



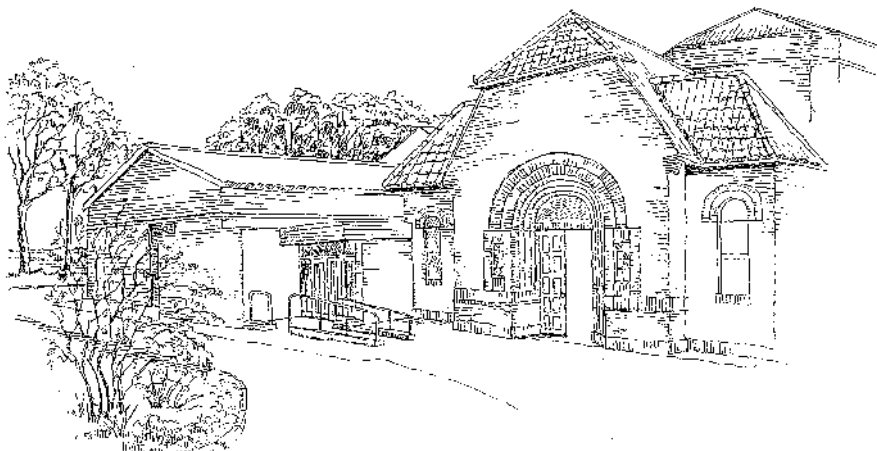
The
United
Reformed
Church

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk

The Newsletter



December 2014 to January 2015

Winter

Advent to Epiphany

Glory to God in the Highest!

Minister's Letter

Looking back over the past few months I have been struck by the support that we as a church get from 'outsiders'.



The splendid Mansfield and District Male Voice Choir enabled us to raise £300 for "Maggies" by reducing their usual fee. Other performers in the past have been equally generous.

On the next to last Saturday in November, Joy Weiss came with gifts for the church from her Fund-raising organisation "The Joy of Giving". They use our Halls for 'fashion shows' and 'fairs'. Some of the money they raise, goes to The Nottingham Children's Hospital Bereavement Services and some comes our way. Little by little, they would like to improve the Sherwood Hall. So they have installed a new cupboard in the Sherwood Hall Kitchen and, on that Saturday, filled it with crockery – cups, mugs, saucers and plates, so we no longer have to 'borrow' these from the Main Kitchen.

In December, The Beeston Big Band with the help of the Reformed Players, are hosting a Christmas Extravaganza – and donations from this will come to the church.

As a church we often feel that we are too old, or there is not enough of us, to do very much. But by working in partnership with others we can achieve spectacular results – just look at what happened at the Sherwood Art Week Craft Fair.

And we can join in with other organisations in their efforts – such as when we added our knitted Poppies to the

hundreds collected by the Rotary Clubs, or our 'Shoe Boxes' full of gifts to the hundreds collected for 'Operation Christmas Child'.

In many ways this is what Christmas is all about. No, not giving presents, but working in partnership. Under the Old Covenant we were left to fail; under the New we only fail if we choose not to act in partnership with God in Jesus, for through Jesus God is present in the world, and eager to work in partnership in us, with us and through us. That means letting God be born again into your life, and letting the life of God bring new life to you.

May you receive the gift beyond price that is offered in the Christmas story, and be enabled to live life in partnership with God.

David

Family News

General news

It was wonderful to see **Joan France** in Church after her prolonged stay in Hospital.

Best wishes to Peter and Patricia Janiszewski as they await the arrival of their first child.

I have visited **George Harvey** in Ernehale Residential Care Home and am pleased to report that he is now very settled and has made many friends, especially anyone that listens to things about Forest. It is good to know that May who visits a friend in the same Care Home also sees George.

Mavis Kimbley

We remember all our friends who are unwell and unable to be with us. May God Bless you and all your friends this Christmas.

Jill Turner

The family of Jill Turner, especially Katherine, Chris and Sam, would like to express their thanks to the people of Sherwood United Reformed Church for all that they did for Jill on Wednesday 19 November. They are particularly grateful to David and Duncan for the part that they played in the proceedings.

