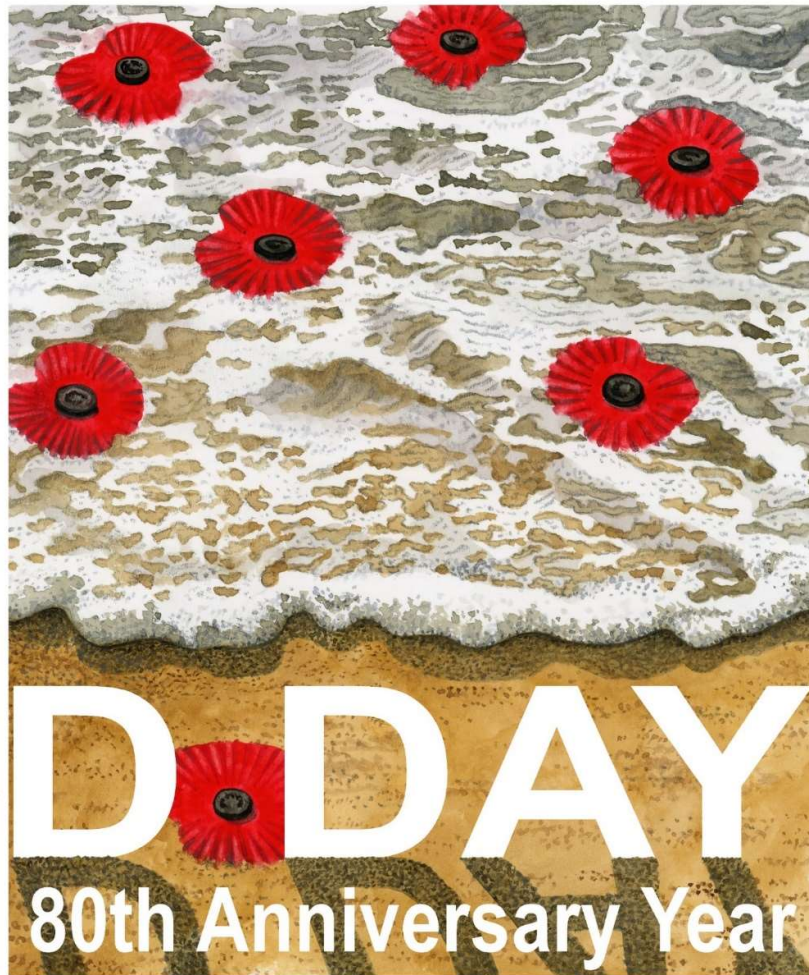


'Sharing the love of Jesus every day'



Connections

The church magazine for Baginton Road URC



November 2024

Incorporating Warwick Road URC and West Orchard URC

**Baginton Road
Coventry
CV3 6FP**



November
2024

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Poetry Café

Poetry Café meets each month in the Open Doors Café at 2.30pm. Meetings are normally on the first Thursday of each month but this is sometimes changed so please check beforehand with Warwick Road Centre Office: 024 7622 0299.

We each share two or three poems – these are usually on a set theme but don't have to be! All are welcome. The next meetings are:



Thursday, 14th November, Theme: 'Buses & Coaches'
Thursday, 5th December, Theme: 'Gifts'



For more information, please contact David Lathbury: david@dlathbury.co.uk.



Dear Friends

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. [Galatians 6:9]

For those of you who were blessed to be at our Harvest Festival Church Parade, you would have heard me share this short, all-age bible reflection for the benefit of children and youth who were in attendance. I'd like to take the opportunity to encourage you and elaborate further on this scripture.

Christians can grow weary and tired of doing good. Despite going in the right direction or being on the right path, you can sometimes be discouraged and feel underappreciated by those you have tried to help – your church, family, friends, colleagues and the list can go on. You may think there is so much work to do, many needs to attend to, and constant demands on your energy and time, leaving you disheartened and exhausted. It is possible, even, to be disliked when you do good, as we see in scripture on many occasions, particularly in the life of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Although many loved Jesus for doing good, many also hated him. All these circumstances can make you fed up doing good things or wondering why you even bother.

