

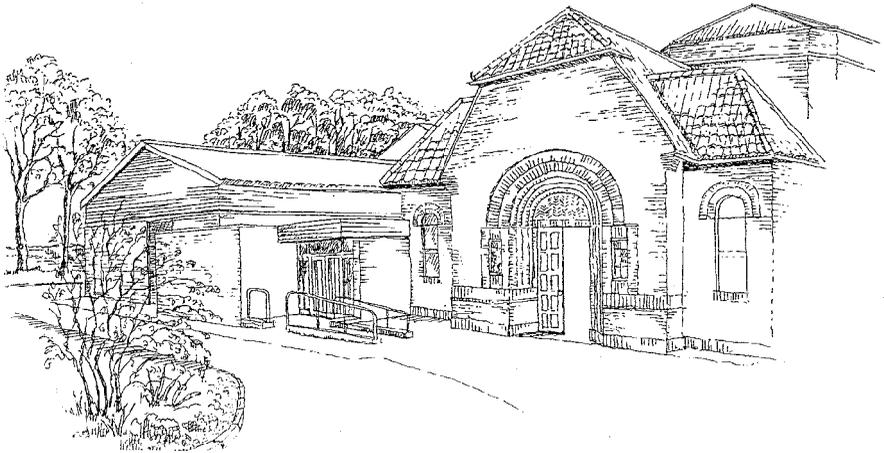


The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk



The Newsletter

June and July 2017
Early Summer

God's Spirit is with us

Ministers Letter

A Big Day Out

Saturday 20 May. We were up at 5.45 to eat, pack the car and be on the road for 6.45. We were a bit late, but the roads were clear and we had time to get a bit lost in Warwick before finding the Castle Car Park. After a briefing at 8.30 we had an hour to set up our stall in the Pilots Gazebo on the Pageant Field before the gates opened on the **Pilots "Feasts and Festivals" Big Day Out**.

In the Morning Tricia as a Synod Regional Pilot Officer (RPO) and I as a 'Crew Member' manned the Gazebo, answering general questions, or talking about what Pilots actually are. Anne Hatch, another RPO, brought outside games to play; Vine Pilots, Ilford ran parachute games, Lutterworth Pilots held Rounders, and Tricia organised a 'boiled-egg-rolling-race' and a 'bean-bag-dribbling-with-hockey-stick-obstacle-race'. We did not get to see the Castle!

The games were interspersed with talks on the main stage from John Proctor, our General Secretary, Paul Northup organiser of the Greenbelt Festival in August with which the URC is a partner, CRCW Kirsty Mabbott read her poetry about Social Justice. Other groups met in gazebos – Crafts, Art, discussions, FairTrade. Worship was lead by Jenny Mills, Minister in Newport Pagnell and Milton Keynes and Tim Lowe, Minister in Coventry.

Despite the rain people sat in the field and had a picnic between worship and the following speaker. Luckily the sun came out and we were able to get warm and dry!

It was a good day, with over 1000 URC people attending, and two genuine expressions of interest in starting a Pilots company.

At 6.45 we were home, collapsing on the settee and waiting for the take away to be delivered!

Looking Ahead

At our Church Meeting in May we began a discussion about what we did as a church, making a lists of the various church organised activities. We quickly went through noting what we were good at and what we were not so good at, and started to think about the future of some of these activities.

This list will be typed out and circulated so that we can decide at our next church meeting what is essential, what is important, what can we loose, what should we change.

Look out for your sheet.

David

Family News

We send our best wishes to Christine Hyndman and Chrystine Girvan who have both recently had hip operations.

Chrystine's was scheduled but Christine fell and required the surgery to stabilise her hip. They are both now at home,

We remember Carol Foote and Kath Hughes and all our other friends who are unable to be with us.

Thanks

I'd just like to say a big thank you to everyone for the cards, telephone calls, lifts and prayers after my recent eye operation.

It really did cheer me up to know that people were thinking of me. I'm not out of the woods yet but hopefully the light will be coming through the trees at the other side soon!

With love to you all

Pam R

What's Coming up!

Regular & Future Events

June 24 Sherwood Art Week Craft Fair.

We need Volunteers / Befrienders to make our presence as a church known – and to allow people once more to experience the friendliness of Sherwood United Reformed Church. See Tricia or sign the sheet in the Church Garden Room

“Briks for Kids” will be using the church for a **display** of Lego models, and give the younger folk change to have a go at some model making.

