We remember too, trying time. Assuring them of our love and support. Especially Pete who has been discharged. So we ask God to grant him patience at this time. Praying too for Julie and the family at this time. 

David F, Carol H, are still in our prayers. God knows their needs and we ask Him to minister to them as they need. Margaret, is still Southmead receiving treatment for several things including a broken ankle who has been able to visit her daughter for the first time in over a year. Wenda is in a home in Henleaze. It was a very emotional meeting for them both. We pray that this situation will improve.

We have remained in contact with Susan who has had several stays in hospital in the last few weeks. We pray that her recent stay will be her last for a while.

Julie’s husband Pete is still Southmead receiving treatment for several things including a broken ankle from a fall whilst in hospital! He has been advised it will be several more weeks before he is able to be discharged. So we ask God to grant him patience at this time. Praying too for Julie and the family at this trying time. Assuring them of our love and support.

We remember too, Wenda who has been able to visit her daughter for the first time in over a year. But make a note of the date! 'Praise and Picnic’ at 3pm in the grounds of St Stephen’s Church. Further details will be available in the coming weeks. But make a note of the date!

Wednesday 2nd June Southmead Joint Churches prayer meeting on Zoom at 7.30pm. Please contact Brenda, should you need the link to enable you to join us.

Sunday 20th June will be our GIFT SERVICE when we will return our Blessing Boxes and our ‘tins’. Friday 25th June at 2.30pm is our next church meeting and this will also be our AGM. Hopefully we will be able to hold this meeting at the church.

An advanced date for your diary is Sunday July 4th when the joint churches are planning to hold a ‘Praise and Picnic’ at 3pm in the grounds of St Stephen’s Church. Further details will be available in the coming weeks. But make a note of the date!

We still uphold those of our fellowship who need our prayers. Thinking of Elizabeth who has had several stays in hospital in the last few weeks. We pray that her recent stay will be her last for a while.

June sees some of our friends celebrating their birthday so we send best wishes to Pat C-J, Julie M and Jen S. We hope they all enjoy a Very Happy Day.

Dear friends,

It was great to have a service in May based on the theme of climate change. 2021 will hopefully be the year we finally overcome Covid and saw the vaccine rolled out across the world with that is now that well known phrase "no one is safe until everyone is safe." There will be much to give thanks for with that. But in front of us still there is also the challenge of climate change. You may know that later on this year we will see a major climate change conference being hosted here in the UK, COP 26. I share with you the following, which comes from our one of General Assembly moderators, Peter Pay. Peter entitles his article “It’s a fair cop”

"There is real hope that a new and more ambitious agreement will be reached during the conference, that a 'Glasgow agreement' may succeed the 2015 'Paris agreement' and be more effective as more nations seem ready to recognise and to address their own carbon emissions.

The General Secretary (of the URC) and I were recently invited to join a consultation of about 35 faith leaders by Alok Shama MP, President of COP26. It was very encouraging to hear from speakers from a wide range of faiths and of different situations.

..."Greenwashing" to try to appear more positive. I wonder how many of them really would admit 'it is a fair cop'.

We will all seek to reassure ourselves that any agreement is indeed a fair outcome which brings justice to victims and indeed moves positively towards urgently reducing carbon emissions. That it will indeed be a 'fair cop'.

As Christians, we are also challenged to recognise our own carbon footprint and seek to minimise it as we seek to cherish God’s creation.

Let us hold all those participating in COP26 in our prayers.”

Amen to all that.

Dougie

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Eco churches or 'eco congregations'. It was also encouraging to hear that the Church of Scotland, Methodist Church and Church of England have committed themselves to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. I pray that the URC will be equally ambitious in this respect.

The government was challenged by speakers to build credibility, particularly by mirroring their stated aspirations especially where policy inconsistencies were evident (eg around permitting new coal mines and road building). We heard assurances from the government about their determination to achieve goals. We were also reminded of progress being made by the new US administration.

However, I reflect that the use of the word 'cop' can be unfortunate. We are painfully aware of how nations can 'cop out' of such agreements, when inconvenient, or find loopholes to exploit. Companies, especially within the carbon industry, can too easily can abuse their political influence to gain protection for their profits, or do 'greenwashing' to try to appear more positive. I wonder how many of them really would admit 'it is a fair cop'.

We will all seek to reassure ourselves that any agreement is indeed a fair outcome which brings justice to victims and indeed moves positively towards urgently reducing carbon emissions. That it will indeed be a 'fair cop'.

As Christians, we are also challenged to recognise our own carbon footprint and seek to minimise it as we seek to cherish God’s creation.