Don't beat yourself up if you feel like this. I want you to know that many Christians can attest to feeling just the same at some point in their walk. This is why we need God's help to keep on going so that we can keep doing the good things we do. God gives us strength so we don't give up and become discouraged. Where is one of the places we find strength? It is in the word of God!

Here, in Galatians 6:9, Paul encourages us not to give up. Prior to this verse, Paul had been appealing to the church in Galatia to walk in the freedom of Christ; they were now free people in Christ. He stressed their responsibility to live according to the Spirit of God who lived inside them. However, after giving this exhortation, it must have dawned upon Paul how the duties and responsibilities of the Christian life he presented to them must have made them feel. Were they overwhelmed, perhaps? It wouldn't surprise me, as this was weighty stuff he had been sharing, after all. Possibly, there were thoughts amongst the believers in Galatia, such as, "This is hard work" or "Can I do this?"; "Is it really worth it to follow Christ?"; "Does it matter?" Doubts had begun to set in! So Paul encourages them to keep living in a way consistent with the message of Christ, consistent with their faith and what they believe in and keep on doing good.

In the same way, I want to encourage you this month: do not give up! Remember that our Heavenly Father sees what you do, even when you are not noticed for doing good by others. He knows you and sees you each moment of each day. He is the always present, all-seeing, all-knowing and all-hearing God. The good we do as God's children is not about the recognition or praises of men, but the good we do is to please and honour our God and Father.

Even though you might not see the results of doing good immediately, you are promised that you will see the results at the right time! Just as when a seed is sown, we must have the patience to wait for it to grow and harvest, so we have to wait for the fruit and the rewards from our loving Heavenly Father.

Pray to the Lord that He might help you be patient while waiting for the seeds you have sown to be multiplied. And don't give up, don't grow weary, because God is faithful. Remember, as it says in 1 Corinthians 15:58: *"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain."*

I continue to be excited as we have begun to see God's faithfulness in honouring His word to us here at Baginton Road URC. I pray that the Lord will continue to bless you and reward you as you continue to earnestly and diligently seek Him.

Every blessing,
Pastor Sherry Owolabi

Remembering Service

Sunday, 17th November at 5.30 pm



There will be a short act of worship for the remembrance of loved ones on Sunday 17th November. Tea and coffee will be served from 5.00 pm followed by the service at 5.30 pm. All are invited to attend and special invitation cards are available for members of the congregation and their families who have been bereaved in the past 12 months.

Invitation to Attend New Sermon Study Sessions and Wednesday Home Group

I would like to invite you to attend our new **Sermon Study Sessions**, which will be starting on Thursday, 28th November 2024 and will then be held on the last Thursday of every month.

I will select one of the sermons I shared with you that month and provide an opportunity for you to bring your views, opinions, and questions, and for us to hold a profound dialogue. Together, we will focus on and share how the sermon's theme and scripture passages are relevant to our everyday lives. How do we live them out practically? The sessions promise to be fun, engaging and thought-provoking!



It is an exciting opportunity for us to study God's word in more depth and deepen our understanding.

The line-up for the evening is set out below. You can choose to join from 6.30pm for the prayer session, followed by a time of delightful snacks with tea & coffee before the start of the Sermon Study Session.

Passion for Prayer	6.30pm – 7pm	Prayer Room
15-minute tea/coffee & snack break	7pm – 7.15pm	
Sermon Study Session	7.15pm – 8.15pm	Prayer Room (depending on numbers in attendance)

I would also like to invite you to attend our new **Home Group**, which will be starting on Wednesday, 6th November 2024. It will be held fortnightly, every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, from 7pm – 8pm in the Prayer Room. Kerubu Owolabi will lead the group, and I will be in attendance.

We look forward to a blessed time together as we get to know each other, study God’s word and grow together.

Both sessions are open to all; however, I have handed out some personal invitation letters. If you have received one of these, kindly place your completed response slip in the box marked ‘New Wednesday Home Group & Sermon Study Session Responses’ at the back of the church.