Before she died, Jill had expressed her wishes regarding this particular day. The cortège left Katherine's house at Mansfield and travelled via Kent Road, Mapperley (Jill's home) to the Church.

At the Church there was a brief service attended only by close family. It was Jill's wish that she return one final time to the Church that she knew and loved. The service then continued at Bramcote Crematorium. As it was only close family, the smaller of the two rooms was used. Here David spoke in a particularly moving way.

The third part of the service, following Jill's wishes, took place back at Sherwood URC. It was a service of thanksgiving for her life. Jill had either chosen the hymns or they were chosen because they were ones that she loved. This resulted in a Christmas carol, O Little Town of Bethlehem, being sung. Duncan gave an interesting and moving talk about Jill's life.

88 people handed in their completed pew cards, with addresses from around the country. Added to this were 23 family members. Jill's wishes were also followed with regards to floral displays. She much preferred for money to be put to good use, rather than put into the florist's till.

Consequently there were family flowers and then there were donations to John Eastwood Hospice. At present the donations total £486.75. But they continue to increase. Jill spent time in the Hospice, for two sessions where she had the same bed on both occasions. She also visited for day care. She found the experience very worthwhile and made some very good friends there. Amongst the memorabilia about Jill which were placed in the Church, there were things that she had made in day care of which she was rightly proud.

Once again, Jill's family would like to say thank you to Sherwood URC and the URC as a whole, not just for Wednesday but also for the many years in which she was involved with it. One relative says of her: 'If Jill has left the best imprint she could on the lives of those around her then what more can we expect of anyone'.

Alan Walker, Jill's Brother

Past Events

Craft Fair

After months of preparation, hundreds of e-mails and much liaising with my partner-in-crime (Tricia) this event took place on 15th November, occupying the whole of the Church Hall premises with 26 stalls.

Despite last minute panics - will anyone turn up - will there be more stall holders than stalls - and amid slight confusion we were all set up and the doors opened to the public at 10 am.

The standard of crafts on sale was very high, the stall holders were friendly and chatty and many visitors

remarked on the happy, genial atmosphere and the high quality of merchandise available.

As I wandered round the stalls chatting and trying to resist the temptation to buy everything I saw , I took a moment to reflect on the first craft fair I'd organised. Heavy snowfall the night before meant several crafters were unable to attend , so we had 5 stalls in the garden room , very cosy but a thoroughly enjoyable and profitable afternoon.

The feedback we got from stall-holders indicated that the majority had enjoyed the experience and several people commented that they would like to return next year. There was also interest expressed in participating in Sherwood Arts Week.

Many, many thanks to Tricia and David for their support, sharing of experience and practical help. Also thanks to the people of Sherwood who came to support us and join us for a cuppa , and the stall holders for bringing their beautiful crafts for us to admire and purchase.

Would I organise another event next year? Definitely !!

Sue



Remembrance

This year Bev Lockyer led our Service of Remembrance and I would like to thank her for a super and enlightening one.

Also thanks to the members of the congregation who kindly knitted poppies

for our poppy wreath. The wreath was placed at the front of the Church and really did look most effective.

This Wreath contained some of the 123 poppies that were knitted by ladies from our church. The majority joined many more hundreds collected by Sherwood Sunrisers Rotary Club which were presented to the Nottingham Council House for sale to raise money for the Poppy Appeal.

Pam

Concert



The Mansfield and District Male Voice Choir graced the newly refurbished (but not quite completed) front of church on Sat 11 October. It was a truly wonderful concert, with excellent singing from the full Choir itself, interspersed with the lighter *A Capella* singing from eight of the men in a variety of styles. We raised £300 for Maggie's Hospice in Nottingham.

The second of a series of three **"Cafe Church Services"** took place on 19th Oct in which, through discussion and activity, we explored the role of "Remembering" in our Faith. "Remembering" was enacted in a familiar way through communion.

For Harvest (5th Oct) the church was decorated with lovely flowers and plants in autumnal colours. There was a good display of food goods for The Friary Drop-in, and a collection of cash for the Bridge Centre. The faith lunch, organised by Jean and Marita was really good, with plenty for everyone. All in all a great fellowship event.

