



The
United
Reformed
Church

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk

The Newsletter



August and September 2015

Summer to Autumn

*"It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;
you made both summer and winter." Psalm 74:17*

Minister's Letter

Ministers Summers School this year was held at the Hayes Conference Centre. Our Chaplain was Revd Stephen Brown, who trained in the same year as myself (and our Moderator Peter Meek) at Northern College in Manchester. It was good to catch up with him, and enjoy his Celtic / Iona style of worship.

Francis Briernan was one of our speakers. She is the deputy general secretary for mission in the United Reformed Church and one of her key tasks is to raise the profile of mission in our churches. She shared with us some preliminary results of a survey about faith in England. It asked questions around What do English people know and believe about Jesus Christ?; What do they really think of his followers?; How often—if ever—do Christians talk about their faith in Jesus?; And how do both Christians and non-Christians feel about those conversations?

The survey produced some intriguing results – for example that most English people think Jesus was a fictional person! It is currently being extended to answer questions raised by those early results, and it will provide a useful guide for how we speak to people outside the church.

Ian Bradley is a British academic (at the University of St Andrews), author, theologian, Church of Scotland minister, journalist and broadcaster. He is renowned for his works on Celtic Christianity, and the future of spirituality in Britain. But (to the surprise of most of us at summer school) his is currently into the theology of musical theatre. Seeing that music chosen at funeral services is increasingly from the musicals and not the Hymn book, he has researched into it and discovered that Music from the Shows now express the spirituality of most people in our nations.

He has studied the 'message' behind musicals, and found that it has evolved from the frivolous love stories of Gilbert

and Sullivan, through expressing 'the American Dream' (any dream will do as long as you pursue it) into an almost Christian ethos and ethic most clear in Les Miserables. Musicals, he says, are another way for churches to get alongside people and talk. Anyone interested in starting up a film club?

Alongside workshops on the power of music in worship, Celtic Christianity and felt making (to relieve the stress!) It was a very different and rewarding week of training.

David

Family News

We are sad to announce the death of three people known in our fellowship:

Bob Crisp at the end of June and our condolences go to Margaret. Bob and Margaret visited us at Sherwood from time to time over the past couple of years.

Dorothy Gerrie passed away in July having recently celebrated her 100th birthday. She was an enthusiastic and regular attender who thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of our Church – Dorothy was with us on the Prime Time outing on the 1st July.

Dorothy was born in The Firs, Trained as a midwife in The Firs, and died in The Firs. In the meantime she had a long and successful career in nursing in Nottingham, Glasgow and Vancouver, Canada. She emigrated to Canada in 1950, to join and marry John Gerrie who had gone out before her – quite something in those days.

I will remember her for coming to "talking on the way" where she would sit and listen and consider before making her contribution to the discussion. At the end she would always

turn to me and say, "Well, David, thank you for leading such an interesting and stimulating discussion" – and more recently she would say that even though she had slept through most of it!

Pam R remembers taking Dorothy for a meal to The Burnt Stump where they saw lamb chops on the menu. "Oh, I love Lamb chops," Dorothy said, adding, almost mischievously, "but only if I can pick them up and eat them with, my fingers."- so they ordered the chops and sat in the middle of the restaurant eating lamb chops with their fingers"

Most people in church will remember their conversations with her – she always had something interesting to say, and was equally good at listening. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.

Trudi Norris, who was in the past one of our ministers, passed away in the evening of Sunday 12th July at The QMC. She is survived by her son, Chris, and daughter, Maria. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for her life and Ministry, to be held at Clifton URC sometime in the late summer.

Doreen and Mavis would like to thank everybody at Prime Time for the Garden Vouchers presented to them on their retirement after sixteen enjoyable years of service with the lunch club.

Past Events

Sherwood Art Week

On 18th June we held a **Musical Afternoon**

The Music for Everyone Choir were joined by Pupils of Seely School (year 1 /2) for a master class. The children and choir undertook various exercises to warm up their voices and relax their body for singing – which was fun for everyone.



Then they all joined in with songs, which were turned into part songs and were tricky – but they did it very well. After an interval the Adult choir performed a medley of songs which were very much enjoyed.

No charge was made for this event but donations to the Sensory room at Seely School were collected and this amounted to £128.00. This has enabled the school to purchase sensory equipment for the room.

Well done everyone

The Secret Garden Craft Fair

was held on our Church premises on Saturday 20th June. It was a wonderful success – 3000 people attended.

All the stallholders were pleased with the response.





The exhibition in the Church of Mencap's production back cloths of Wizard of Oz and the Lion King looked very professional, brightened up the Church and drew a good number of people in to see it.
The feed back was great

Prime Time Outing



In July a valiant group of senior explorers boarded a bus which took them to the depths of darkest Derbyshire. Well, not quite! It did take them to the Hayes Conference Centre where a

three course meal was served – we had a choice of starters – Melon with Summer Fruits; Pate; Prawn Cocktail; a selection of three meats with our roast dinner; and cheesecake;

gateaux or fresh fruit for afters! We sat in a group by the lawn for a long chat before wandering round the lovely grounds, the Lake and the Lily ponds on the hot early summer afternoon. It was a lovely day.