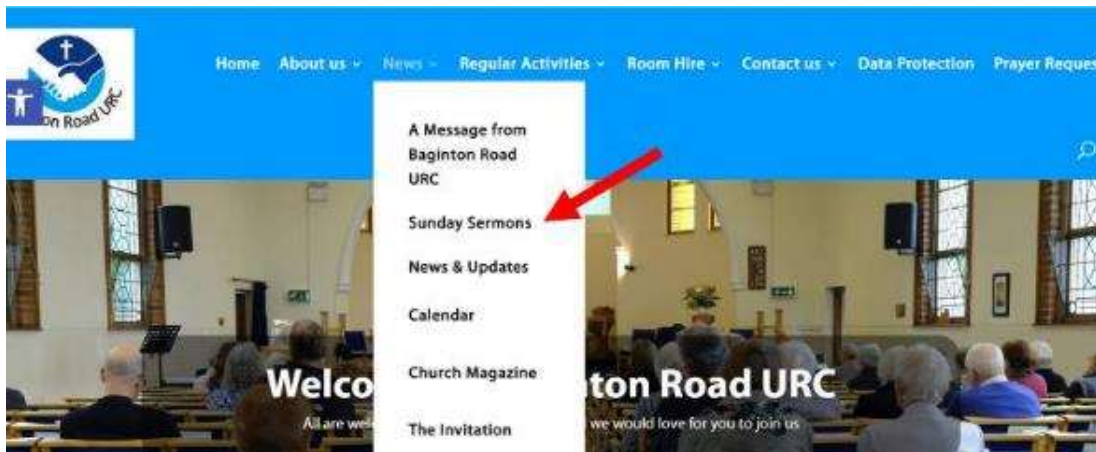
God bless you!

Pastor Sherry Owolabi

New Sunday Sermon Page on Baginton Road URC Website

Our website now has a page where you can listen to our recent Sunday morning sermons. You can find it here: <https://bagintonroadurc.org.uk/sunday-sermons-2/>.

It can also be found under the ‘News’ tab as ‘Sunday Sermons.’



Passion for Prayer Update

Our weekly Passion for Prayer services will now be open for people to join us on Zoom starting Thursday, 7th November 2024. Kerubu and I will continue to meet with those who wish to join us in person in the Prayer Room at the church every Thursday from 6.30pm. If you are interested in joining us by Zoom, the Zoom Meeting details will be provided in the weekly notices, and copies will be printed and placed at the back of the church nearer the time.

It has been a blessing to meet each week to pray for ourselves, our church, our community and our world. I invite you to come along and be blessed alongside us as we continue to pray.

Pastor Sherry Owolabi

Notes from Elders' Meeting, October 2024

- The arrangements re the sale of the Manse were discussed.
- Pastor Sherry updated the Elders regarding actions carried out and new ventures which she has planned – these included:
moving the timing of Passion for Prayer to 6.30pm and onto Zoom from November for the duration of the winter months; Kerebu will be starting a new Home Group; Pastor Sherry will be starting a monthly discussion group Sermon Study Session.
- Recent changes to the format for morning worship were approved. It was agreed to recommence recording of the morning services and uploading them to YouTube; this will mean the choir will remain in the Apse area and temporary microphones set up to amplify voices for recording purposes. It was thought unnecessary expenditure to purchase any new equipment as the AV system is due to be reviewed once finance is available. The young people are also being given a slot in the service where they can regularly contribute.
- There is growing interest in the use of our premises during the day.
- Revd Peter has been approached by two people about becoming members. He will be holding a Christingle service for the Bounce & Play group. He continues to offer Holy Communion to the house-bound and the people at St. Andrews.
- There will be a meeting for serving and non-serving Elders on 17th October when part of the discussion will be planning for our future.
- The Elders continue their efforts to arrange training for Pastor Sherry so that she can preside at Holy Communion services. This includes ordaining and inducting her to the Eldership at Baginton Road.
- Safeguarding: further training is being considered.
- Three Junior Church staff will be attending a conference 1st - 3rd November.
- Youth Council and Link Elders for the various church-based groups are to be reintroduced.
- A review of the Elders Contact List is being conducted.



Dick Whittington

The City of London Church where Sir Richard Whittington is buried, St James Paternoster Royal, is up for sale. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren, it was nearly demolished after WWII damage and was eventually converted into offices.



