

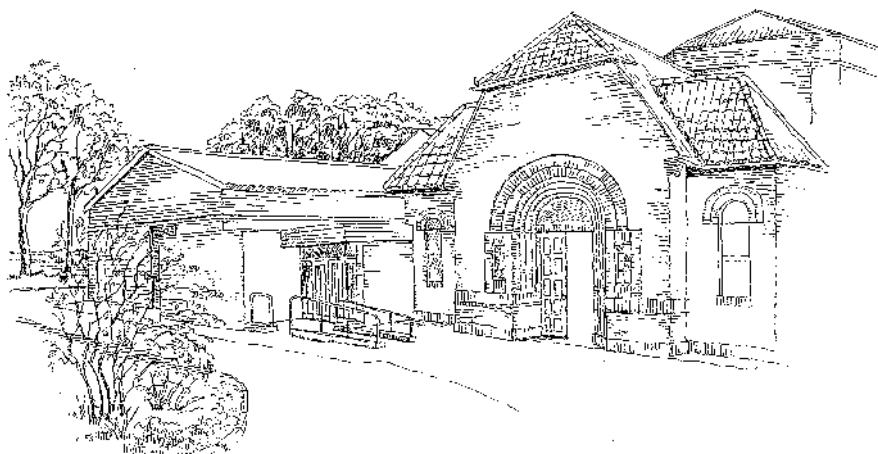


The
United
Reformed
Church

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk



The Newsletter

June and July 2016

Pentecost to Summer

How treasured the days we share,
With family and friends who care.

Audrey Jeanne Roberts

Minister's Letter

One of our April Sunday Morning Services was devoted to Vision 2020 and those ten statements which we published in the February edition of this newsletter.

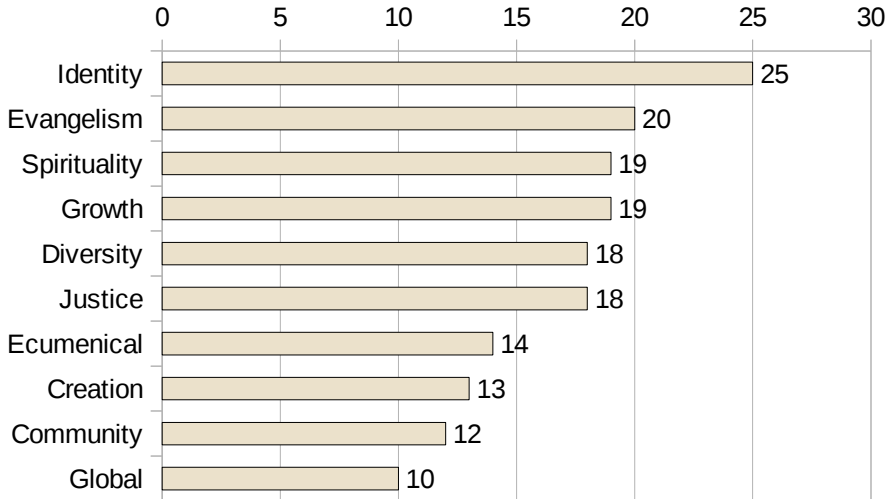
The people were asked to circle one of the words which best describe where they think we are as a church on each of the ten statements, and to write any comment about the section – why it is important, or why it is not, or some specific thing they thought we should look at under that heading.

Each word was allocated a score, as in the table, and the scores added up. This scoring means that if everyone scored 'even' for a statement, it would total zero. The result is presented in a chart on the next page.

<i>This</i>	<i>means</i>	<i>Score</i>
Harmful	Spending energy here will set us back..	- 2
No	This is not important for us right now we should leave it alone.	- 1
Even	This is good for the church, we should attend to it as and when we can.	0
Yes	Yes this is important for the church but perhaps not top of the list this year.	1
Vital	Yes we must do this urgently. This must be out top priority	2

Not one of the statements was near zero, meaning that a number of people in the congregation valued each statement as needed or vital.

Our task was to discover the areas in which to concentrate over the next few years.



Clearly Identity is at the top of the list, closely followed by evangelism, spirituality and growth.

Even though Ecumenism is built into the constitution of the United Reformed Church it is not high on our local priorities at the moment.

