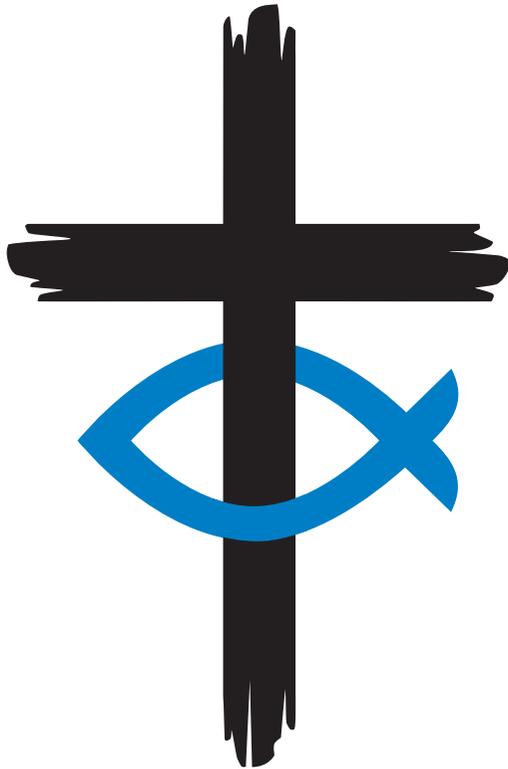


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The Recorder

November '17

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



www.redlandparkurc.org

New Brunswick | November Diary

Preachers for **November** 11am services

5th Debz Spinney

12th Brenda Munden (PLEASE NOTE: Service will begin at 10:50 so the 2 Minutes silence can be observed at 11am)

19th To Be Advised

26th Rev. Douglas Burnett (Will include Communion)

Preachers for **December** 11am services

3rd Brenda Isherwood

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 29th November 4.30- 6.30pm at St. Stephen's Church Southmead. 'Christmas Through the Keyhole'. A trail taking you through the story of Christmas. Open to the community.

Thursday 17th December 7:30pm Church Meeting.

A BIG thank-you to all who contributed to our Harvest Thanksgiving. We were able to take many bags of groceries to the Food Bank. They were very grateful for our donation. We were also able to remember several of our folk who are unable to join us on a Sunday as a small gift of groceries were taken to them. These folk were pleased to be remembered in this way.

Sadly it was whilst delivering one of these gifts that we heard of the passing of Mr Clarke. He had reached the grand age of 99 years. We were sorry not have heard the news earlier. We continue to think of his family at this time.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to go to Mary Piggott as she continues her treatment. May God give her Peace and Strength.

We are pleased to hear that Pat Cemlyn-Jones continues to make good progress after her stay in hospital. At present Morys is still in respite care, so that Pat can recover fully before he returns home. May both know that they they are in our thoughts and prayers.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all going through difficult times. Those who are concerned about their own health or that of a family member. Folk who are grieving for the loss of someone close to them whether that be recently or sometime ago. We ask God to be with all those are in need of His Loving Presence and Peace.

Vestry Vibes by Douglas Burnett



Dear friends,

November always starts with All Saints Day. October 31st this year will not only have been Halloween, but it will also have been the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. I reflected on that in the October edition of the Recorder.

Maybe one of the down sides to the Reformation was that it dispensed with the many celebrations of the saints. To be fair it may have been somewhat overdone in places, including the curious veneration of the relics of the saints (which included various bones! Take your pick as to which bone of the body you might have wanted).

However the sad loss was to be that sense of community of the faithful which spanned the ages and which drew many together. Not only was it a gathering of the faithful, but it was this community through which God could be known and celebrated.

That sense of the saints still being with us is something that is very powerful and meaningful for us all and our Protestant sensibilities should not preclude us from participating in such a celebration.

Before I entered the ministry you may well know that I worked as an archaeologist. From within archaeology I know that some of the most impressive features that survive are to do with death and dying.

To a large extent, even from the earliest of times, those graves and monuments can be seen as a protest which refuses to believe that death is the final point in life, but that there has to be more than this.