Let us hold all those participating in COP26 in our prayers.”

Amen to all that.
Redland Park People

Please remember Anna and Peter Ambrose in your prayers. Anna has been very unwell and even had a spell in hospital. Peter and his family have been supporting her.

Please pray for our members and friends who are recovering from illness or operations: Sheila Smart, who has had a fall and hurt her leg, but sends love to everyone; Margaret Prigg, who is not feeling well at the moment, Janet Lockyer, and all those we know.

We also continue to pray for Margaret Donadel who is undergoing treatment for cancer, and has not been well recently, and Truida Mutare with worries about her family in Zimbabwe. We remember them and hope to see them before too long.

Please pray for all of our members and friends, Beth with a serious eating disorder, Rosemary after a heart operation, Ken grieving for a friend, Jeff suffering from cancer and further infections, Maggie who has just been diagnosed with cancer, and any others known to us, who need our prayers at this time, whether through mental or physical health issues, financial problems, conflict, or family matters.

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, especially in Afghanistan, Mozambique, Brazil, Northern Ireland, Myanmar, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Hong Kong, Cameroon, the DRC, Syria and Yemen.

We pray for the church, the people you call to give leadership and guidance, The struggles we have to live as a family, The need we have for your Spirit.

With you, Living God, no need is neglected, no injustice is ignored.

Hear the prayer we offer and the care we feel as we travel on our way with you.

Amen

Please remember
Anna and Peter
Ambrose
in your prayers. Anna has
been very unwell and even had a spell in hospital. Peter and her family have
been supporting her.

We pray for our members and
friends who are recovering from illness or operations: Sheila Smart, who has
had a fall and hurt her leg, but sends love to everyone; Margaret Prigg, who
is not feeling well at the moment, Janet Lockyer, and all those we know.

Please pray for: Janet and Mal Owen
Margaret Donadel
Anna Ambrose
Glyn and Margaret
Sheila Radford
Rowena
Jill
Heather and Chris
Richard and Ruth
The people of Israel and Palestine

Living God, hear the prayer we offer and the care we feel as we travel on our way with you.

Amen

TRAIDCRAFT

Although we are not allowed to stay in the church after the service for the time being, the Traidcraft stall is still stocked with useful goods from toilet rolls to antiseptic handwash, as well as tea, coffee, sweets and chocolate, gardening gloves and everyday cards. Please see Carol Fry if you would like anything.

Prayer page:

God of all people, we pray for the world you have shared with us
And the neighbours you have given us.
We pray for those who live in fear and die alone;
The victims of war across the world, The homeless on city streets, The abused.
With you, Living God, no need is neglected, no injustice is ignored.
We pray for those who feel life has no purpose;
The millions trapped in endless poverty, The affluent trapped in empty luxury,
The broken hearted.
We pray for those who are denied their full humanity;
The discriminated against and their abusers, The taken-for-granted.
We pray for the church, the people you call to give leadership and guidance,
The struggles we have to live as a family, The need we have for your Spirit.
With you, Living God, no need is neglected, no injustice is ignored.
Hear the prayer we offer and the care we feel as we travel on our way with you.
Amen
### Waiting on God

In a year that has been challenging for so many, I wanted to share my experience of God’s goodness and faithfulness and why we should be patient and let God carry out His plans in His time.

At the end of the summer last year, John and I decided that, with his health issues, it would be a good time to downsize. About the same time we saw an opportunity and applied to be put on a waiting list for supported living. This was done with some trepidation, as we had two of our four children still living at home. We wanted to know that they could find alternative accommodation at an affordable price. We all know how expensive Bristol is to live in.

Following John’s cancer diagnosis, we tried to stay patient about the flat, but it seemed to us to be more urgent now. Not easy. The next we heard was a chance for Lisa and Karl to move in with their cousin, so they would be sorted. However this would necessitate Karl finding transport to get him to his job in Avonmouth.

Through all this time I remained positive and would say that all would happen at the right time, all the ducks would line up. Karl found this funny, in fact he thought I was mad. His face when we told him that we had been offered a flat on the same day that he purchased his car, was a picture. He was truly amazed! I wish I had had a camera on me.

We are so thankful. We have an amazing God who loves and cares for us, and plans what is best for us at all times and in His timescale, not ours.

I hope this gives encouragement to anyone waiting on answer to prayers.