Future Events

Christmas Flowers as in previous years we have decided to use pots of red or white cyclamen or red/white plants, also any holly/ivy or decorative greenery for the windowsills would be appreciated.

We would love you to help decorate the Church for the Festive Season, so please come to Church at **10 am.** on **Saturday 13th December.** Gifts of plants can be left in the flower room on the Friday (during Open Church), or donations can be given to Sheila if you prefer. Many thanks.

Sheila

Christmas 2014

Our Christmas events begin this year with a **Christmas Café Church** service on **Sunday November 30th** at 10:30. On that day we will collect gift vouchers or cash for the "Family Care" – the charity that helps families with adopted children.

Beeston Big Band and Reformed Players

Christmas Extravaganza **11th December 7.30.p.m.**
entry free and donations for the Church

Singing Carols in Sherwood

This year, as last, Churches Together in Sherwood have

organised community Carol singing at 8pm on **Thursday 18th December**. Once again it will be held in the warmth of Samuel Hall, (the Wetherspoon pub in Sherwood)

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 21st at 4.30pm. We know that you love singing, and have arranged a wonderful opportunity to sing some favourite carols, interspersed with readings serious and amusing.

On Christmas Eve (Wed 24th)

It would be great to see you at 4 o'clock to make a **Christingle** to be used during the **Crib service** which will start at **4.30.p.m.** approx . . .

. . . and (or) again, later, at **11pm** when our doors open for a hot drink and perhaps a mince pie to warm you up before the **midnight communion** service which starts at 11.30 and runs on until about 12.15.

On **Christmas Day** please join us at **10am** here at *Sherwood United Reformed Church* for a celebration of the special day – bring a gift you have received, and expect to stay for about ½ hour.

Articles

The Ten Commandments for Reducing Stress

1. Thou shalt not be perfect, or even try to be.
 2. Thou shalt not try to be all things to all people.
 3. Thou shalt sometimes leave things undone that ought to be done.
 4. Thou shalt not spread thyself too thinly.
 5. Thou shalt learn to say “no.”
 6. Thou shalt schedule time for thyself.
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7. Thou shalt switch off and do nothing regularly.
 8. Thou shalt be boring, untidy and inelegant at times.
 9. Thou shalt not even feel guilty.
 10. Especially, thou shalt not be thine own worst enemy, but thine own best friend.

When Howard and I visited Wiltshire in September we saw this displayed in Corsham parish Church. Perhaps a timely reminder for the busy advent season.

Bev Lockyer

Offertory and Lettings

	Money in		Money out
	Offertory	Lettings	
July 2014	£996	£915	£5400
August 2014	£2606	£1820	£3648
September 2014	£1423	£1280	£7140
Ave/month for 2013	£1136	£1290	£4035

Money given to Outside Causes

The magnificent concert given by Mansfield & District Male Voice Choir raised the sum of £308 for Maggie's; the organization which provides free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their families and friends. We were delighted to support such a worthy cause, and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our Harvest service and activities raised £96.58, and the Church Meeting voted to send to money to the Bridge Centre.

Other news from the Treasurer

To avoid clashing with Christmas, our Gift Day will be held in March 2015. The Gift Day envelopes will be distributed in the Feb - March edition of the church magazine. Then, please add your Gift Day envelope to the offertory collection on ANY of the five Sundays in March, and the total will be collected and counted at the end of March.

Money raised this way will be used to help support the recent work in refurbishing our Church.

Diary

December

- Wed 3 10:30 Prime Time
 - Thur 4 10:30 Chill Out
 - Fri 5 10.00am Open Church
 - Sat 6 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning
 - Sun 7 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church
 - Thur 11 10:30am Chill Out
19.30 Beeston Big Band & Reformed Players
"Swing into Christmas"
 - Fri 12 10:00am Open Church
 - Sat 13 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning
 - Sun 14 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church,
Led by Lionel Anderson
 - Wed 17 10:00am Prime Time
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Thur 18 10:30am Chill Out

Fri 19 10:00am Open Church

Sat 20 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Sun 21 10.30am Morning Communion / Junior Church

16:30 Carols by Candlelight

Wed 24 16:00 Christingle making

16:30 Crib Service

23:00 Coffee & Mince Pies

23:30 Midnight Communion

Thur 25 10:00am Christmas Morning Service

Sat 27 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning?????