This Christmas story goes back almost six centuries but it is not linked entirely to Dick Whittington.

Born in 1354 to a rich family, he did prosper after marrying into another prosperous family, money-lending to cash strapped royalty, and trading in textiles. He was Lord Mayor of London three times following a royal Mayoral appointment. Hence the summons back in the story, all the time within the sound of Bow Bells.

So this was a riches-to-charity story for him. His deeds included protecting apprentices from being forced to wash animal skins in the Thames during cold weather, thus saving many from hypothermia; he also financed the building of the Guildhall and the rebuilding of the roof of Westminster Abbey.

There was the construction of a dual-gender public toilet, opening on May Day 1421, known as the Whittington Longhouse with 128 seats, 64 each for men and 64 for women and cleansed twice daily by the tide of the River Thames. It lasted over 200 years, but alas was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666. He also financed libraries, alms-houses, prisons and hospitals.

There was no cat referred to, but in the 14th century cats were needed to keep the population of mice and rats at bay. It is thought the cat story has been linked over the centuries with that of a Persian boy who came from poverty to riches through the exploits of his cat.

Sir Richard was a great philanthropist along with many Lord Mayors of London, including Sir Thomas White whose statue stands on Greyfriars Green, close to Warwick Road Church and for whom we, citizens of Coventry, should be grateful.

Barry Stelfox



Social Committee News

Christian Aid Soup Lunch: Saturday 9th November 12.00 – 1.30pm in the small hall. We need your help to make the lunch successful and raise funds for Christian Aid. There are two lists at the back of church one for offering to make soup and another for volunteers to help on the day, please put your name down if you can support us.

Please come and support this worthy cause and share friendship and fellowship whilst enjoying a hot bowl of soup. The soup will be served with crusty bread and rolls, tea and coffee will also be available. Everybody is welcome

Christmas Craft Fayre and Bazaar: Saturday 30th November 10.00 – 2.00pm.
This should be another fun day with lunches and other refreshments being served, lots of crafts, and other stalls including a Father Christmas grotto.

We need the support of members of the congregation to help at the bazaar. The help will mainly be in the small hall serving and clearing refreshments, although one or two stallholders might need help, especially the cakes & preserves and the raffle stalls.

The following donations are also required:

- Homemade cakes, jams and other preserves
- Items for a tombola
- Items for the Christmas hamper raffle (a list of suggestions will be available at the back of church).

A box will be put outside the office for the donations. Cakes can be brought to Church in the week before the bazaar and left in the kitchen.

Christmas Tree Festival: It has been decided to cancel the tree festival this year because we have not had many volunteering to provide a tree. However, we would like to thank those groups who have offered to decorate a tree and hope that they will still do so. These trees will decorate our Sanctuary and will be seen by all who visit or attend our church services through Advent.

The committee thank all those who have supported us in making the various events so successful and look forward to your continued help.

Further events will be advertised in the new year once they have been planned.

Social Committee



Making Mondays Christmas Crafting



There will be a Christmas Craft session on Monday 18th November
from 11.00 am until 3.00 pm

Come and have a go at making Christmas decorations etc.

Everyone is welcome - £5.00 for the session

Bring your own lunch. Drinks and festive food provided

Please speak to Sue Davis, Pam Dawson or Kathy Jackson for more information.

Harvest Festival Church Parade Service

We had a marvellous Harvest Festival Church Parade Service on 29th September 2024. It was great to have our Uniformed Organisations and their families join us for all-age worship, where they had an opportunity to present and be involved in the service.

The Scouts shared with us the jobs that children had to do for harvest in the past. As a church, we created a Prayer Chain of the things we wanted to give thanks for and the things we wanted to pray for. It was then put together during the service by some volunteers from the Uniformed Organisations and is now displayed in our Prayer Room.

We also heard from our very own Sue Davis, who is also a Trustee at Coventry City Mission. She enlightened us on where our harvest gifts go and the difference our gifts make. I want to extend a very big Thank You to everyone who contributed to the service and donated to our collection for Coventry City Mission and Feed The Hungry UK. We are so grateful; God bless you all!

Here are some photos from the day:



Harvest Festival – What Happened to our Food Donations?