It seems to me that the top three are linked with a theme of confidence as United Reformed Christians. *Identity*: confident we know who we are; *Evangelism*: Confident in proclaiming the good news of the gospel; *Spirituality*: confident in our own personal faith and in the power of God. In short, the confidence to know and tell our story. From that sort of confidence Growth will surely flow.

The elders have looked at these results and will be deciding how we might tackle the 'top four' over the coming year or so. We think that the visit of the General Assembly Moderator in November will fit into the theme of our identity, as their theme for the year is People of the Way. What about you - do you have any ideas?

David

Family News

Many congratulations and our very best wishes to Joyce Marson who is celebrating her 100th birthday in June - a simply marvellous achievement. Joyce moved to Bedford several years ago to be near her daughter, but several of the congregation will remember her with affection together with her late husband George who also worshipped at Sherwood. Joyce is looking forward to celebrating with the whole family.

Ted Shepherd is settling in to Carlton Care Home, 398 Carlton Hill, Carlton, and will be very pleased to receive any visitors. Call the Care Home for visiting times on 0115 9619959

Kath Hughes is at home having spent the first five months of this year in Hospital. We are sure she would at least like a phone call from you.

As we write, **Alan Waldron** is just starting four weeks recovering at home after suffering a heart attack. He is doing well and will enjoy a visit or a phone call.

Carol Foote is also at home following another spell in the City Hospital and she too is recuperating and any means of contact would be appreciated.

Gordon Hyndman has been housebound because of his back problem but now has a new chair which is helping him greatly. He hopes to be back amongst us fairly soon.

Do not forget that Carol Foote is always pleased to receive names of people to pray for and these will be passed along the prayer chain. Remember you are in our prayers also.

Past Events



32+ people joined together at Belton House on Sat 14th May 2016 to celebrate 80th Birthday of the PILOTS at the East Midlands PILOTS Big Day Out.

The children enjoyed the National Trusts largest Outdoor Adventure Playground, making kites, and the indoor children's activity centre where the adults were able to enjoy a cake and a drink.

Some folks enjoyed a walk around the grounds, and others the tour in the house.



At 1.30 we all came together on a back lawn to have our big picnic. This was followed by worship led by Church Army Officer Sid Henderson, and we ended with some parachute games.

In the photo on the next page you can see Tricia, front right, holding a kite she made to celebrate Pilots 80th Birthday. (David was holding the camera!)



Fun was had by all. We are now all looking forward to the National PILOTS Big Day Out at Drayton Manor.

Thanks to Jane (CYDO), and Gus and Tricia (Regional PILOT Officers) for arranging it.

Tricia

Future Events

Sherwood Art Week is again upon us, and we will be playing our part in hosting the Secret Garden Craft Fair. It is expected to be very much like last year, with stalls in the Garden, the Car Park and the Halls. The Sherwood Sunrisers will provide afternoon tea in the Main Hall.



In the Church "The Patterns and Plains Patchwork and Quilting Group" will display some of their work providing an oasis of calm in the centre of a busy day. A wonderful opportunity for us (and you) to meet and greet some of the 3000 folk who pass through over the course of the day.

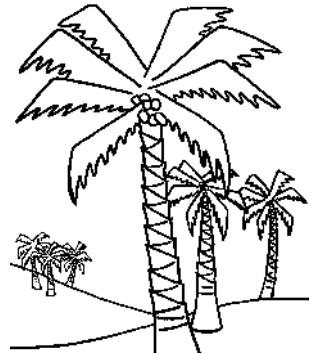
Articles

Palm Sunday in Barbados

Alan and I always try to go to Church when holidaying abroad. On a recent visit to Barbados we asked at the hotel reception directions to the nearest Church, times of Services etc. Although a little late we set off on a very hot Sunday for the nearest Church. We arrived late, but sneaked into a side door for the last twenty minutes and were made to feel very welcome. The next Sunday being Palm Sunday we booked a taxi.

In the meantime we had discovered that you could walk along the beach from Church which seemed like a good compromise. This time we arrived to see masses of people pouring out from the 7am Service (too early for us holiday makers!)

