

ESTD 1901

The Recorder

March '19

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



www.redlandparkurc.org

New Brunswick | March Diary

Preachers for **March** 11am services

3rd Wendy Magee

10th Mission to Seamen (Brenda Drake will lead and Yvonne from the Mission will speak)

17th Angus Gregson (will include Communion)

24th Brenda Munden

31st John Waines

Preachers for **April** 11am services

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 3rd Southmead Joint Churches service at Pentecostal Holiness Church at 6:30. Followed by light refreshments and fellowship.

March 21st Church Meeting at 7:30pm

March 29th Southmead Quiz at New Brunswick 7pm. Entrance £3pp

March 31st Final service at Southmead Baptist at 3pm. This will be led by Rev. Ian Thornley. Followed by refreshments. They would be grateful to know numbers for catering purposes. Please ring 0117 962 0044 or 0117 336 0347 to book by 15th March.

April 14th Morning worship at New Brunswick will be a Celebration Service giving thanks for God's Blessings over the past 20 years since the devastating fire. Followed by a light lunch. More information next time.

April 19th Good Friday Service at Pentecostal Church at 10am followed by a walk of witness at 11:30am. Further details in the next edition.

The following friends still need our prayers for healing. We think of Rev Mary Piggott, Brian Evans (Carol Hawker's brother in law). Jen who has had a spell in hospital. We remember David Fudge assuring him of our prayers. We think, too, of Matthew Pike (Jenny's son) who will be becoming the owner of a Hearing Dog for the Deaf. We pray this will give him confidence to go about his daily life.

We send many Blessings to Gill Waines who will be celebrating a 'special' birthday this month. We pray she will have a day to remember sharing it with family and friends. HAPPY BIRTHDAY GILL!!!!

May all who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or other special event have a happy memorable day.

Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett



Dear friends,

By the time you are reading this Lent will have started. Ash Wednesday is March 6th. Having made it through the winter (though, will there be another Beast from the East?) it seems right that the next of our Holy Habits that we shall be exploring is "Gladness and Generosity."



It is not that we are forgetting about "Eating Together", that continues. But we start to layer in this new Holy Habit.

Various of our services will pick up on this theme and develop it. Usually we think about Lent as a time when we give up things. But maybe this year we could think of Lent as a time when we give away things, that we give of ourselves?

We look to express ourselves in terms of gladness and generosity. Over the past few years, while exploring the Holy Habits, various churches in the West Midlands have done the following:

- *Giving a free rose to 1000 people as a "Random Act of Kindness."*
- *Giving a free bottle of water to 600 = commuters*
- *Younger people worked to clear overgrown gardens and remove rubbish*
- *Hosted an afternoon for older people with live music and food*
- *Baked cakes for the local uniformed services (police, fire and ambulance)*

So, if we were doing something locally, what might it be?

Also, for the next few weeks of Lent there shall be a Lent calendar, wherein we are challenged to write down one thing every day for which we might be thankful to God.

When you reflect on the positives that we experience from day to day, it is amazing how encouraging it can be. It is a kind of journalling, really. Journalling is regularly reflecting on your experiences, thoughts and encounters with God and keeping a note of your reflections. It is an ancient method that has long been there as part of the spiritual tradition of the church.

The idea of repentance is central to Lent. But, rather than seeing it as being all doom and gloom, it is really about the rediscovery of God in our lives. That sounds bright and positive to me!

So what about giving some of the above a go? You never know what might happen! Happy Lent!

Dougie



We pray for **Lewis Manyika, Derek Jones, Teame Mebrahtu, Ernest Gudgeon, David Hayden**, and all those who are currently undergoing hospital treatment, and hope that they will all be fully recovered soon.

We didn't see **Janet Lockyer** in church for a few weeks as her home was flooded and all the electrics were damaged, so she and the other residents are in a hotel during refurbishment. She has been to church recently from the hotel and we hope she is back home soon.

We pray for the party of four visiting South Korea early in March – **Dougie, Bohyun, Andrew Hayden and Les Brentley** – as they secure the relationship with the Church in Korea to support our Bristol Korean Church.