July 22: 7.30pm, £6.00 Concert

The story of 'A Capella' Music
given by UK & Netherlands region Gold Winning
Nottingham Lace Ladies Chorus.

Talking on the Way – an hour of discussion on and around Christian issues. This is an open group – you are invited!
Second Wednesday 2.30pm – 4.00.

Light Refreshment – is all about getting to know people. Sometimes we have an outside speaker, sometimes we share some of our own story. Drop in to befriend or be taught (or both)! Fourth Wednesday 2.30pm – 4.00.

Saturday Coffee – come and enjoy a chat over a cuppa and a biscuit and raise funds for Christian Aid. 10.00am – 12.00

What Happened?

Easter at the U.R.C.

Our Easter celebrations commenced with Palm Sunday where David shared his favourite genre of film (Science Fiction) he showed a short clip from a Star Trek in which Captain Kirk sacrificed himself in order to save the crew and others. David compared this to the sacrifice Jesus made. On Palm Sunday he could have turned back but didn't. On Maundy Thursday evening at Communion. Twelve of us sat round the large table at the front of the Church re-enacting the last supper. It was a very moving service concluding with us walking to the back of the Sanctuary and into the Garden room for further readings before leaving the building in silence.



We do this walk every year, with the liturgy changing slightly each time. It is one of the few things we do as Churches Together, but we often wonder how effective it is as an act of witness. So I was pleased to notice that we were acknowledge and supported by several car and vans sounding their horns

and waving as they passed by. I can not remember that happening before. At least someone noticed us!

The 2017 Good Friday Walk of Witness saw another good turnout of people wishing to witness to the events of Good Friday. Our route was the same as last year apart from the stop which used to be in the corner of the Car Park of the Large Co-op. Since last year it was taken over by Budgen's but has since closed. So we met at the end of the passageway next to Lloyds Chemist. I thought this worked better than in the Car Park.

Saturday morning 15th April we were all busy decorating the Church for Easter. The windowsills and ledges filled with vases of multi coloured flowers making such a pleasing display. Many thanks go to all who helped in any way, being there for the arrangement of flowers, providing flowers and supporting by gifts of money all very much appreciated.

Easter Sunday Communion was led by Stefan and was another moving Service. It was an interactive Service based on Celtic traditions with a modern twist and traditional Easter hymns. The theme was "Looking for Jesus in the wrong places" and included a short meditation. (*More photos on the website*)

Articles

The WI Fair at Alexander Palace

The day started early at the train station. No reading matter was required as we chatted all the way down to King's Cross.

We went for the tube on the Victoria line, still chatting and laughing as we went until confusion set in – we were going in the wrong direction! A quick about turn and we were back on

the right track for the short journey to the over ground rail to Alexander station.

When we came out we had to look for a mini bus at stop 'P'. There was no 'P'! But a young man leaning on the wall said Alexander Palace and pointed us to the bus stop '5'. Here we were soon chatting to other ladies going to the venue. As we got on the bus I noticed a big letter P 'pay for parking' we had a chuckle.

The entrance was huge but welcoming. Folk were milling about or having a drink to revive them after the journey. After a comfort break we showed our tickets and went in. Walked passed the knitted village.

In the Exhibition Hall we looked round for a guide book. Oh no we should have got it in the entrance hall. Back we went! Trouble was brewing – we needed to be stamped, how did we get in? Security lady would not let us out! Help! but she went to get a guide for us. A smiley WI organiser soon spotted us heard the problem and gave a stamp and guides to the first person who let us in.

Back in the Exhibition Hall there were 300 stalls to look at. Off we went up and down the isles. There seemed a lot more room than at Harrogate so you felt you could have a leisurely look at the stalls.

There were: Clothes from 'be-spoke' through accessories made from 'feed sacks' to leather bags; Jewellery; Crafts from glasswork through woodwork to quilling; Food from apples to olive oils; chocolates and more chocolates; we missed a cake stall; Beauty products from shea butter to honey; Holidays aplenty and Charities galore.

Refreshments!!! Sipping Proseco, cool and refreshing, we sat by the stall and ate our sandwiches. We just smiled and

sipped, talking to passers by and the lovely lady at the guide dogs for the blind stall on the other side.

I nearly bought a hat for sun or rain – but I don't do hats! . A vacuum cleaner - I nearly fell for it but resisted and ever since I have thought I could have used that on the stairs. Pam succumbed to a pair of ratchet secateurs for ease of use – they are good.