The story of Christ also meets that very challenge and question head on, reaching its culmination in Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The Easter story still requires a leap of faith to accept its truth and reality, but many across the world and across the ages is also a testimony to its reality. It is just that you need to enter into that story and that reality to make the connections for ourselves and our high and lows, our joys and our personal losses.

Being human we can never finally wipe out those concerns and maybe not always those griefs, but they can be transformed into something far better. The key note here is hope.

So on All Saints days perhaps one thing that we can do for ourselves is simply to read to ourselves that wonderful hymn "For All The Saints", that is certainly that joyful confidence in Christ. That we name our loved ones, and we look forward with faith and celebrate the God-inspired resurrection community of which we are all part.

Dougie



Congratulations to **Sebastian Atkins**, grandson of **Jane Beazer** who was baptised in Redland Park recently; we welcome him into the Christian community here.

Please continue to pray for **Bryan and Myra Jenkins** who are both suffering ill health; Myra has had a fall and is in Hospital. Bryan is her main carer.

John and Anne Neugebauer aren't able to get to church as much as usual as they are happy grandparents now to three grandchildren. Sophia has been in hospital recently but is now recovering.

Lydia Edwards has gone to Ghana to see her family again so we wish her well. **Opi** (a professional footballer with Bristol City) is going on loan to Bath FC so we hope he has a good season. **Owura** is now an apprenticed professional with Newport County Football Club and we hope he does well.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Soup Run during October.

We pray for all our members and friends who are unable to attend church as much as they would like, and all who need our prayers at this time.

Prayer page:



God,
you are a God of justice,
Jesus shows us
that at the heart of true worship
is concern for those in need,
those who live at the fringe of society,
those who are the victims of destructive forces.
Forgive us when we have been more concerned
about the structures, words and music of worship
than with truth and righteousness that lie at its heart.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Please pray for:

- The new Elders who will be elected this month.
- Our congregation - that the young and older members can find exciting ways to work together.
- Baby Sebastian Atkins and his family after his baptism.
- Karen and her daughter Ava as she settles into her new school - St. Johns.
- Maxine Davies as she recovers from surgery.
- Alison Hooper and her family after the death of her father.
- The prime minister and government as they continue to work on the Brexit negotiations.
- All suffering from mental illness and those close to them.
- The housebound and lonely.
- Spain and Catalonia as they struggle to find a solution to their differences.
- People who are persecuted or killed because of their beliefs.

Father God, our world is so full of disharmony and tribalism. We thank you that all can become one in Christ Jesus, our Lord..

Amen

CHRISTMAS POSTAL SERVICE

Again this year we will be running the church postal service for the exchange of Christmas cards.

The dates will be:

- **Sunday December 3 - Posting and Collection**
- **Sunday December 10 - Posting and Collection**
- **Sunday December 17 (Carol Service) - COLLECTION ONLY.**

Please include full name and address on envelopes.

Thank you, Viv & David Hayden



The Nameless Ones by Derek Skelcher

Please spare a thought for the Nameless Ones,
The saints we do not know,
Not often found,
But all around,
Whose deeds don't often show!

Just bare in mind all the Nameless Ones,
The saints we never see,
The ones who care
Are those who care,
Or bear a share
Of others misery.

Every one of the Nameless Ones
Are people just like us.
They're folk we meet
Out on the street,
Or sitting on a bus.

Yes, each and all of the Nameless Ones
Are just like you and me;
But what they do
Their whole lives through,
For others, is the key!

So say a prayer for the Nameless Ones,
The unacknowledged saints,
Who dedicate
And consecrate
Their lives, without complaint!

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Redland Park Church Calendar

NOVEMBER 2017

Sun 12th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	7.00pm	Evening Worship led by members
Sat 18th	6.00pm	African Evening
Sun 19th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	11:45am	Church Meeting incl. Election of Elders
Sun 26th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Rev Helena McKinnon
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room
	7.00pm	Evening Worship led by members

DECEMBER 2017

Sun 3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion Led by Rev Dougie Burnett
	10.30am	Korean Worship Upper Room

CELL GROUPS

A 'Cell' is a group of people who meet in each other's home once a week. The meetings operate loosely around a structure of: Welcome - Worship - Word - Witness, using Dougie's sermon from the previous Sunday as material for discussion. It is a very safe and relaxed environment in which faith can be explored openly, honestly and prayerfully.