As it was Palm Sunday we were given freshly cut palm leaves and invited to walk around the surrounding area waving them! The more elderly (and the hot ones!) were invited to wait in Church which included Alan and I on both accounts! It was a long Service which included communion.



When the Service concluded we chatted to several people including a lady who had trained to be a nurse in London. We had a leisurely walk home along the beach and straight to the sun loungers in the shade of the palm trees! Bliss.

I brought back fresh Palm Crosses to bring to Church but sadly they didn't survive the journey.

Sheila

In Flanders fields

I was lucky enough to have a four-day break in Flanders at the beginning of April, staying in Ypres, or as it is now known by its Flemish name, Ieper.

Our hotel was approximately 200 yards from the Menin Gate, and I was very eager to attend the Last Post ceremony. This ceremony has taken place every evening since 1928, except during the occupation by the Germans in the last War. By the time you read this article it will be approaching the 30,500th time. On the very evening that Polish forces liberated Ieper in the Second World War, the ceremony was resumed at the Gate despite the fact that heavy fighting was still taking place in other parts of the town. That is the strength of feeling that the residents have for the importance of this ceremony.



The Menin Gate is a very large structure, being an arched cube rather than a flat archway. It straddles one of the main roads into Ieper, and is in use throughout the day. The far side of the Gate, facing out from the town, is still pockmarked from the shelling received during WWII.

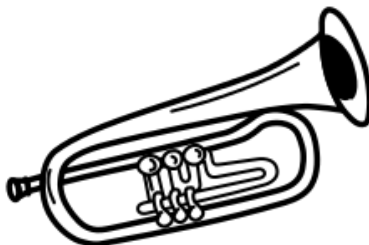
The inscription on the side of the gate facing Ieper reads "To the armies of the British Empire who stood here from 1914 to 1918 and to those of their dead who have no known grave". I first saw this when the Gate was illuminated at night, and have to admit it made me cry.

I was able to attend the ceremony on two out of the three nights I was staying in Ieper, and was surprised to find that each night is very slightly different. There are common features of course, but the ceremony can be quite a personal one, depending on who participates and who lays wreaths.

Although the ceremony begins at 8pm, onlookers start gathering from about 7.15 onwards. I was staggered to see quite how many people were present on the first night, probably in excess of 300. At approximately 7.30, the road through the gate is closed and onlookers are invited to stand across the roadway. This turned out to be one of the best views of the proceedings.

The atmosphere as everybody gathered was quite unique. It was respectful but not overly sombre. Everybody was keen and interested, without being noisily excited. At 7.55 the buglers from Ieper Fire Brigade arrived, and were greeted by the person officiating over the ceremony.

There was the call to attention, and the crowd were reminded that this is an act of remembrance, and so were respectfully asked not to applaud at any stage.



At exactly 8pm the buglers played the Last Post, and the haunting sound reverberated around the Gate. I was starting to feel emotional at this stage, and was glad to be surrounded by the other members of the crowd.



The 1 minute's silence was observed with perfect respect.

We then had a reading of Binyon's words - They shall grow not old..... We will remember them.

At each evening's ceremony, there then follows a different performance. On the first night, I had seen a school choir gathering at the side of the ceremony, and they sang Abide with Me. This is such a personal hymn for me, that hearing it in that setting was almost unbearably moving.

We then had the laying of poppy wreaths. Anyone can apply to do this in memory of a loved one, and when we read some of the cards on the wreaths it became clear that some were laid in memory of someone who had fallen on that specific date back in 1916 or 1917.

The buglers finished by playing Reveille, the symbolic return to life. The ceremony was over, 20 minutes out of everyone's busy lives to mark the sacrifice of those who fell.

We browsed some of the names listed there. On one of the outer walls I discovered a Lance Corporal G Belcher, who had served with the Worcestershire Regiment. On our later visit to Tyne Cot Cemetery, I discovered another Belcher who had served with the Worcestershire's – this time a Private W Belcher (seen in the picture). I am fairly certain that these men were not related to me, but were they were related to each other? Were they brothers or cousins? This is a place which really makes you stop and think. So many untold stories.