We welcome **Alison Hooper's** mother from Belfast, Muriel Hawthorn, who is moving to Bristol to live at St Monica Home. We hope she will feel very happy and welcome here.

TRAI DCRAFT

Fairtrade Fortnight is taking place once again, and this year runs from 25 February to 10 March.

Please buy an item from the stall, or buy one item more than usual, and support Traidcraft for the small farmers and producers from developing countries, and also the larger fair trade organisations selling in your local supermarkets.

Thank you. Carol Fry

Last month we noted that **Doreen Wood** had been in hospital for a week; unfortunately after two days at home she died while visiting her GP. We send our prayers and condolences to her family and friends, especially to **Margaret Prigg**, who feels her loss deeply. Doreen's funeral will be held at 3.45pm on Monday 11 March at Christ Church, Clifton, which was her original church, and afterwards at Canford.

We send congratulations to **Patricia Routledge**, who visited Redland Park as part of the celebrations for her 90th birthday; she was an acting student at Bristol Old Vic theatre School many years ago and has a long-standing friendship with the Sims family.

We pray for all our members and friends who need our prayers at this time, for better health, for help with decisions, for peace of mind; we hope they feel the love of God around them.

Prayer page:

Prayer for the month.

Jesus, the Christ,
however little we know your Gospel,
it is light in our midst.
However little we grasp your presence,
it is light for us.

We search for you Jesus, the Christ,
sometimes with uncertain steps,
but you have already come.
You bring light into our anxiousness.
You know
we would never want to choose darkness
but always welcome your inner light.



Please pray for:

A successful outcome to the Brexit negotiations.
The Lent conversations.
Dougie, Andrew, Les and Bohuyn on the visit to South Korea.
All who are waiting for hospital appointments or test results.
The family and friends of Doreen Wood.
Enid Booth.
Refugees and asylum seekers.
The homeless.
Those suffering from anxiety and depression.
The lonely and housebound.
Help us, God, to show your love in all our relationships and to seek ways to alleviate suffering in the world.
Amen.

Time To Remember By By Derek Skelcher

Now's the time
To bring to mind
Why all of us believe
In God and in His Son;
In Christ the Holy one!
Remember!
Remember!
What He for us has done!

Once again
Twelve months have passed
It's Lenten time once more;
Its course must be foretold,
His passionate death retold!
Remember!
Remember!
We sheep within His fold!

So must we
That journey make
Accompanying our Lord,
Share in His agony;
Go with Him to that tree!
Remember!
Remember!
His suffering set us free!

At this time
We must renew
Or fortify our faith;
Maintain it at its crest
And ever manifest!
Remember!
Remember!
Our souls by Him are blest!

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Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter

This shelter for homeless people is now in its third year in Bristol. Seven churches take one night each week of hosting up to 12 homeless people selected by St Mungo's charity, who are clear of addictions to drink and/or drugs, and would benefit from secure accommodation; this security helps them to find or keep a job and possibly to find secure accommodation for the future.

Tyndale Baptist Church hosted Tuesdays for six weeks in Phase 1 and several members of Redland Park volunteered at this time. Phase 2 has now started, some with the same churches as in Phase 1, and some churches new to hosting. Again, a few of our churches members have been volunteering.

The clients of this shelter are all treated with respect; they are grateful for a hot dinner, a safe, warm bed for the night, and breakfast the following morning. They can also watch TV, DVDs, play games, chat, charge mobile phones, or just settle down after a day either walking the streets or working – several of them have jobs, three are chefs.

The volunteers are very happy to be able to help and support the shelter and, together with the soup run each October, this is one of the ways we can help those unfortunate enough to be homeless in Bristol during the cold winter months.

The Noise

Bristol Noise charity is committed to serving in urban estate communities in Bristol. They partner with community members, workers, organisations, and churches, to help meet real and local needs. They don't ask for anything in return. They try to involve and engage all types of people from all types of churches.

The Noise weekend is an opportunity for volunteers to work out their faith in a really practical way. They encourage volunteers to put the 'theory' into practice, to get out and love others like Jesus did.

