

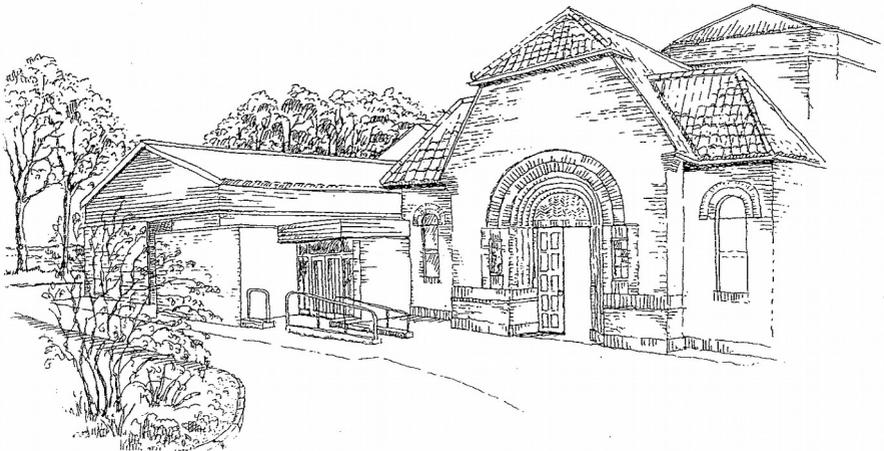


The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk



The Newsletter

June and July 2018

*Open doors to adventure
close the door to your worries*

Minister's Letter

This year the season of Lent, Easter and Pentecost has been a strange one for me. It began with a virus in my ear, moving laboriously to my throat and then my chest before returning to my ears via a weeks visit to my nose. I visited no one in that time, but felt I could soldier on at home and do some reading, writing of reports, and lead worship.

Our week in Jersey, which I wanted to cancel because I felt so rough, was in fact a much needed break – even if it was mainly in the cold and damp! Before we went we had decided we would use public transport and not hire a car. That was a good choice, as it slowed us right down and allowed us to relax.

I came back much improved to a couple of weeks full of meetings. I went to one meeting apologising for not having completed a piece of work, only to be told I had done it and emailed it round to everyone! That small relief was tempered by a later discovery that some of the other work I had done was not worth the paper it was written on – it was all either wrong or unintelligible! I had to do it again, properly – and it took about a quarter of the time I had spent on it under that virus!

It was during the break offered by the URC's first ever National Ministers Gathering (Spring School) that I realised I should have looked after myself better and had a week off sick. I should have listened to what Tricia learned at the Christians Women's conference (page 7)!

David

Family News

May I, through the pages of this magazine, say a very big belated thank you to all friends who have wished me well and enquired after my progress (and are still doing so) after my hand operation. Your concern and good wishes are very greatly appreciated.

Terry

Our thanks to Victoria who has given six months of her time to the Church as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme doing many varied tasks around the building helping with the children and taking part in the Services.

We do ask your continuing prayers for the Members and friends of this fellowship especially Janet, Kath, Mabel, Margaret C, Margaret S, Maria, Marita, Ted, and Terry.

What's Happened!

Easter and Pentecost

Maundy Thursday. The service was held at Boulevard U.R.C – where our minister David is also the Minister. We gathered at tables in the 'upper room' - the large Church room – where we sang and prayed and shared communion. After the final hymn, we got up from our tables, left the 'upper room' and walked to the 'Garden of Gethsemane' (the smaller worship room), where we sat and reflected on the events of that night in that garden –

Jesus fearful and praying while the disciples slept, and then the arrest at which 'everyone deserted him and fled'.

Three points were raised in the reflection: about the disciples, the onlookers, and those who arrested Jesus.

– The disciples slept when Jesus needed them: Today the Church is in the Garden of Gethsemane. The heart of the church, which is Jesus, cries out for help in facing what it is going through, while the church itself sleeps.