David

Christian Aid Week 2015

The amount raised this year was £2,039.65. The organ recital at St Martin's raised £719. In 2014 we raised £1,784.21

The acknowledgement letter from Christian Aid gives an update about how donations are used.

"During Christian Aid week our prayers and activities have focussed on the Borena community in Ethiopia and the difference owning a cow made to Loko. Elsewhere in Ethiopia we have supported people like Awol Hassen and his community which has always caught fish, a dependable food source even in times of drought. But relying on the traditional method of spearing fish, Awol and others in his community could only bring in a small catch each week.

When our partner Agri-Service Ethiopia visited his community to establish a fishing cooperative, he was keen to get involved. By providing training, tools including nets and boats which allow the community to go out beyond their lake's shallow edges, Awol and the other members of his fishing cooperative are now able to catch bigger fish in larger quantities.

Thank you, on behalf of Loko, Awol and the hundreds of thousands of people you will help because of what you have done this Christian Aid Week. It is through your love and support that we are able to provide this assistance. We are truly humbled by your efforts. We are so deeply grateful."

Many thanks to everyone.

*Bev Lockyer
Sherwood & Carrington Christian Aid Group*

Articles

A Snapshot of Barcelona

In May, Pam Richmond and I had a few days in Barcelona. Our tour leader took us to the usual "must see" places which included Park Guell designed by Gaudi and full of unusual sculptures, Las Ramblas which is a pedestrianised area full of shops, bars and interesting buildings and Montjuic Hill where there is a marvellous art gallery and museum. We also visited some of the many churches in the city.

The gothic cathedral of La Seu is dedicated to Santa Eulalia, a young girl killed by the Romans for being a Christian. Her remains are in a tomb in the crypt. It is possible to get on the roof terrace to get a better view of the soaring towers and this we did. A short ride in a lift and a few steps gave us



views of the towers and of the city. Unfortunately no blue skies. Back on the ground we visited the cloister with its family of white geese. The geese are said to symbolise the purity of Santa Eulalia.

The Sagrada Familia or the Church of the Sacred Family was designed by Gaudi and is still unfinished. The author George Orwell described the church as "one of the most hideous buildings in the world." I wonder if Prince Charles holds a

similar view.

It is something of a building site but is so popular with visitors that it is necessary to buy a timed ticket and in our case return two hours later to get in. I have to say that the church was not to either Pam's taste or my own but perhaps we would have felt differently about it if we had attended an act of worship there. It was very noisy and very busy. The imagery on the facade of the church is impressive with scenes of the nativity and the passion. The church already has a large number of towers but eventually there will be eighteen, twelve to symbolize the apostles, four to the evangelists, and one each for Mary and Joseph.

The church of Santa Maria del Mar was quite close to our hotel. It was built on what was the seashore in the fourteenth century. In 1936 during the Civil War the church was set on fire and the baroque altar was destroyed. Only

the walls, columns and a few stained glass windows on the upper level survived. Thankfully it has been restored. In the main altar is a statue of Mary with a ship at her feet to represent the church's connection with the sea, fishermen and allied trades. I especially liked the stained glass.



The Santa Maria Del Pi was another church burned out during the civil war but was restored in the 1960s. The plain interior shows off the marvellous stained glass. It has a ten metre wide rose window which is often claimed to be the largest in the world. Further research will be required to find out if this is an

accurate claim. The rose window is an exact copy of the 14th-century original. On our last day which was a day without any organised programme of sightseeing Pam and I joined our tour leader on a trip to Montserrat.



From our hotel to Montserrat it took about two hours. This entailed travelling by metro, train and mountain railway giving us a chance to see some rural scenery as we journeyed to the mountain and its monastery.

According to legend some fifty years after the birth of Jesus, St Peter is said to have placed an image of the Virgin Mary in one of the caves on the mountain. This image known as the Black Virgin is said to be carved by Luke. The icon was later lost and then found and eventually it found a home in the basilica high above the altar. The queue to see and touch the Black Virgin was far too long for us but we glimpsed the icon when we sat in the basilica listening to the resident boys' choir.

There is a lot to see in Barcelona especially if you like architecture and art. If you visit be sure to have a large portion of paella. The wine is very good too.

Bev Lockyer

Finance

Offertory and Lettings

	Money coming in		Money going out
	Offertory	Lettings	
May 2015	£1140	£1079	£3164
June 2015	£1123	£1270	£3090
Average per month for 2014	£1323	£1407	£4674

Money given to Outside Causes

Thanks to the generosity of everyone attending the recent concert given by Music for Everyone: Daytime Singers on Thus 18th June, and at the United Reformed Church on Sunday 28th, we were able to send the sum of £128 to Seely Primary School, which will help them to equip their Sensory Room.

Gift Day

An enormous "Thank You" to everyone who donated towards the recent Gift Day. We raised the amazing sum of £765, which will certainly help towards some of the recent renovations at our Church.

Donations to our Church

Our friends at Sherwood Art Week showed their appreciation of using our premises for the Craft Fair with a donation of £20 which was received with thanks.