The sort of projects they undertake might include:

- Renovation and general maintenance inside and outside school buildings
- Projects in sheltered housing accommodation and community centres
- Work in individual gardens
- General tidy up and cutting back of overgrown public spaces
- Rubbish and litter clearance
and much, much more...

Some of us at Redland Park took part in this event many years ago and volunteered in Hartcliffe.

This year we plan to work in the Southmead and Brentry area. New Brunswick URC, our sister Church are hoping to take part.

The NOISE will take place over the May Day Bank Holiday, May 4-6 th. There is a registration fee which will be £5 if done before March 18th after that it is £10.

Please consider taking part in this worthwhile event and let me know. I can then get us registered.

This will be a good way of practising Gladness and Generosity, our new Walking the Way habit.

For more information see me or look at the website. www.thenoise.org.uk

Thank you

Myra Jones

We continue to work on our second Holy Habit- **GLADNESS & GENEROSITY**. Please note the following occasions when we will be specifically focussing on this in March.

- 10th. Cafe Style worship led by Rev Helena McKinnon and Les Fry on the Good Samaritan.
- 10th. Packed Lunch Sunday in the Conference Room.
- 22nd. Film Night, Conference Room at 6.30pm- look out for details of the Movie and join us!

In addition, we are encouraged to really look out for positive people and events which make us feel glad throughout the time of Lent. So on 2nd March, you will be offered a sheet like the one below, on which to keep track of whatever has filled your heart with gladness each day.

This is obviously for individual reflections but each week, there will be a large copy at the back of the church where you can record special examples for the whole congregation to share.

		6.3	7.3	8.3	9.3
10.3 A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 17 v 22					
11.3	12.3	13.3	14.3	15.3	16.3
17.3 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy. Psalms 16 v 11					
18.3	19.3	20.3	21.3	22.3	23.3
24.3 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Philippians 4 v 4					
25.3	26.3	27.3	28.3	29.3	30.3
31.3 For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God. 1 Thessalonians 3 v 9					
1.4	2.4	3.4	4.4	5.4	6.4
7.4 The ransomed of the Lord shall return to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Psalms 35 v 10					
8.4	9.4	10.4	11.4	12.4	13.4
14.4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalms 37 v 4					
15.4	16.4	17.4	18.4	19.4	20.4
21.4 Thomas answered Him "My Lord and my God." John 20 v 28					

Maybe our Gladness will encourage even greater Generosity! Les Fry

Redland Park Church Calendar

Dates for March 2019

- Thurs 7th 2.30pm First Thursday
- Sun 10th 10.30am Café-style Worship led by Rev. Helena McKinnon
- 10.30am Korean Worship Upper Room
- 7.00pm Evening Worship led by members
- Sun 17th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett
- 10.30am Korean Worship Upper Room
- 11.45am Church Meeting
- Sun 24th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett
- 10.30am Korean Worship Upper Room
- 7.00pm Evening Worship led by members
- Sun 31st 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev. Dougie Burnett
- 10.30am Korean Worship Upper Room

April 2019

- Wed 3rd 7.30pm Elders Meeting
- Thurs 4th 2.30pm First Thursday
- Sun 7th 10.30am Morning Worship with Communion
- Led by Rev. Dougie Burnett
- 10.30am Korean Worship Upper Room

First Thursday:

The work of The Vine Trust in Tanzania Alison Lunt

There are 38 inhabited islands on Lake Victoria in Tanzania and Alison told us of her work on the ship Jubilee Hope, which provides primary health care and basic dentistry (extractions only) to the fishing communities that live there.

The government have set up dispensaries on some islands so the ship does not visit those islands. Those without a dispensary have a visit 4 times a year only.

The basic clinic room has a couch, a chair for an interpreter, a thermometer and a machine for taking blood pressure. The main condition seen is infection, often of the gut as the people drink the lake water. Latrines are built on the hills with no drainage so the rain washes everything down to the living areas. Treatment in the form of medication can be given for 2 weeks only and is free on the ship. Referrals can be made to hospitals on the mainland but is rarely carried any further as all investigations and treatments have to be paid for and the islanders cannot afford it.