There are now three Cell groups who meet at the following times:

- Monday, 7:30 -9:00pm: contact **Les Brentley** and **Les Fry**
- Tuesday, 7:30 -9:00pm: contact **John Neugebauer**
- Saturday, 10:00am -11:30: contact **Dougie Burnett**

If you'd like any more information or would be interested in joining a Cell group, please contact any of the above leaders.

Redland Park Church Meeting Minutes 17/9/17

PRESENT

The Minister and 24 members. Apologies for absence were received from 8 members.

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

Carol Fry reported that the book sale at the start of the month had raised £152 for our chosen charities.

The Harvest Supper, at 5pm on Saturday 23rd September, would be bring-and-share. Non-perishable foods were requested for the Harvest Festival service the following day; they would be distributed to the Food Bank and Night Shelter.

The proposed Sing-along day on Saturday 4th November may be postponed as the leader's husband was ill. As an alternative, members may like to attend the come-and-sing performance of The Messiah at Victoria Methodist Church on the same day.

Individually-wrapped sandwiches and small cakes were still needed for the Soup Run in October. All offers should be made to Jane Pedlar.

MINISTERIAL MATTERS

Dougie reported that, following the extension of funding for the Special Category Ministry at the Bristol Korean Church, he, John Neugebauer and Rev. Bohyun Kim had met with Joshua Han of Bournemouth International Church to find out how they had transitioned from an SCM to a fully-integrated church of the URC. They had learned that the BIC had experienced high membership turnover rates, much as the BKC had, making continuity difficult for the main officers of the church. During a recent visit to Korea, Bohyun had also met with the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Korea to discuss funding beyond 2023.

Dougie was pleased to report that Alan Burns (on profession of faith), Ann Gaut and William Steele (both transferring from other churches) had sought to become members of Redland Park. Their applications were approved nem con.

Dougie also drew the meeting's attention to future dates that would appear in the Recorder:

- Harvest Supper on 23rd September
- Soup Run on Saturdays in October
- Sing-along (tbc) on 4th November

- Afro-Caribbean evening on Saturday 18th November
- Christmas Through the Keyhole at Tyndale Baptist Church, 30th November to 2nd December
- Carol Service on Sunday 17th December
- Christmas Eve services at 10:30am and 4pm (Crib Service)
- Christmas Day service at Tyndale Baptist Church
- New Year's Eve service at Tyndale Baptist Church
- January to March – shelter for homeless at Tyndale Baptist Church

SECRETARIAL MATTERS

To celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, Andrew Hayden reported that Trinity-Henleaze would be hosting a free movie evening from 7pm on Saturday 21st October.

He also reported that the updated church handbook would be printed and distributed shortly after the Elders election in November.

FINANCE AND PROPERTY

John Neugebauer thanked Sally and Terry King, and Andrew and Matthew Sims for their work in securing a new tenant (Kumon) in the Garden Suite.

With inflation now at 2.9%, he also appealed for members to increase their regular giving as inflationary pressure would see the church's bills rise by £3,000-£4,000 per annum.

CONSTANCE COLTMAN

Dougie introduced a video about Constance Coltman, the first female to be ordained by a mainstream denomination in the UK, exactly 100 years ago.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

News of members was shared.

AOB

None.

The meeting ended with the Grace.

Next meeting: Sunday 17th September, following the morning service

What's On?



Bristol Bach Choir

JS Bach Jesu, meine Freude

Daley Requiem

JS Bach Komm, Jesu, komm

Vaughan Williams Mass in G minor

A concert of reflection and remembrance. Two of Bach's incomparable motets, whose brilliance and beauty are recognised the world over, set a contemplative tone that prompts reflection on mortality and spiritual journeying.