It was now 3.00pm and our feet were throbbing time to go. What could we not fit in were all the demonstrations and there were lots. Ah well another year perhaps.

On the way out we looked more closely at the knitted village it was great and gave a donation to their charity. Home via Casa Mama Italian Restaurant near Kings Cross. Fell into a chair at home about 10.00pm what a long, but happy day!

It was all very interesting but we will probably miss out next year as we've seen most of the stalls twice now and could do with a change. But we would encourage members to go and experience the WI fair.

Pam W and Tricia

Life for African Mothers.

On Saturday 13th May. Doreen, Jean, Sue, Stefan and I went to the talk in our Main Hall given by the charity "Life for African Mothers (LFAM)".

There was a definite African theme from music to the bright coloured material and handbags and cards sold on the stalls. All the money raised on the day was going straight to the charity. At 2.00pm Angela Gorman, the founder of the LFAM, gave us a brief history of why and how she started it. The idea came to her mind after seeing a Panorama programme. In

2007 it came to fruition. Angela outlined the work it has funded in the 10 years. Her idea initially was to raise as much money to buy medication to stop mothers and babies dying from pre-eclampsia or postpartum haemorrhage.

Helen, the midwife, is the hinge pin between the British midwives and Liberia. She gave us an emotional talk. She explained how and why she got involved and told us of the work she has been doing, illustrated by pictures. She explained that the midwives were helping mothers to give birth in the poorest of medical centres, with no running water and using a torch for light. Because there has been no up to date training of midwifery the midwives were using old fashioned methods as the number of health workers fell after the Ebola epidemic. British midwives were very much needed. Her talk ended with the vision for the future that some of the midwives that they train will be able to train others themselves. Lastly she gave thanks to key people.

Three ladies who have worked out in Liberia told us of the work they did and sang a song.

A paramedic told us how he had lived in Liberia when he was 3 years old. It was beautiful country with houses, swimming pools and tennis courts but now after the civil war (1989 – 2003) the country is devastated, the infrastructure destroyed. Most counties do not have running water or electricity But the people still remain upbeat, friendly and happy. He has returned volunteering with the charity to help where he can.

Abdul travelled all the way from Liberia to connect with Angela and was able to come to the talk. His mother died in child birth and he lived with his stepmother. He is 32 he wanted to be a doctor but it would have taken him 12 years and 2 degrees which was too long for him so trained as a pharmacist working in Liberia. He has volunteered for 6 years for LFAM and calls Angela his third mother! He sponsors 11 children enabling

them to get education. He now wants to train in public health and has been offered a place on the Public Health MSc course at Nottingham Trent. He has enough funds for day to day living but the fees are £13,000. So any help that can be given would be great <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/abdul-rahman-bah>. It was good to see for once the fruits of where your donation will go to.

After loud round of applause it was back to buying and selling and chatting. It was a friendly informative and hopefully productive afternoon.

The following day, we shared this information with our church meeting and were delighted when the meeting agreed to Sponsor Abdul. This will be our chosen charity up to the end of the year. We are asking for donations from individuals – a plate will be put out on Sundays – and we will make it up to £1000. We have already had other donations *in addition to the churches pledge* that will double the amount we give to £2000!

Tricia

Poem

Here is a poem we nearly did not publish. It is reproduced in many places on cards and, with "Author Unknown" as the attribution. However, some 'googling' soon revealed the authors name and this:

I noticed my poem The Difference on your beautiful web page. What an honour. I have been trying to contact as many people as possible with the information as to how the poem was created. Many have asked me how I happened to write this poem. I tell them I only held the pen. The Father put the words there.

Years passed. My second son, Chris took the poem to school for a poetry class. I did not even know he had taken the poem from the house! He came charging in the door one day exclaiming how well his teacher liked the poem and knew where it could be published. I declined as I was a little shy about my writings being seen by others, and I put it back in my box. I guess God had his own plan for it wasn't long and it began to appear in published papers. So the poem became public domain and has no copyright.

I have always felt much gratification knowing how much happiness and comfort the poem has brought to others. My husband passed away a few years back at the age of fifty-six of cancer. One of his last wishes was for me to try to get my name on the poem as the author. I would be very pleased if anyone who sees the poem could help me with his wish by passing on this writing. I happily give permission for the poem to be published and enjoyed but please place my name as the author. Thank You, In Gods Love

Grace L. Naessens

The Difference

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task.
"Why doesn't God help me? I wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask".