The food donations which were collected at the Harvest Festival service were taken from Church to the main foodbank centre in Binley – this is a large warehouse which is about half the size of a football pitch and is where the food is stored. Donations come from all over the city and from some shops and businesses.



Here it is all date-checked and sorted into the various categories and stacked up, a bit like in a supermarket. Teams of volunteers then make up crates of the items which are in the food parcels. There is a set list of items which people receive – cereal, milk, beans, soup, tins of meat. Crates are made up for single people, couples or families, the aim is to provide emergency food for three days. The crates are then delivered to the 15 foodbank centres around the city – the one at which we are based is at Coventry City Mission in Deedmore Road. Deliveries come in weekly and are stacked ready for distribution.



People come to us with a voucher – these can be issued from all sorts of places, schools, social workers, the council, doctors etc. We meet and greet the customers and check a few questions: do they have cooking facilities, a fridge, any food allergies and one essential question – a can opener!

The voucher is checked on the main foodbank database and if all is OK, the food is bagged up from the crates and given to the customer. It is important to note that these parcels are not intended to be anything more than an emergency measure – currently no one can receive more than six parcels in six months but that varies depending on how much food is available in the main depot. In a fairly typical week around 220 vouchers are fulfilled across the city, which will have fed about 500 people.

Our donations from this year's harvest festival filled 19 crates – thank you!

Sue and Colin Davis



St Andrew's House
19 St Andrew's Road, Earlsdon
Coventry CV5 6FP
Residential, respite or short stay care
in a Christian home.
St Andrew's can help!
Telephone Lesley 02476 673745
www.standrewshouse.org.uk

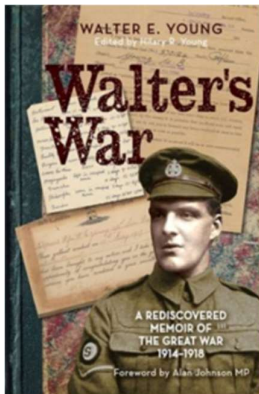
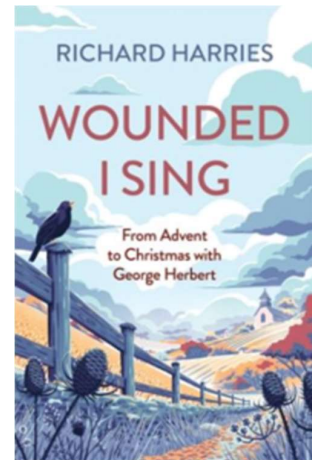
Book Reviews

Wounded I Sing – From Advent to Christmas with George Herbert

By Richard Harries, SPCK £10.99

Prepare your heart for the joy of Christmas in the company of one of the best-loved poets in the English language. George Herbert is widely regarded as one of the greatest devotional poets the world has known. Here Richard Harries reflects on 24 of his greatest poems, six for each of the four weeks of Advent, including 'Redemption', 'The Country Parson' and 'The Temple'.

The result is a book that readers may want to return to over and over again, whether during Advent or in any other season of the year.



Walter's War – a rediscovered memoir of the Great War 1914-18

By Walter Young, SPCK, £10.99

The voices of those who actually lived through the hell of blood and pain during the Great War have fallen silent. But this memoir, written without his family's knowledge and not discovered till after his death, is the gripping account of an ordinary soldier, Walter Young, who battled through Ypres, Loos, and many of the key engagements, and was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry at Bullecourt.

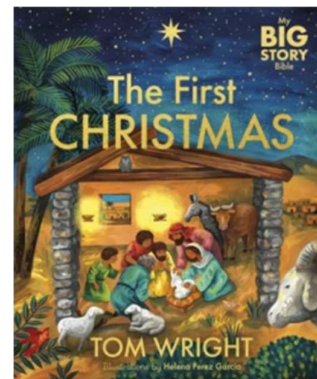
Although he never talked about the war, his writings vividly capture the mixture of boredom and terror that were so familiar to the soldiers on both sides. This book gives a moving insight into what life in the trenches was really like.

My Big Story Bible: the First Christmas

By Tom Wright, SPCK £9.99

The world-changing events of the nativity are accompanied by stunning and richly detailed illustrations. This book is a beautiful gift to share with children and to introduce them to the miracle of the first Christmas.

