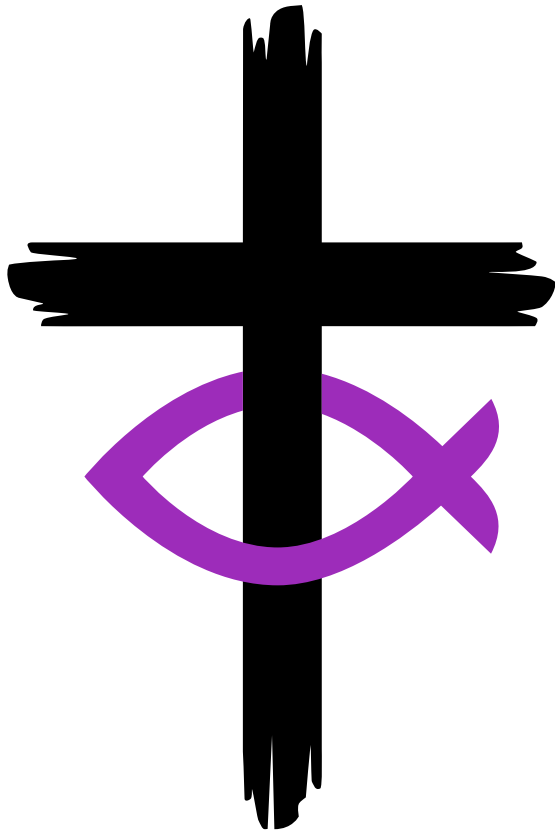


ESTD 1901

The Recorder

November '22

News and views from Redland Park &
New Brunswick United Reformed Churches



www.redlandparkurc.org

New Brunswick Update

Preachers for 11 am Services

November
6th Angus Gregson
13th Angus Gregson (will include Communion)
(Remembrance Sunday)
20th Wendy Magee
27th To be advised

December
4th Barb and Rick Kirby
11th Rev Stephen Newell
18th Angus Gregson

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

November 1st Joint Southmead Churches Prayer meeting. Hosted this month by St Stephens at 7.30p.
November 6th at 3pm there will be a Southmead Joint Churches Celebration. This will be hosted by St Stephens. The service will be followed by light refreshments and a time to 'mingle'. All are welcome.
November 7th at 7.30pm Bible Study meeting at New Brunswick. All welcome
November 13th is Remembrance Sunday so please note our morning worship will commence at 10.50am to enable us to observe the 2 minutes silence at 11am.
November 25th Will be the next monthly Southmead Quiz commencing at 7pm, Entrance is £3 which includes nibbles and tea and coffee. You may also BYO. There will also be a raffle. All profits to Southmead good causes.
November 26th at the Greenway Centre from 12-3pm there will be another Craft and Preloved event.
December 6th The Pentecostal Holiness will be the hosts of the Joint Southmead Churches Prayer meeting commencing at 7.30pm

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

We have been sorry to hear that Elizabeth has had another spell in hospital. We are hoping that by the time you read this she will be back at home. May she be assured of our best wishes and prayers.
Our thoughts and prayers are with Julie and family at this time as a member of her family awaits news of the recent test. We uphold them all to God at this difficult time asking for His comforting presence to be near to them all.
We now hear that Liz has a new date for her operation, which was cancelled earlier in the year.
We pray that this time things can go ahead and all will go well. May you know that you will be in our prayers.
We think of Margaret who has recently had a cataract operation and is finding things a little difficult. We ask God to be with her during her recovery.
Our thoughts, too, are with Wenda who is taking medication for an infection. She is also concerned about the future of her daughter's current accommodation. We uphold this situation to our Loving God asking for His Peace and Healing in this situation.
It has been good to hear that Robin is recovering well after his recent knee operation but we pray that God will give Robin patience in his recovery.
Many have been mentioned here but we also uphold all those who are going through difficult times at the moment. We ask God to minister to each and to all who cry out to Him in whatever circumstance. That He will hear their cry and give each His Peace.

BIRTHDAYS

We send warmest greetings to those who will be celebrating a birthday during November. We wish them God's Richest Blessings on their Special Day. We think especially of Mary on November 27th.

Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett



Dear friends,

The month of October saw a visit from a group from the Seoul Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Korea. It was led by our very good friend the Reverend Bohyun Kim. You may recall that having been with us as the minister of the Bristol Korean Church since 2013, that he was appointed at the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Korea towards the end of 2021. The reason for the visit of that group in October was the formation of the Gale Project. As we have shared previously this is a new partnership project formed between ourselves and the Seoul Presbytery of the PCK. The project is all about intercultural sharing and learning about ministry and mission in the 21st century. There have always been global issues facing the church. That has become even more clear over the past couple of years during the period of the pandemic and the various of the lockdowns. Globally the Church as a whole is now working at issues of recovery after the pandemic, along with the issues of secular society that the countries in the developed world have been facing for some time. The intention of the project is to work at these issues locally but to put all of this learning into a much wider context. We are now working towards the appointment of a new permanent minister for the Bristol Korean Church. Once all that is in place the hope is that we will be able to have Korean ordinands and musicians come across on placement for maybe a few months at a time. They would be here to learn about various Fresh Expression of Church projects in the West country, but also to network with our other URCs in the Bristol area and to engage them with fresh ideas, input and inspiration. There is something in all of this of the church as it is, with all the challenges that we face, but also the church as we dream it to be.

For myself there is always that dream of the church as God would have it. When our new General Secretary of the URC was appointed a couple of years ago he talked about the church always existing somewhere between the cross and the resurrection. Just of late, he said, it feels that we are far too close to the cross rather than the resurrection. But our faith always insists that there is something more than that. That there is always that possibility of newness. The Gale Project is a prayerful step in the direction of God-willed newness. There are good things to look forward to. We will keep you posted as they happen.

Dougie



Congratulations to **Andrew and Suzy Sims** who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on 28 October; we send them our prayers. And belated congratulations to **Jane and Richard Pedlar** who celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary last year in lockdown!

We continue our prayers for **Andrew Sims and his family**, and for **Jane Beazer** and her family; she has a new treatment regime which we hope will improve things. We also pray for her daughter **Suzy Atkins**, as she has ongoing treatment.

We hold the **Mebrahtu family** in our prayers after the death of our dear friend **Teblez Teame, Aida, Esther, Zeb and Paris** have the difficult task of arranging her funeral in Bristol, which is at 11.00am on Thursday 10 November at Redland Park, followed by burial at Arnos Vale. **Teblez** was a woman of great faith and we pray she is now at peace.

Martyn Steel suffered a fall and broke his arm in early October; he has since had an operation on it and is now recovering. We pray for a successful recovery and return to church and the organ. We also pray for **John Turner**, who has broken a bone in his wrist which is in plaster for four weeks, and we wish him a speedy recovery. And the third organist in our prayers – **Michael Kearley** is about to have an operation on his hand! We pray that this will be successful. Redland Park will have a succession of organists and we thank them all.

We are grateful that **Lucy Pedlar** had her operation and it was a success; the results are good and we pray for a speedy recovery for her.

Congratulations to **Margaret Prigg**, in Ashbourne House Westbury Road, who celebrated her 98th birthday last month. We send her our best wishes. **Sheila Smart** is as lively as ever and always sends her love to everyone in Redland Park.

We think of **Janet Stables**, currently undergoing tests on her liver so wish her successful treatment.

Audrey Bryant has been suffering from back problems for some time, spent a few days in hospital and is now having some respite in Westbury Gardens, behind Westbury House. We hope she will feel the benefit of her treatment and care. Westbury Gardens was closed to visitors for a while due to a resident with covid but will reopen as soon as possible.

Myra and Derek Jones have both also had covid – there are still many cases around so please stay safe and we hope they feel better soon.

We think of **Dave Penrose** who was knocked off his motorbike by a delivery van last month; he has broken some bones so is having mobility problems, and having ongoing treatment. We pray for a successful recovery so he can get back to all his activities.

We haven't seen **Janet Lockyer** since before the pandemic and lockdowns, but she is well and would like to return to church. However, she does need a lift, and someone to help her get in and out of the car. If you are able to help please see Les Brentley.

Please pray for all our members and friends who are undergoing treatment or health problems in any way.

We pray for the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter that it is able to provide for several homeless people through the winter, and that they appreciate the care provided by many churches around the city, and the opportunity to get their lives back together and move on with support.