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day toiled on, grey and bleak,
I wondered why God didn't show me,
He said "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence;
 I used all my keys at the lock.
 God gently and lovingly chided,
 "My child, you didn't knock".

I woke up early this morning,
 and paused before entering the day,
 I had so much to accomplish
 that I had to take time to pray.

Grace L Naessens, 1960

Diary

June

1	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
3	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
4	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Pentecost - D.J.L
7	Wed	11:45	Prime Time
8	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
10	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
11	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher
14	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way - Discussion
14	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting
15	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
17	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
18	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - D.J.L
22	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
24	Sat	10:00	Sherwood Art Week Craft Fair.
25	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher
28	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment
29	Thu	10:30	Chill-out

July

1	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
2	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher
5	Wed	11:45	Prime Time
6	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
8	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
9	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - D.J.L
12	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way - Discussion
12	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting
13	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
15	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
16	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - D.J.L
20	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
22	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
		19:30	Nottingham Lace Ladies Chorus.
23	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - D.J.L
23	Sun	12:00	Church Meeting
26	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment
27	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
29	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
30	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher

August

2	Wed	11:45	Prime Time
3	Thu	10:30	Chill-out
5	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
6	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher
9	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way - Discussion
10	Thu	10:30	Chill-out

Rotas

Please Volunteer to fill the gaps

		Flowers	Coffee
June	4	Marita Chambers	George and Margaret
	11		Pam and Doreen
	18	Doreen Fillingham	Jean and Christine
	25		Volunteers required
July	2		George and Margaret
	9	Pam Whitby	Pam and Doreen
	16		Jean and Christine
	23	Joy Hammond	Volunteers required
	30		George and Margaret
Aug	6		Pam and Doreen
	13	Joy Hammond	Jean and Christine

Can you adopt a Sunday for the Flowers, perhaps to commemorate someone or some event, or simply just to support the church?

Yes? Please make your offer to Sheila Waldron

If you can serve coffee on Sunday after the service, please let Pam Whitby know.

Magazine Deadline

Please submit **your contribution** for the next issue of Church News **by Sunday 16th July 2017 at the latest** to Pam (926 8044) or **by email** to David (revdjl@virginmedia.com) & Stefan (sherwood.urch@ntlworld.com),

Regular Weekly Events

at Sherwood U.R.C

Mon	10.00 – 12.00	Line Dance	M
	6.00 – 7.00	Taekwan-Do	S
	6.00 – 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness	M
	7.30 – 9.00	Singing for fun choir (term time)	M
	7.30 – 9.00	Yoga Class	C
Tue	9.30 – 2.30	Toddler Talk (sign language)	M
	3.30 – 8.15	Emma Cain Dance Class	M
	7.30 – 9.00	Sherwood Women's Institute (last Tue)	C
Wed	12.00 – 1.30	Prime Time Lunch Club (1 st Wed.)	G
		Talking on the Way discussion 2 nd Wed	C
		Light Refreshment – friendship 4 th Wed	C
	7.00 – 7.45	Zumba	M
	8.00 – 10.00	Revival Dance	M
Thu	11.00 – 1.00	'Chill Out' drop-in (term time) for under fives and their carers	M
	6.00 – 7.00	Taekwan-Do	S
	6.00 – 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness	M
	7.30 – 9.30	Reformed Players	M
	7.30 – 9.30	Beeston Big Band practice night	S
Fri	11.00 – 1.30	Stroke Club (fortnightly)	M
Sat	10.30 – 12.00	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	C

M: Main Hall; S: Sherwood Hall; G: Gallery; C: Church Garden Room

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
Check inside the magazine for special services
which may be at other times.

Voluntary offerings maintain the work of the Church and details of planned giving can be obtained from Alison Taylor, Gift Aid Secretary (07757 311531)

Serving Elders of the church:

Christine Hyndman	840 2521	Pam	Richmond	926 3310
Stefan Janiszewski	01623 750374	Karen	Smith-Eccles	07921 468818
Sue Janiszewska	01623 750374	Alan	Waldron	965 3283
Bev Lockyer	981 0960			

Church Officers

Church Secretary:	Stefan Janiszewski	07812 975625
Assistant Ch. Secretary:	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
Church Treasurer:		
Pulpit Supply Secretary:	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
Organist:	Marita Chambers	962 5700
Magazine Secretary:	Pam Whitby	926 8044
Flower Secretaries:	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