Vaughan Williams's Mass in G minor is one of the most beautiful large-scale a cappella sacred choral works of the twentieth century, stylistically grounded in the musical styles of the Elizabethan period whilst also incorporating elements of ancient chant.

Toronto composer Eleanor Daley's Requiem is a work of sensitivity and introspection, using texts from the traditional Roman Catholic requiem mass, biblical psalms and contemporary poetry. It was awarded the National Choral Award for Outstanding Choral Composition in 1994.

When: Saturday 11th November, 7.30pm

Where: St Mary Redcliffe

Tickets from Angus Gregson or from the choir's website www.bristolbach.org.uk

Persecuted Christians Yemen

There are a few thousand Christians in Yemen, these are mainly migrants. There are only a few hundred indigenous believers in Yemen and because Islam is the state religion, their faith must be kept secret. Tribal leaders are likely to enforce punishments for those who try and leave Islam, such as honor killings, house arrest or forced marriage for women.

The Civil War in Yemen means that Christians are being killed and abducted by Islamic radicals, who have even attacked a Christian care home for the Elderly.

Please pray that

- God will change the hearts of radical Islamists, and protect Christians from attack
- Praise God for the Yemenis who have turned to Christ - ask God to help them grow in faith
- For the 80 per cent of Yemenis who currently rely on aid - pray for provision for them.

Open Doors is supporting the Church in Yemen

www.opendoorsuk.org

Church Flowers

In light of our recent conversations about being a GREEN CHURCH and thinking about our place in the community and our impact on the environment, we wanted to tell you about Barry Toogood Flowers.

We have been buying flowers from Barry to arrange in church for many years. Barry and Jane Toogood run an independent family florist on Coldharbour Road. They source their flowers solely from Britain and Holland in order to reduce their carbon footprint. They minimize waste too.

They have given us kind and friendly advice and encouragement on flower arranging over the years and they always give a generous discount to Redland Park for the flowers we buy from them.

Their flowers are of top quality and often last for over a fortnight if not longer.

It's a super relationship which we have with a local independent business and fulfills our aims for greater sustainability as a church.

Jane and Lucy Pedlar/Pollard

How pleased and blest was I First Thursday

Yes, I was very pleased when Audrey asked me to contribute this report of our fellow member John Turner's talk about hymns (including a conundrum and love story) at our First Thursday October meeting.

Although John had included the words "Desert Island" in his title this was very much more than a list of his favourite hymns, it was much more an exploration of how much hymnody means to him and indeed to most of Nonconformity. John reminded us that both words and music can speak to us and each act as a prayer.

Imagine my delight when John's first hymn was my favourite and by probably the finest hymn writer, Isaac Watts – yes, it was "How pleased and blest was I" (RS 561). John pointed out how this hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 122 and thus spans millennia of faith from BC to the 21st century. We sung the words to the set tune Chichester written c1700 by John Bishop. An interesting experience but I shall stick with Ascalon for my funeral.

There followed an eclectic selection of hymns, old and more recent interspersed with various anecdotes of visits to churches in Germany with special connections to The Reformation and a photo of a much younger John at the console of the Father Willis organ at his previous church, Emmanuel, Cambridge.

We were invited to sing along to a number of hymns, mainly in Rejoice & Sing and here again one of my favourite modern hymns was included (RS326 - look it up!). This was written by a friend of John & Joan in Cambridge.

Our attention was drawn to RS481 written by Richard Baxter an Anglican priest who was a victim of the Great Ejection. This fine hymn poignantly echoes his sadness at being removed from office but triumphantly reflects his faith.

From the sublime to something rather different. We were introduced to a hymn by a contemporary New Zealand writer Colin Gibson where the first verse starts "I'm a fish bowl Christian, watch me flutter my fins.....". The three verses go to a catchy tune also written by the author. An interesting experience but I doubt that it will catch on too readily at RP.