Most of the diseases are preventable so the team on the ship provide health education talks as part of their remit. Alison teaches the islanders about the prevention of hook worm infection of the gut, which can be prevented by simply wearing shoes. Other diseases can be prevented by hand washing, boiling water and using condoms, as H.I.V. and Aids is rife among the fishing communities.

There is a huge stigma for women with H.I.V. so one project has set up groups of women to support one another. They meet in secret and have to take treatment and use contraception. They are given money to buy seeds to grow vegetables.

Up to 2000 people can live on one island. The fishermen are itinerant and employed by large companies. They often sleep on the boats. The fish are laid out, dried on the hills and then put into sacks and taken to the mainland for sale.

Houses on the islands are made of straw and often covered with black plastic, which is also used for sails on the fishing boats.

Alison is on the boat for 10 days with each day starting at 7am with a meeting. The patients line up on the islands and are brought to the ship by a motorboat. The clinics go on all day and facilities are basic. Well done Alison for volunteering in these less than ideal circumstances.

We all felt most grateful for our NHS with free access and a host of sophisticated investigations and treatments available to all.

Do you Remember the MDGs?

These were 8 development goals with measurable targets and clear deadlines for improving the lives of the world's poorest people and eradicate poverty. They came to an end in 2015. They did make incredible progress but only went half way to ending extreme poverty.

In 2016 the new and powerful Sustainable Development Goals were launched. These give the world a unique and exciting opportunity to be the first generation to end extreme poverty by 2030..

There are 17 of them which can be grouped together in 3 sections.

Basic Human Rights,

- 1 End Poverty
- 2 Zero Hunger
- 3 Good health and well being
- 4 Quality Education
- 5 Gender equality
- 6 Clean Water and Sanitation
Production

Community

- 7 Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8 Decent work and Economic Growth
- 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 10 Reduced Inequalities
- 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12 Responsible Consumption and

Seeking Peace and Prosperity Together as Partners

- 13 Climate Action
- 14 Life below Water
- 15 Life on Land
- 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Global Aware organised a conference at the City Hall called The Festival of Transformation February 9th. We heard from three speakers and had the opportunity to go to a choice of workshops. There were nineteen UK Christian charities present giving information on their role in campaigning on these goals.

It was an inspiring day, encouraging our Churches to be engage with and respond to these important goals.

The day was rounded off with a video called "No Point going Halfway" showing people like Usain Bolt giving up halfway. It really drove home the point that we have to keep going until all these goals have been reached. Is that wishful thinking, theologically naive or a genuine possibility?

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" Micah 6:8

If you want to learn more there is a website endpoverty2030.com or talk to me.

Myra Jones

Redland Park Church Meeting Minutes 27/1/19

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising from the previous meeting were covered in other items on the agenda.

CHURCH IN SOCIETY

A lunch was being planned on Sunday 14th April for Church Action on Poverty; donations would go to the charity.

Nominations for the church's charities for the next two years were sought, and should be sent to Carol Fry.

The World Day of Prayer will be held at Tyndale Baptist Church on Friday 1st March. The theme will be the Parable of the Great Feast and will feature material prepared by the women of Slovenia. More details are available from <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>.

The previous Friday, some folk from Redland Park had attended a quiz at New Brunswick URC which was raising money for a climbing wall. The next quiz will be on Friday 22nd February and all are invited.

Lent Conversations start in March with guest speakers including Molly Scott Cato, MEP, Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol, and Rt Rev Viv Faulk, Bishop of Bristol.

Andrew Hayden read out a letter of thanks from Save the Children that had been sent in response to the donations taken at Norman Crick's funeral.

CELLO CONCERT

John Turner reported on "A Celebration of the Cello", the concert given by Haeun Kim, accompanied by her mother Yoon Joo Hong, on Sunday 20th January. It was put on because Haeun had wanted to thank Redland Park URC and the Bristol Korean Church for their support during her studies, which had led to her graduating with a Masters Degree. The concert had been attended by around 120 people, many from outside the two churches, and the retiring collection had raised over £500, which was to be donated to Redland Park's two nominated charities.

John thanked all those involved in staging the concert, with a special mention to Rev. Bohyun Kim and Yoon Joo Hong who had kindly lent their new, and very excellent, piano, free of charge.