We pray for refugees and asylum seekers everywhere, and ask the government to be compassionate to them all, and to help bring peace to the world. We pray especially for Ukraine at present, and for Russia that their leader develops some humanity

We also pray for countries suffering from natural disasters, especially those areas suffering from the effects of Climate Change bringing drought and famine to countries in Africa and floods to Pakistan.

The night shelter will be opening again on 1 November (to March 2023) with the same format as last year, rooms taken at the same B&B Hotel in Southville, but nine rooms this year up from eight last year. Redland Park has committed to provide and serve lunch on Wednesdays and several people have already volunteered to go down and serve, with others providing sandwiches, or fruit, fruit juice, crisps and biscuits or cakes.

The guests are referred by St Mungo's charity for homeless people, and those who are taken in have their own room, either en suite or sharing a bathroom with two others, use of a washing machine and tumble dryer, and of particular help is the use of a laptop so they can find work, open a bank account and arrange future accommodation.

If you are able to help at all, with sandwiches, cakes or any other way, please see Alison, Les or Carol.

Is your money green?

Do you know where your money is invested? Do you think about what your money is invested in? Is it invested in fossil fuels? Questions I asked myself when thinking about this article. Well, banking with the Cooperative I know that money is invested ethically and is "green". My private pension is invested in a mixed portfolio fund and that doesn't explicitly say its green, so could be invested in anything. However, our mortgage is with Santander. What about them? They are No.8 in Europe for financing fossil fuel expansion according to the website Bank Green. That doesn't sound good. Lending \$42.9 billion USD to fossil fuel companies in the 6 years since 197 countries agreed to drastically reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement set the goal to stay under 1.5°C of warming for very good reasons. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an increase of just a couple of degrees more could lead to "substantial species extinction, large risks to global and regional food security", and an inability to work outside — or even live — in some areas of the world. Our world will become unrecognizable as ocean dead zones, floods, and extreme weather fuel social and economic disruption. That really doesn't sound good, and the effects are becoming all too clear with the 1.2°C of warming that we've already reached. It's upsetting to know my hard-earned money is actively expanding fossil fuel usage.

Think about where your money is going: bank accounts, mortgages, private pensions or other investments if you are lucky enough to have them. How is your money being used? You can check the green credentials of your banks and building societies at www.bank.green. I'm afraid to say anyone banking with Barclays is supporting the No.1 in Europe for financing fossil fuel expansion.

- So, what can we do if we find our banks or institutions are supporting fossil fuels and actively adding to climate change. We have two main options:
- 1) Move our money to a greener alternative like the Cooperative or Bristol based Triodos bank. Again [bank.green](http://www.bank.green) can help here with other banks and building societies that are certified fossil free. There are green pension funds and pension providers committed to be fossil free. Be aware that moving your money can come with financial penalties.
 - 2) Encourage the institution to change its ways – write to our bank or pension provider and tell them now is the time to stop.

According to the Make My Money Matter website, there's £3 trillion in UK pensions, and you can "cut your carbon 21x more than going veggie, giving up flying and switching energy provider simply by making your pension green." So, what's stopping you? Let's make our money stop funding climate change and making the lives of the poorest and least responsible unbearable. If you need some help with greening your money go to yoodoo.today/action-stations/money. This Bristol based website has lots of other ways to make your life greener too.

Andy Grand



Climate Justice Event at Redland Park URC

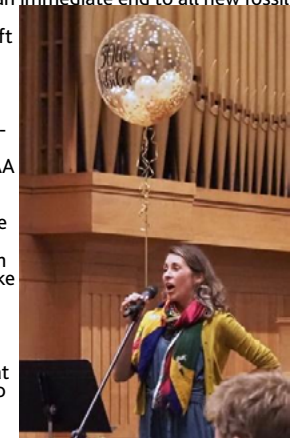
The Climate Justice Group at Redland Park URC hosted a Climate Crisis Event on Monday 24 October 6-8pm, doors open from 5.30 pm. About 60 people attended the event which started at 6pm. The event encompassed people and speakers from a variety of activist organizations with major concerns about the emerging climate emergency and about 60 people attended. We had publicised the event via leaflet and posters in the local area of Redland Park including the churches within the CTCRR, (Churches Together Clifton, Cotham and Redland), the libraries at Redland, Henleaze, Westbury and Bishopston, St John's Primary School and through the RP Facebook site and website. A craftivism group contacted us to display knitted, crocheted and appliquéd panels within the church during the event. The panels were what remained of a COP26 display shown in Glasgow last November which stretched 1.5 km and gave a voice to those who want to protest their activism through craft.