Sun 28 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church led by Bev
Lockyer

January

Fri 2 10:00am Open Church

Sat 3 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Sun 4 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church,
Communion led by Sheila Ashmore

Wed 7 10.00am Prime Time

Thur 8 19:30 Elders Meeting

Fri 9 10:00am Open Church

Sat 10 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Sun 11 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church

Tue 13 18:00 Joy of Giving Event

- Thur 15 10.30am Chill Out
- Fri 16 10:00 Open Church
- Sat 17 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning
- Sun 18 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church,
Communion led by Stefan Janiszewski
- Wed 21 10.00am Prime Time
- Thur 22 11.00am Chill Out
- Fri 23 10:00 Open Church
- Sat 24 10.30am Christian Aid Coffee Morning
- Sun 25 10.30am Morning Worship / Junior Church
12:00 Church Meeting
- Thur 29 11:00 Chill out
- Fri 30 10:00 Open Church
- Sat 31 09:00 Potato Day
10:30 Christian Aid Coffee Morning

February

- Sun 1 10:30 Morning Worship / Junior Church
Lionel Anderson
- Thur 5 11:00 Chill Out
- Fri 6 10:00 Open Church
- Sat 7 10:30 Christian Aid Coffee Morning
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Rotas

		Flowers	Coffee
December	7	Margaret McAdams	Pam and Doreen
	14	XMAS FLOWERS	Jean and Maureen
	21	Mavis Kimbley	Christine and Barbara
	28		George and Margaret
January	4		Pam and Doreen
	11		Jean and Maureen
	18		Christine and Barbara
	25		George and Margaret
Feb	1		Pam and Doreen

Flowers: Each Sunday we enjoy seeing a beautiful bunch of flowers on the communion table, and sometimes in the Garden Room. As you can see for most Sundays no-one is down to do this simple yet very appreciated job.

Can you take one of these vacant Sundays?

Or another Sunday in the year perhaps to commemorate someone or some event? Please make your offer to Marita Chambers or Sheila Waldron

Magazine Deadline

Please write something for your Newsletter. You can submit it in writing to Pam (926 8044) or electronically to Stefan (sherwood.urc@ntlworld.com), on or before Sunday 11th January 2015

Regular Weekly Events

at Sherwood U.R.C

- Mon 10.00 - 10.50 Zumba (Small Hall)
10.00 - 12.00 Line Dancing
5.45 - 6.45 Buena Vida Health and Fitness
7.30 - 9.00 Singing for fun choir
- Tue 3.30 - 8.15 Children's Dance Class including various age classes
7.00 - 9.00 Lishi (Taichi and Wushu)
7.30 - 9.00 Sherwood Women's Institute (4th Tue)
- Wed 10.00 - 11.00 Osteoporosis group (Sherwood Hall)
12.00 noon Prime Time Lunch Club (1st & 3rd)
1.00 - 3.00 Y.M..C.A Active for Life
- Thu 11.00 - 1.00 'Chill Out' drop-in
for under fives and their carers
7.30 pm Reformed Players
7.30 pm Beeston Big Band practice night
- Fri 10.00-12 noon Open Door
(Church open for quiet time)
11.00 am Stroke Club (fortnightly)
- Sat 10.30 am Christian Aid Coffee Morning
(Traidcraft, cakes,
greeting card stalls etc.)
10.30 am Progressive Christian Network
(discussion group)

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.)

'Early Birds' at 9.15' on the second Sunday
 informal worship & breakfast in the Gallery.

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:

Carolyn Belcher	960 3357	Stefan Janiszewski	01623 75 0374
David Hughes	960 4432	Sue Janiszewski	01623 75 0374
Kath Hughes	960 4432	Pam Richmond	926 3310
Christine Hyndman	840 2521	Alan Waldron	965 3283

Church Officers:

Church Secretary: Stefan Janiszewski 07812 975625

Assistant Church Secretary:

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