Siegfried Sassoon wrote quite a scathing poem about the Menin Gate, because he felt that people who visited it would not truly remember the fallen. He was quite wrong. Ieper, and its many visitors, both remembers and honours them, and continues to show them a great deal of respect and gratitude.

For me, this was an experience I will never forget.

Carolyn

Rotas

		Flowers	Coffee
June	5	Marita Chambers	George and Margaret
	12		Pam and Doreen
	19	Doreen Fillingham	Karen and Peter
	26		Jean and Christine
July	3	Pam Whitby	George and Margaret
	10		Pam and Doreen
	17		Karen and Peter
	24	Joy Hammond	Jean and Christine
	31		George and Margaret
Aug	7		Pam and Doreen

Barbara is at the moment without a coffee partner .
 If you would like to help her rejoin the coffee rota then
 please speak to her.



Can you adopt a Sunday for the flowers perhaps to commemorate someone or some event?

You do not have to buy and arrange the flowers yourself (but you can if you wish!) but a contribution to the flower fund on 'your' Sunday would be great.

Please speak to Sheila Waldron.

Finance

Offertory and Lettings

	Money coming in		Money going out
	Offertory	Lettings	
January 2016	£946	£1792	£2842
February 2016	£898	£966	£5315
March 2016	£984	£1213	£4734
<i>Average per month for 2015</i>	£1139	£1392	£4166

Carolyn

Diary

June

- 1 Wed 11:45 Prime Time
 - 5 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher
 - 8 Wed 14:30 *There will be NO Talking on the Way*
 - 9 Thu 10:30 Chill-out
 - 9 Thu 19:30 Elders' Meeting
 - 11 Sat 10:00 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid
 - 12 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship
 - 16 Thu 10:30 Chill-out
 - 19 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship
 - 22 Wed 14:30 Light Refreshment
- Doreen in Canada
 - 23 Thu 10:30 Chill-out
 - 26 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship
-

June

30 Thu 10:30 Chill-out

July

3 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher

6 Wed 11:45 Prime Time

7 Thu 10:30 Chill-out

9 Sat 10:00 Coffee Morning - Christian Aid

10 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship

13 Wed 14:30 *There will be NO Talking on the Way*

14 Thu 10:30 Chill-out

14 Thu 19:30 Elders' Meeting

17 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship

21 Thu 10:30 Chill-out

24 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship

27 Wed 14:30 Light Refreshment Greg: "Waste Not
Want Not Community Kitchen"

31 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher

August

3 Wed 11:45 Prime Time

7 Sun 10:30 Morning Worship - Visiting Preacher

Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone,
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.

Adam Lindsay Gordon 1833-1870

Regular Weekly Events

at Sherwood U.R.C

Mon	10.00-12.00	Line Dance	M
	6.00 - 7.00	Taekwan-Do	S
	5.45 - 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness	M
	7.30 - 9.00	Singing for fun choir (term time)	M
	7.30 - 9.00	Yoga Class	S
Tue	3.30 - 8.15	Emma Cain Dance Class	M
	09.30 - 2.30	Toddler Talk (sign language)	M
	4.45 6.45	Hatha Yoga	S
	7.30 - 9.00	Sherwood Women's Institute (4 th Tue)	C
Wed	12.00 noon	Prime Time Lunch Club (1 st Wed.)	G
	10.30 - 13.30	Y.M.C.A Active for Life	M, S
	7.00 - 7.45	Zumba M	
	8.00 - 10.00	Revival Dance	M
Thu	11.00 - 1.00pm	'Chill Out' drop-in for under fives and their carers	M
	6.00 - 7.00pm	Taekwan-Do	S
	7.30 pm	Reformed Players	M
	7.30 pm	Beeston Big Band practice night	S
Fri	10.00-12 noon	Church open for quiet time	C
	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

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:

Bev Lockyer	981 0960	Pam Richmond	926 3310
Christine Hyndman	840 2521	Karen Smith-Eccles	07921 468818
Stefan Janiszewski	01623 75 0374	Alan Waldron	956 3283
Sue Janiszewski	01623 75 0374		

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:	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 10th July 2016 at the latest
written to Pam (926 8044) or by email to David (revdjl@virginmedia.com)
or Stefan (sherwood.urc@ntlworld.com),