Chloe Naldrett, representing XR and Parents For Future, gave a very impassioned opening talk giving facts and figures about global temperature rise and the almost perfect correlation between that and the rise in carbon emissions. She asked us to think about those we love and what we would want to do to protect them in times of crises. Then she asked us what we would do now to protect them from the climate catastrophe that is emerging before our eyes. The stark reality is that we must start doing something NOW to avoid disaster. Then Emily representing Scientists for XR gave another well-researched talk about government policy and how given the right government policies in place we can begin to make a difference. As a start, we should be urging our MPs to change government policy to affect an immediate end to all new fossil fuel development. This is not

an impossible ask and could start the necessary government policy shift towards a cleaner energy future.

Other speakers were Steve from Association of Clinical Psychologists Climate Action, Dave from Christian Climate Action (CCA), Steve (a different Steve) from Bristol Airport Action (BAA), Torin from Youth Climate Action, Mike from XR Elders, and George from XR. All spoke passionately about the Climate crisis and what action they were doing. BAA has challenged the legality of the runway extension at Bristol Airport and a High Court hearing is due to take place at the Bristol Courts on 8-9 November. A protest is taking place on those days in support of the appeal against the airport extension, and he asked anyone to attend if they can. What came across from all the speakers and particularly from Mike from XR Elders and Dave from CCA, is that they are people just like us, in background and outlook. They are very concerned about what is happening to our planet and have decided that they can no longer be passive onlookers. Hence they have become involved in activism in its various shapes and forms. Mike said he was 75 and had never dreamt that he would become an activist. But he is a grandfather and feels that as the climate crisis has occurred on his watch, it is his duty to try to do something about it.



The meeting then split into 4-5 discussion groups where by people discussed what they could do, various forms of action to take and the impact that such action may have, intended and perceived. The meeting overran and unfortunately a significant number of people left before the discussion group phase. The meeting ended at 8.30pm with a round-up of each group's discussion. Thank you to all who helped make this event happen – the Climate Justice Group (Alison Hooper, Les Brentley, Angus Gregson, Andy Grand and Myra Jones) and Chloe Naldrett who coordinated all the speakers. I hope the event had the effect of persuading those who attended that the climate crisis is real and upon us, but we must not give up hope - we can and must take action NOW.

Tear Fund

New Brunswick and Red-land Park have been taking part in Tear Fund's Big Quiz Night for the last three years.

Between us we've raised £740 for Tear Fund's aid and development work, lifting people out of extreme poverty around the world.

We're taking part again this year. It's on Friday 18th November.

The quiz will be on Zoom at 7.30 pm, so you don't even have to go out into the murk and gloom. And you can have a nice glass of something beside you to help the evening along.

It's very general – you don't need a specialist knowledge of famous trains, or the architecture of British Garden Sheds, 1953-1956. And it might help to have a "younger person" on your team if, like me, you find any music after the 1635 Monteverdi Vespers horribly modern.

Entry to the quiz is free! But I would encourage you to donate via the Just-Giving page...

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tearfund-bqn-rpandnb

or (hopefully) by scanning this QR code...



(The reason for doing it this way, is that Tear Fund can benefit for Gift Aid for a donation but not for the sale of a ticket.)

Looking forward to "seeing" you (on screen) on the 18th.

Angus



MOVING STORIES

Commitment for Life

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

Supporting | our global partners | **FAIRTRADE EDITION**

Facts 'n Figures on Fairtrade



Prayer for Fairtrade

God of Abundance, help our church to support Fairtrade. Put into leadership business leaders with a conscience. Help them place people before profit.

We pray for Fairtrade across the world but especially in Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, and Israel and Palestine.

Amen.

commitmentforlife@urc.org.uk

UK Retailers commit to Fairtrade

Commitment for Life supports The Fairtrade Foundation who work in partnership with 1.9 million farmers and workers globally to address the root causes of poverty. The good news is that more UK retailers are committed to Fairtrade. "It is inspiring to see that public trust in, and preference for, Fairtrade is at its highest ever," says Michael Gidney, chief Executive of Fairtrade Foundation.