Gill

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### Redland Park Church Calendar

#### Dates for June 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 13th</td>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Evening Worship led by members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 20th</td>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Rev. Mike Peat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 27th</td>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Evening Worship led by members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### July 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 4th</td>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>Morning Worship with Virtual Communion Led by Rev. Dougie Burnett</td>
</tr>
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St Mark’s Gospel

As part of the Walking the Way theme of Biblical Teaching, the congregation was challenged to write out all 660 verses of the 16 chapters of Mark’s Gospel, and I’m delighted to report that through 94 individual contributions, this has been completed ready for our re-opening on 23rd May. Thank you!!

This highly original collection, as well as 16 Chapter based writings from the Bristol Korean Church are now displayed along the wall of the main church. Not only does lovely collection illustrate the love of the congregations for the word of God, it also provides a terrific display affirming the centrality of the New Testament to our church life and worship, as well as the unity which has held us together amidst the lockdowns of the past year.

Here are some images of the texts that you are able to see on display;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detail</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Verses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tells of the symbols of Communion.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Is written on a Prescription.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Is illustrated with pebbles.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tells about Taxes (or £5).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Is written out in Tigrinya.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Is displayed in Cross Stitch.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Is displayed out of sequence.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tells of a crowd fed by bread and fishes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Includes Judas’ second name.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Describes a dialogue between Jesus and Peter.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Bristol-wide consultation was held at Zion URC, Frampton Cotterell on Tuesday 25th May to discuss ministerial deployment in the Bristol area. It was hosted by our Moderator, Rev. Ruth Whitehead, and two of the Bristol members of the Synod Pastoral Committee (SPC), Rev. Sue Cossey and Rev. Stephen Newell.

Every church from the Bristol area had been invited to the consultation; only two failed to send any representatives. Each church was given the chance to speak for three minutes to express their hopes and fears for the future, although most chose to outline the problems they currently face, especially the way they have responded to the Covid pandemic, rather than address issues of deployment. We made a joint statement with New Brunswick, which can be found elsewhere in this edition of the Recorder. It was interesting and informative to hear that many churches, especially Oldland Common, shared our concerns with the SPC’s proposals. We were particularly struck by the positive response by Mangotsfield and Castle Green to their adoption of Communication and Bad Timing of the SPC’s original letter.

We were then given the chance to share the things that have helped us as churches to face the changes before us, which yielded little. Most churches have had to find other ways of working in the pandemic and lockdowns, and these varied depending on the size, technical ability and resources of each church.

Ruth reiterated the SPC’s intention to appoint a Transition Minister, but she did not have a job description, specification or time of appointment, so very little progress was made there. She did however suggest that this minister should not come from the Bristol area.

With time advancing, the final agenda item, asking what the wider church can offer to support churches, was largely skipped. However, reference was made to the SPC’s desire to finance outside bodies, such as the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity, to facilitate workshops for local churches.

No follow-up consultation was promised, although it also wasn’t ruled out; indeed, it seemed that a follow-up meeting had not been thought about. Ruth did offer herself, Sue and Stephen to meet with individual churches who still have concerns. She talked a little about the Devon churches and the movement of ministers there, and also offered her apologies for the poor communication and bad timing of the SPC’s original letter.

Overall, the meeting achieved very little other than offer the chance for churches to listen to one another. Unless it is the first in a series of consultations, we fear it will have been a waste of time as it failed to address the most pressing question at hand: how will ministers be allocated among the churches in Bristol?

Dougie Burnett, Helena McKinnon, Andrew Hayden and Carol Fry
Thank you for donating to the #givethanks appeal

Redland Park members have delivered donation envelopes to nearly 1000 houses and flats in the Redland area, as well as in our church and, because of restrictions during the pandemic, asking people to donate either online, by telephone, or returning the envelope to the church.

We also hope to have what is usually our May Christian Aid Fair in September, so please keep any books you would like to get rid of, plus bric a brac, home-grown plants, and anything sellable, until then. Thank you.

Covid-19 has meant families have struggled to provide food for children who would normally be at school – has seen a return to early marriages for young girls – has prevented trade and markets to provide an income – and a lack of water makes hygiene difficult.

During the past year Christian Aid has handed out soap to around 400,000 vulnerable people to help prevent the virus spreading as well as giving food packages to nearly 80,000 people struggling to feed their families after losing work following lockdown.

Christian Aid has worked closely with faith leaders to challenge both misleading information about coronavirus and the vaccine and any stigma faced by those who contract the virus as well as to help encourage people to seek health care services.

India

Over the past year, in India we had been largely working to help migrant workers who had returned to home villages with no accommodation and no access to resources to apply for Indian government grant aid which helped them and their families.

However, in the light of recent news we have been setting up quarantine centres with basic facilities, and ensuring basic facilities and quality in the government run quarantine centres.