It was agreed that letters of thanks should be sent to Haeun, Bohyun and Yoon Joo from Redland Park.

Some of the attendees had asked if this was a regular occurrence; consideration will be given to making it so.

MINISTERIAL MATTERS

Plans for the visit, from 4th to 13th March, to the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK) were taking shape. Rev. Dougie Burnett, Andrew Hayden and Les Brentley would accompany Rev. Bohyun Kim, with the intention of establishing if the Seoul Presbytery of the PCK would be willing to part-fund the Bristol Korean Church (BKC) when the SCM funding runs out in 2023. A draft itinerary had been drawn up, and John Neugebauer had prepared a booklet about Redland Park and the BKC which will be sent to the PCK ahead of the visit.

Redland Park, Tyndale Baptist, Cotham Parish and Victoria Methodist Churches were exploring the possibility of creating an Easter garden activity at the war memorial on Whiteladies Rd for Holy Week. St. John's School may also participate.

SECRETARIAL MATTERS

Andrew Hayden reported that an election of new Elders would be held at November's Church Meeting and asked members to start considering nominations. For nomination papers would be issued in the Spring.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

News of members was shared.

AOB

Viv Hayden thanked the church for the cross-stitch that she had been given to acknowledge her 40+ years' work on the Christmas Postal Service.

Dougie Burnett reported that his elder daughter, Isabella, was expecting her first child in July.

Les Fry reported that the next topic for "Walking the Way" would be "Gladness and Generosity", and that some members of Redland Park would be attending the Synod's "Walking the Way" day on Saturday 2nd February.

The meeting ended with the Grace.

Next meeting: Sunday 17th March 2019, following the morning service

Keeping up with the vicar Pt 92 Angus Gregson

Having finished the Christmas story with Jesus' Epiphany - the recognition by the wise men - on the Sunday before Lent begins, we often have another of Jesus' great epiphanies - the Transfiguration. Again God audibly blesses his Son. Is it the same blessing as at his Baptism? That time was just before he began his ministry; this time (see 9:51) it's just before he begins his final trip to Jerusalem. Are we heeding God's instruction?

On 31st we hear the well known story of the prodigal son, or rather the prodigal father who with extravagant generosity receives his errant son back into the family. Such grace, such love. But it made me go back to last the last three verses of the reading from Luke the previous week. How much "fertiliser" has God the vineyard owner been pouring on us? And are we producing the fruit?

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.

Mar	OT	Psalm (or alternative)	Gospel	NT
3rd	Exodus 34:29-35	99	Luke 9:28-43	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
10th	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	91:1-2, 9-16	Luke 4:1-13	Romans 10:8b-13
Lent 1				
17th	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	27	Luke 13:31-35	Philippians 3:17-4:1
Lent 2				
24th	Isaiah 55:1-9	63:1-8	Luke 13:1-9	1 Corinthians 10:1-1
Lent 3				
31st	Joshua 5:9-12	32	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Lent 4				
Apr				
7th	Isaiah 43:16-21	126	John 12:1-8	Philippians 3:4b-14
Lent 5				

And finally...



Dame Patricia Routledge celebrated her 90th Birthday on Sunday 17th February and did so by travelling to Bristol for the day; commencing by attending the Church's morning service. Dougie announced her birthday and invited Dame Patricia to speak to the congregation.

She began by saying that 66 years ago she came to Bristol to study at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. She said that she had never been away from home before and upon her arrival on a Sunday she attended the Church's evening service (having previously had contact with the Minister Rev Basil Sims who had found digs for her).

After the service Mr. Sims had invited her back to the Manse to meet his wife and thereafter the Manse was a "open House" for her which is why she regards the Sims family as her "Bristol family".

She recalled that the Church then worshipped in the large hall on the other side of Whiteladies Road pending the rebuilding and reopening of our present Church building. She said that she had attended the reopening service and since then had attended services in the Church on many occasions including baptism services for members of the Sims family.

She concluded by saying how grateful she was to the Church for its care and nurture of her during her student days in Bristol

Deadline for contributions for the
April Recorder is 31st March.

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