And the conundrum? We were given a DLM two verse hymn by Michael Perry (d1996) and asked to suggest what tune he had in mind for it. None of us guessed "Jerusalem" but we were glad to have a rousing sing of this favourite tune set to modern meaningful words.

Finally, we were given a five verse hymn by Charles Wesley. This is where the love story appears. Charles wrote the words as a love poem to his intended and later it was adapted into the third person and included in Methodist hymn books.

What a treasury of faith and worship is reflected in the hymns we sing, thank you very much John for a most stimulating afternoon.

David Hayden

A poem of hope...

Patrick likes to talk about his poems to volunteers on the Soup Run and he has given permission for this one to be printed and shared among our congregation.

Having been homeless Patrick now has a small flat in Pill and uses his senior citizen's bus pass to attend a church in Bristol and to meet up with acquaintances and volunteers whilst enjoying the coffee and sandwiches we provide.

Christine Johnson

Change.

With joyful thankful heart
I kneel to pray,
At ease in Dad's presence,
Ready to worship and adore
His Son,
The one sacrificial lamb,
Remembering,
This is not time for shopping,
Endless monotony of own will,
It's time to ask as He would ask,
Listen to the voice of love,
Empowering,
Then sending me forth boldly,
Trusting only in Him,
His power; His grace; His love
That I may do His will
Selflessly,
Simply being more like Jesus
To all men.

Patrick Rigg
Pill
2017

Keeping up with the vicar Pt 79 Angus Gregson

Here are the Lectionary readings for November and the first Sunday in December, by which time we'll be into Advent. We complete the series of readings from Matthew 22 - 25, as Jesus continues to challenge his listeners to be ever alert for the coming kingdom, and to live out the gospel by putting into practice the gifts God has given us.

And in his letter to the Thessalonians, who seem to be having a hard time and perhaps are getting a bit disillusioned, Paul encourages them to resist everything that undermines their faith, by holding onto their loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ. Last week (as I write this) we had that tremendously encouraging passage from Paul to the Philippians (4:4-6) with the threefold advice: rejoice, ask, with thanks. Paul puts it even more succinctly in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. Not a bad little motto to carry us into Advent. And the rest of our lives.

The next church year, starting as always at Advent, will focus on Mark's gospel, but our first reading picks up the apocalyptic theme from Matthew with something not too dissimilar from Isaiah 64 before going back to the beginning, and we can start humming familiar bits of Handel.

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.

Angus

Nov	OT	Psalm	Gospel	NT
5th	Micah 3:5-12	43	Matthew 23:1-12	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
12th	Amos 5:18-24	70	Matthew 25:1-13	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
19th	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	90:1-12	Matthew 25:14-30	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
26th	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	95:1-7a	Matthew 25:31-46	Ephesians 1:15-23
Dec				
3rd	Isaiah 64:1-9	80:1-7, 17-19	Mark 13:24-37	1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Advent 1

Christmas Cards

I will have Christmas items on the Traidcraft stall and cards, and for the cards I have a large poster showing the whole range. If you would like to order cards, you can order yourself from the Traidcraft online website <http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/c-169-charity-christmas-cards.aspx> (but you would have to pay postage) or order from me in which case postage is free.



The Kingdom of God.

The Monday Cell recently discussed the Kingdom of God and what it would look like. Here are our ideas.

PEACE

No war.
No religious conflict.

NO SOCIAL MEDIA.

NO EMOTIONAL/PHYSICAL SUFFERING.

JUSTICE

Equal opportunities for all
Equal rights.
Equality.
Food for all and fair distribution of resources.

NO DEATH.

JOY

LAUGHTER

BROTHER/SISTERHOOD

Sharing everything
No greed
Freedom from fear.
Equal status of tribes and communities.
Universal respect for children.

HOPE

GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY

LOVE

We read hymn 200 in R&S The Kingdom of God is justice and joy
Look it up and I think you'll find the words helpful.

We also discussed what we could do in our own small way to help bring about the Kingdom.

What do you think?

Deadline for contributions for the December Recorder is 26th November.

Please send to the editor

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

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