– people looked on from a distance while Jesus was arrested and crucified. Today, while the world continues to suffer, it is the church that stays at a respectable distance observing, criticising to itself, but doing nothing about it.

– And then there were those who arrested and imprisoned Jesus and led him to the cross. This too is a charge laid against the church. For we imprison Jesus – by the attitude we take to newcomers, keeping them at a distance until we know them better; by the language we use and the things we do in worship; by the rules of the church.

We ended with a time of silence.

Good Friday: This year there was no walk of witness. As in many places it had been a tradition in Sherwood, but was asked ourselves what were we actually doing: carrying an instrument of torture and execution through the streets; saying words unheard by most (even those on the walk) because of the loud traffic. So instead we met as Churches Together in Sherwood and Carrington in the Garden of the Methodist Church, and shared in a service with a lot of participation and action – involving

stones, nails being driven into wood, a cloth laid on the floor, the cross laid on the cloth, herbs sprinkled on the cross and cloth, and the cross wrapped in the cloth. We all then left the garden just as it was – Jesus symbolically on his way to the tomb. Refreshments were served after the service, but many people (us included) were so cold, that we went straight home and put the fire on.

Saturday. A happy band of ladies met to transform the Church into a colourful Spring display. Coloured primroses, bunches of mixed flowers, and bunches of daffodils were placed on every shelf and windowsill. Such a pretty sight for everyone who came on Sunday.

Easter Sunday: The service included the congregation talking with David, our minister, about what they could see in the painting that was projected onto the screen; We then were led by Tricia in exploring the question “Why did Mary, Jesus Mother, NOT go to the tomb?”, and then by David exploring “Why Mary Magdalene DID go to the tomb”, Before the offering and prayers of intercession we turned the cross into a Symbol of life. Everyone in the congregation was invited to place a daffodil on the cross, which was then completely covered with daffodils by a young member of the congregation, making a very special centrepiece. The communion which followed was based in a liturgy from Holyrood House.

A big thank you to all those who helped in any way with the Easter services.

We dedicated our “**Hymnal**” on Sunday 22nd April in memory of Margaret Belcher, Jill Turner and John Whitby,

as a tribute to our past members a hymn was played from each of their funeral Services. The system plays hymns for our Services when we do not have an Organist,

Pentecost Sunday was celebrated here at Sherwood with members of the congregation from Gregory Boulevard joining us. We thought about: the Holy Spirit as breath – the intimate breath of Jesus in John 16; the Holy Spirit as Wind, as seen in the Genesis 1 creation story, and Ezekiel's valley of dry bones; and the Holy Spirit as Fire – something that when mixed with Christians can become of force for revolution, like fire mixed with water created the power behind the industrial revolution. Only this revolution would bring in a society based on love – the Kingdom of Heaven – and not one based on possessions.

Talking on the Way

"Talking on the Way" is our discussion group. The first disciples learned by gathering around Jesus and talking. After Pentecost Christians were first known as followers of the way. Hence the name!

We meet (normally) on the First Wednesday of the Month at 2.30 for an hour or so, and we talk.

**Walking
the Way**
Living the life of Jesus today

This year we are working on the URC's **Walking the Way** programme, using material from the book 'Holy Habits', upon which it is based, and material from other synods.

The Greek word for 'disciple' is *mathetes*, which literally means: 'one who learns as they follow'. So 'Walking the Way' is all about following, learning from, and eventually being transformed by Christ.

There is no 'starting point' for "Talking on the Way" and "Walking the Way", they are not exclusive, and they will not stop – for several years!

So you can join us at any time.

Please do – the future of the church may depend on it!

David

What's Coming up!

Sherwood Art Week 2018

Sherwood Art Week's "Secret Garden Craft Fair"
is coming once again
to Sherwood United Reformed Church
on Saturday 16th June.

Because we no longer have use of the Sherwood Hall, we will be making extensive use of The Gallery and the Church for stalls (as we do at our own Christmas Fair)

We still need people to be on-site as Church Stewards. To be available to give directions, to sit and talk to folk, and help keep the place tidy as the day goes on. This is a good opportunity to meet and greet people, and tell them a bit about the church.