Diary**August**

- 1 Sat 10:30 *Coffee Morning - Christian Aid*
 - 2 Sun 10:30 *Morning Worship*
 - 7 Fri 10:00 *Open Church*
 - 8 Sat 10:30 *Coffee Morning - Christian Aid*
 - 9 Sun 10:30 *Morning Worship - Duncan Wilson*
 - 14 Fri 10:00 *Open Church*
 - 15 Sat 10:30 *Coffee Morning - Christian Aid*
 - 16 Sun 10:30 *Morning Worship*
 - 19 Wed 11:45 *Prime Time*
 - 21 Fri 10:00 *Open Church*
 - 22 Sat 10:30 *Coffee Morning - Christian Aid*
 - 23 Sun 10:30 *Morning Worship - Mike Playdon*
 - 28 Fri 10:00 *Open Church*
 - 29 Sat 10:30 *Coffee Morning - Christian Aid*
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30 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Barry Drake

September

4 Fri 10:00 Open Church

5 Sat 10:30 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid

6 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Stefan Janiszewski

10 Thu 11:00 Chill-out
19:30 Elders' Meeting

11 Fri 10:00 Open Church

12 Sat 10:30 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid

13 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship & Harvest Festival

16 Wed 11:45 Prime Time

17 Thu 11:00 Chill-out

18 Fri 10:00 Open Church

19 Sat 10:30 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid

20 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship

24 Thu 11:00 Chill-out

25 Fri 10:00 Open Church

26 Sat 10:30 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid

27 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship
12:00 Church Meeting

October

1 Thu 11:00 Chill-out

2 Fri 10:00 Open Church

- 3 Sat 10:30 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid
- 4 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Bev Lockyer
- 8 Thu 11:00 Chill-out
- 8 Thu 19:30 Elders' Meeting

Rotas

		Flowers	Coffee
August	2		Jean and Christine
	9	Mavis Seed	George and Margaret
	16	Joy Hammond	Pam and Doreen
	23		Barbara and Maureen
	30		Jean and Christine
September	6	Pam Richmond	George and Margaret
	13	Jean Bull	Pam and Doreen
	20		Barbara and Maureen
	27		Jean and Christine
Oct.	4		George and Margaret

Adopt a Flower Sunday: Please **volunteer** with Sheila Waldron or Marita Chambers to buy or pay for flowers for one of the un-adopted Sundays. or choose another Sunday in the year perhaps to commemorate someone or some event?

Regular Weekly Events

Mon	5.45 - 6.45pm	FitSteps Health and Fitness
	6pm - 7pm	Taekwan-Do
	7.30 - 9pm	Singing for fun choir (term time)
Tue	3.30pm :	Children's Dance Class including
	8.15pm	various age classes
	12noon -	Tiny Talk - sign language for babies
	2.15pm	
	7.30pm - 9pm	Sherwood Women's Institute -4 th Tue
Wed	12 noon	Prime Time Lunch Club (3 rd Wed.)
	11am - 2pm	Y.M..C.A Active for Life
	8pm - 10pm	Revival Dance
Thu	11am - 1pm	'Chill Out' drop-in for under fives and their carers
	12.30 -1.30pm	Busy Feet (Sure Start)
	6 pm - 7 pm	Taekwan-Do
	7.30 pm	Reformed Players
	7.30 pm	Beeston Big Band practice night
Fri	10am-12noon	Open Door (Church open for quiet time)
	11am	Stroke Club (fortnightly)
Sat	10.30am	Christian Aid Coffee Morning (Traidcraft, cakes, greeting card stalls etc.)

Please check the Website for up to date information

General Information

Minister: Revd David Legge, 0115 952 5759
 Contact David for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

WORSHIP

Sunday Morning at 10.30 with activities for children.
 with communion on the third Sunday of the month

Prayers for Healing and wholeness:
 Following morning worship
 on the first Sunday of the month (11.45am approx.)

Voluntary offerings maintain the work of the Church and details of planned giving can be obtained from Alison Taylor, Gift Aid Secretary (07757311531)

Serving Elders of the church:

Christine Hyndman	840 2521	Sue Janiszewski	01623 75 0374
Stefan Janiszewski	01623 75 0374	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
		Pam Richmond	926 3310

Church Officers:

Church Secretary:	Stefan Janiszewski	07812 975625
Assistant Church Secretary:	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
Church Treasurer:	Carolyn Belcher	960 3357
Pulpit Supply Secretary:	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
Organist:	Marita Chambers	962 5700
Magazine Secretary:	Pam Whitby	926 8044
Flower Secretaries:	Marita Chambers	962 5700
	Sheila Waldron	965 3283
Church Stewarding:	Norman Parr & Pam Whitby	926 8044

Hall Booking *Send a text to* 0795 232 4912
or use the website: www.sherwoodurc.co.uk

Magazine Deadline

Please submit **your contribution** for the next issue of Church News **by Sunday 13h September 2015**
 or written to Pam (926 8044) or by email to David (revdjl@virginmedia.com) or Stefan (sherwood.urc@ntlworld.com),