Lidl is the biggest buyer of Fairtrade cocoa. It rolled out its 'Way 2 Go' chocolate across 400 stores. Aldi launched the Choco Changer, a new chocolate bar that commits to Fairtrade's Living Income Reference Price for cocoa. Aldi also provides opportunities for flower farm workers in Ethiopia to meet objectives on gender equity. Other Fairtrade cocoa conversions were made by SPAR. It introduced three new products on trial. Proper, building on their brand commitment as the 'only Fairtrade sweet popcorn' introduced two new Proper Chocolate Popcorn bars, while Asda launched a new FSI cocoa chocolate bar. 100 percent Fairtrade brand Tony's Chocolonely also launched in major retailers in 2021.

Since 2005, Greggs has sourced Fairtrade coffee beans for all its coffee products. It has since added bananas, apple juice, orange juice, sugar sticks, sugar syrup, hot chocolate, black tea, mint tea, and green tea as part of its Fairtrade commitments. In August 2021, Greggs announced a switch to using only Fairtrade chocolate in its own products, which include Milk Chocolate Cookies, Caramel Shortbread and Chocolate Brownies.



www.bit.ly/URCFL

Keeping up with the vicar Pt129 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for November and the first Sunday in December. As we come to the end of the church year - the new one starts at Advent - we reach the end of our focus on Luke's gospel. There's been a bit of Luke each week since 19th June (how many Prime Ministers and Chancellors have we had since then?). That continuity (in gospel readings!) helps, I think, to see how Jesus' message (and the opposition to it) is building up. Remember, Luke's aim was to present "an orderly account" (1:3) for the reader.

What I think of as the start of Act 2 of Luke's gospel begins as Jesus "resolutely" (9:51) turns towards to Jerusalem for the last time. We've been following him, watching and listening, for four months as he's alternated his teaching and parables between those who would listen - his disciples, tax collectors and other "sinners" - and those who really should have recognised his message, the Pharisees, but spurned it. Act 3 begins as Jesus enters Jerusalem (midway through chapter 19).

And we end the Lectionary Year on 20th, the Sunday traditionally known as "Christ the King", as Jesus shows what true kingship involves. For him, for us. It's summed up in that passage from Colossians (which in the NIV rather oddly starts in the middle of a sentence). Read verses 15-20 and compare that image of Christ with the one in Luke's narrative.

Many preachers use the lectionary readings as a basis for their preaching. The suggestion is to read them sometime in the week before Sunday worship so that if they are the ones used, it might help you get a bit more from the sermon.

Nov	Old Testament	Psalm	Gospel	NT
6th	Job 19:23-27	17:1-9	Luke 20:27-38	2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17
13th	Malachi 4:1-2a	98	Luke 21:5-19	2 Thess. 3:6-13
20th	Jeremiah 23:1-6	46	Luke 23:33-43	Colossians 1:11-20
27th	Isaiah 2:1-5	122	Matthew 24:36-44	Romans 13:11-14
Advent				
Dec				
4th	Romans 13:11-14	72:1-7, 18-19	Matthew 2:1-12	Romans 15:4-13

Redland Park Church Calendar

Sunday services @ 10.30am. (At church and on line)

NOVEMBER

6th Rev Dougie Burnett. (including Communion)

13th Rev Dougie Burnett

20th Rev Dougie Burnett.

27th Rev Dougie Burnett.

Zoom log in; 732 001 8996; passcode 8cC7Zv

7pm service.

6th At Redland Park Church.

13th and 27th through Zoom.

Zoom log in; 815 4053 7777; passcode 087103

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Wednesday 2nd 7,30pm via Zoom.

Zoom log in; 732 001 8996; passcode 8cC7Zv

Church open for prayer.

Wednesdays between Midday and 2pm.

Church Meeting.

Wednesday 16th November at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Zoom log in; 732 001 8996; passcode 8cC7Zv

Cell Groups.

Mondays, 8.00pm.

Zoom log in; 831 5113 5751; passcode 508239

Tuesdays, 7.30pm.

Zoom log in; 312 983 3387; passcode 795550

**Deadline for contributions for the
December/January Recorder is 27th November.**

Please send to the editor Sarah Trigg

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**or by post to The Recorder at the Church
address at the bottom of this page**

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