Articles

Christian Women's Fellowship

*In the last magazine we looked at the our **inside growth** using the example of Moses. We found that God Alone knows our inner needs more than we do. So sometimes to find the truth about ourselves we have to give time to God, to be alone with God to hear what he has to say. We have to Trust in God, and travel with him with the promise of hope that he gives. The second part of Rev Kate Coleman's Talk is about **outside growth**.*

'Outside Growth' deals with the outer world and our relationship with it - obviously it is important to God if we are Christians serving God in the world. Kate Coleman emphasised that in order to serve other people well, we must constantly also think about ourselves.

Why? Theologically, because we are God's temple and a very important being to God; because we are "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" so we should value ourselves as God values us, and look after ourselves.

Ah! I can hear some of you say that's not easy for me to do. We tend to think about others first, don't we? It is always easier to help someone else and not ourselves. Most women always look after others first because women are programmed to be mothers and it is in our nature to do so.

The challenge then is to change our mind set and think 'look after yourself first and the concern of looking after

others will naturally follow!’ Remember, Jesus said love your neighbour as you love yourself.

This seems a bit selfish, but think about when you travel by Air: the rule is, if the aircraft is in danger, put **your** mask on first (look after yourself) **then** you are in the best place to help others.

It is hoped that as we begin to change and look after ourselves then we will be in the best place to look after family and family life begins to change.

In order to look after yourself there is one big lesson we should learn. That is to bring rhythm to your life and apply the Sabbath principle – work 6 days and have 1 day rest.

Why does this principle need to be stressed to us? Well, as women we do not recognise when we are working. It is not just going to work, it includes house work and motherhood, as we do the latter two as a matter of course we do not think they contribute to work. Therefore we would get more life balance if we adopted that principle. Working also includes doing things for others!

I always suggest we give ourselves a golden moment each day. Everyone is worth it, and it is one way to start to look after ourselves, body, mind and spirit.

God has gone to a lot of trouble to make us just as we are so we should look after ourselves and make ourselves the best that we can for God.

Tricia

The Moon at Leicester Cathedral

In March, Howard and I went to Leicester to see an event at Leicester Cathedral. The Cathedral was hosting a science event for British Science Week and a giant three-dimensional model of the moon was on display suspended from the ceiling in the nave.



The 23ft wide model was based on NASA photographs and made from different fabrics designed to look like the real moon. The work was created by Luke Jerram. Over the ten days the giant

moon was on display 28,000 visitors went to the Cathedral to see it.

There were also five meditation stations around the Cathedral with information panels dealing with the phases of the moon. These prompted visitors to think about the rhythm of Sister Moon in a journey with Christ.

Some of the panels had texts from the Bible and meditative exercises to help visitors to think about our Creator. For example the panel entitled "Waning Moon" suggested that as the moon waned this could be a time for banishing and cleansing. A time for bringing our afflictions, shame, cares and worries to Jesus. We can

leave things with him and freely receive forgiveness, healing and restoration. The materials were not encouraging us to worship the moon but to think about it in a different way.



The meditations reminded me of a line from the Canticum of Brother Sun and Sister Moon written by St Francis of Assisi – “Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.”

Seeing the moon suspended before us was very much a “Wow” moment and Howard and I both think that this was probably the best view of the moon that we will ever see.

Bev Lockyer

A Tweet

“Sometimes what we see in history is that Christianity starts off a whole chain of reasoning & questioning, a long fuse fizzing away.

It explodes somewhere into a new understanding, & sometimes by that time it is rather outside the Church.”