Our partners continue to work on raising awareness – around vaccinations, Covid safety protocols and healthy behaviours

Providing transportation for patients including transportation for infected people in rural areas to access hospitals

Providing food rations and in some cases cooked food where whole families are affected

Providing PPE, hygiene kits and medical supplies.

Carol Fry

Changing Tunes’ 2020 Annual Report

Several members of Redland Park have supported this charity and also attended a concert at St Matthew’s Church two years ago, and many of you will remember David Jones when he was a member.

Dear Redland Park,

Firstly, we at Changing Tunes hope that this email finds you safe and well. As a valued supporter, we wanted to send you our Annual Report for 2020, which you can read via this link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MLrkeCgDhnhmnKnSNRw-T_3FO8L_Gy2s/view

This provides an overview of our work in 2020, in response to Covid-19. Highlights include the launch of our new distanced learning packs, bringing live music to prisons and the first ever Changing Tunes Online Concert. We are extremely proud to have supported our beneficiaries and partners during the pandemic, made possible thanks to the support of kind donors such as yourself.

This year we will focus on supporting the recovery and renewal of our beneficiaries and of the arts in the criminal justice sector. We will continue to develop innovative responses to need and bring forward the new delivery models we’ve developed in 2020. 2021 will see us launch Red Tangent Records, which will support talented musicians who have lived experience of being in prison, helping them to build sustainable careers in a changing and challenging music industry. We will empower our participants to shape our work and inform strategic decisions, by working with an Advisory Group of beneficiaries. We will develop our trauma-informed work with children and young people in the criminal justice system, nurturing and celebrating Young Voices. We will pursue our commitment to becoming an anti-racist organisation, building a culture of diversity and inclusion at Changing Tunes, which will also be reflected in the diversity of our musical offer. We will launch new post-release hubs in Birmingham, Plymouth, South Wales and Exeter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your valuable support throughout these unprecedented times. We hope that our Annual Report helps to illustrate the significant difference that your support has made.

You may have also received a hard copy version of this letter and the Annual Report. With many people continuing to work from home, we have chosen a ‘belt and braces’ approach in the hope that one of these forms of communication reaches you.

With best wishes,

Dave

David Jones
Chief Executive
Changing Tunes
0844 414 6083 | http://www.changingtunes.org.uk
Here are the Lectionary readings for June and the first couple of Sundays in July. The period between Pentecost and Advent in the Christian calendar is called “Ordinary Time”. I know I’ve said this before (the old teacher habits haven’t faded yet) but Ordinary Time feels like it could be renamed “just get on with it” Time. How is the enormity of the gospel speaking to us? How should we respond?

Take the reading on June 6th, for instance. What seems almost like an extra little scene at the end contains the most powerful Q&A – verses 33-35.

And then that simile (Literacy note: for parents with KS2 children, “discuss differences between similes and metaphors” - see, I told you I haven’t lost the teacher tendency) in Mark 4:30-32. How does this speak to us individually, and as a church at Redland Park and New Brunswick? And there’s a focus on Paul’s 2nd letter to the church at Corinth. Things obviously haven’t been going too well, both within the church and between the church and Paul. (Maybe they should have heeded that verse from Mark 3:25: “If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand!”) Paul is optimistic though. If the church could heal their relationship with him, who brought them the gospel in the first place, maybe that will help them restore their relationship with Christ.

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.

June OT or Acts Psalm Gospel NT
27th Lamentations 3:22-33 30 Mark 5:21-43 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Dear Redland Park United Reformed Church

Thank you for helping to flush away poverty. Your gift of £611.97 will help some of the world’s poorest people have basic essentials in life such as a toilet, clean water and hygiene education.

Toilet Twinning raises funds to support water and sanitation work in some of the poorest countries on earth.

You can find out more by visiting www.toilettwinning.org. Or by staying in touch on Facebook and Twitter. Our privacy policy can be found at www.toilettwinning.org/privacy-policy.

Thank you again for your generous support of this vital work.

Signed

Lorraine Kingsley
Toilet Twinning CEO
Deadline for contributions for the July/August Recorder is 27th June.

Please send to the editor Sarah Trigg
email: sarahtrigg683@gmail.com
tel: 07816 557 124
or by post to The Recorder at the Church address at the bottom of this page

Minister | Rev. Douglas Burnett
0117 330 9910
douglasburnett@wwmail.co.uk

Secretary | Andrew Hayden
07984 146 318
andrewhayden@blueyonder.co.uk

The Recorder is the monthly magazine of
Redland Park United Reformed Church,
Whiteladies Road, Bristol, BS6 6SA
redlandparkurc@gmail.com