Rowan Williams - main speaker at URC Spring School

Diary**June**

2	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
3	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Paul Burton
7	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
9	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
10	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Ian Pickering
13	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way
13	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting
14	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
16	Sat	10:00	Sherwood Art Week Craft fair
17	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
20	Wed	11:30	Prime Time
21	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
23	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
24	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
27	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment
28	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
30	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid

JULY

1	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Worship Group
5	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
7	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
8	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
11	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way
11	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting

12	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
14	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
15	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
18	Wed	11:30	Prime Time
19	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
21	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
22	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
22	Sun	19:30	Church Meeting
25	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment
26	Thu	11:30	Chill-out
28	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
29	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - John New

AUGUST

4	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
5	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Bev
11	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
12	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - David
18	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
19	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Paul Burton
25	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning – Christian Aid
26	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship - Helen Lidgett

**Remember – if the date or time in this list
looks a bit wrong to you –
then do phone and check with someone.**

**In such a long list it is so easy to make a mistake,
and so hard to spot it!**

Rotas

		Flowers	Refreshments	Vestry
June	3		Pam R and Doreen	Stefan
	10		George and Margaret	Pam R
	17	Doreen	Communion	Alan
	24		George & Margaret	Alison
Jul	1		George & Margaret	Sue J
	8		Pam R & Doreen	Christine
	15	Pam W	Communion	Jean
	22		Norman	Bev
	29		Sheila & Ann	Stefan
Aug	5		Jean & Christine	Pam R
	12		George & Margaret	Alan

		Reader	Door Steward	Prayers
June	3	Jean	Margaret	Roy
	10	Sheila	Jean	Stefan
	17	Mavis S	Joy	Bev
	24	Roy	Pam W	Joy
July	1	Joy	Pam W	WG
	8	Pam W	Howard	Stefan
	15	Mavis K	Norman	Tricia
	22	Doreen	Margaret	Joy
	29	Alan	Jean	WL
Aug	5	Howard	Joy	Stefan
	12	Barbara	Howard	Tricia

Please adopt a Sunday to put fresh flowers into, perhaps to commemorate someone or some event, or simply just to support the church. Tell Sheila Waldron

Regular Weekly Events

at Sherwood U.R.C

Mon	10.00 – 12.00 Line Dance	H
	6.00 – 6.45 FitSteps Health and Fitness	H
	7.30 – 9.00 Singing for fun choir (term time)	H
	7.30 – 9.00 Yoga Class	G
Tue	9.30 – 2.30 Toddler Talk (sign language)	H
	3.30 – 8.15 Emma Cain Dance Class	H
	7.30 – 9.00 Sherwood Women’s Institute (last Tue)	G
Wed	12.00 – 1.30 Prime Time Lunch Club (as arranged)	G
	2.30 – 4.00 Talking on the Way discussion 2 nd Wed	G
	2.30 – 4.00 Light Refreshment – friendship 4 th Wed	G
Thu	11.00 – 1.00 ‘Chill Out’ drop-in (term time) for under fives and their carers	H
	2:15pm to 3:15 Notts Community Transport <i>monthly</i>	H
	6.00 – 6.45 FitSteps Health and Fitness	H
	7.30 – 9.30 Reformed Players	H
	7.30 – 9.30 Beeston Big Band practice night	Ch
Fri	11.00 – 1.30 Stroke Club (fortnightly)	H
Sat	10.30 – 12.00 Christian Aid Coffee Morning	G

H: The Hall; G: Gallery; Ch: Church; G: Garden Room

Please note that the Sherwood Hall at the rear is no longer available

see www.sherwoodurc.co.uk

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

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

Church Secretary:	Stefan Janiszewski	078129 75625
Assistant Ch. Secretary:	Bev Lockyer	0115 981 0960
Hall Booking	<i>Send a text to</i>	07952 324912
	<i>or via the form:</i>	www.sherwoodurc.co.uk

Magazine Deadline

Please submit your contribution
 for the next issue of the Newsletter by Sunday 16th July 2018
 at the latest in writing to Pam (926 8044)
 or by email to David (revdjl@virginmedia.com)
 or Stefan (sherwood.urc@ntlworld.com)