Tom Wright writes for younger children, aged 4-6 years, for the first time. The book is part of Tom Wright's bestselling My Big Story Bible series.



from Parish Pump



Christian Aid Soup Lunch
at
Baginton Road URC (Small Hall)
on
Saturday 9th November 2024
12.00 – 1.30 pm

Everybody welcome! Come and enjoy good company with home-made soup. All donations to Christian Aid.

Warwick Road Centre and Café - November Update

It is the end of an era for Open Doors Café.

Pauline and Richard Blanchard decided recently to retire from their voluntary role leading Open Doors Café every Tuesday. They will be greatly missed by staff, other volunteers, and customers.

A few people got together for a farewell drink and cake on Tuesday 24th September – a small way of marking this special occasion.



Pauline began volunteering in Open Doors on a Tuesday 19 years ago, and Richard joined her a short while after. Both have been a massive part of the success of Open Doors Café. Their quiet, friendly, and supportive style made Tuesdays special.

Pauline and Richard deserve now to rest, and we hope they may be able to pop in to Open Doors Café occasionally as customers to have someone serving them for a change!

Trevor Gay, Warwick Road Centre Manager

Café Menu – November 2024

Opening Times: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday. Snacks and Drinks: 10am – 11.30am; Hot Meal: 12 noon – 1.30pm (last orders 1pm)

Main course £5, Pudding £2.50, Meal Deal (Main and Pudding, served with tea or coffee) £7.50. Telephone orders: 024 7622 0299

Friday 1 st November	Sausage & tomato hotpot Dutch apple pie and custard
Tuesday 5 th	Chicken casserole Banana sponge and caramel sauce
Wednesday 6 th	Faggots, mashed potato and mushy peas Bread pudding and custard
Friday 8 th	Steak & kidney pie, potatoes and vegetables Raspberry & white chocolate sponge
Tuesday 12 th	Ham & leek pie, potatoes and vegetables Jam Roly poly and custard
Wednesday 13 th	Savoury sausage meat lattice, potatoes and vegetables Fruit trifle
Friday 15 th	Smoked haddock, potatoes, peas and parsley sauce Jam & coconut sponge and custard
Tuesday 19 ^h	Braised beef and onions, potatoes and vegetables Berry mousse
Wednesday 20 th	Chicken dinner Apple crumble and custard
Friday 22 nd	Lamb & vegetable casserole Cherry tart and ice cream
Tuesday 26 th	Cottage pie and vegetables Ginger sponge and custard
Wednesday 27 th	Corned beef hash and cauliflower cheese Eve's pudding and custard
Friday 29 th	Liver & onions, bubble & squeak Mixed berry cheesecake



Christmas Activity Morning

Saturday 14th December 2024 9.30am – 12.30pm

Welcoming all children from 0 – 11 yrs old to our Christmas Activity Morning where we will have fun exploring the true meaning of Christmas. As we retell the birth of Jesus, the children will have the opportunity to dress up and interact with the story. There will be crafts, games, songs and much more. All under 5's must be accompanied by an adult. If you would like to come along, please register via email at office@bagintonroadurc.org.uk. There will be a £5 fee per family.

Remembrance - and gratitude



Remembrance Sunday 2024 falls on 10th November, and Remembrance Day on Monday 11th. This year Remembrance includes several significant dates from past wars:

2024 marks the 110th anniversary of the start of World War I.

2024 marks 80 years since D-Day. The Normandy Landings of 6th June 1944 were the largest seaborne invasion in history, and began the Allied invasion of Normandy, which led to the liberation of France and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino in Italy, the bloodiest battle of the Italian Campaign, when Allied forces finally broke through the Germans' notorious 'Gustav Line' and freed Route Six and the way to Rome.

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of the battles for Kohima and Imphal, where in northeast India the Imperial Japanese Army was held off by much smaller numbers of British and Indian troops. In Kohima alone, the defenders held off a staggering 25 Japanese attacks over 14 days in appalling conditions. When Indian troops arrived to relieve the defenders, the Japanese encirclement was broken. Amongst the liberators was Havildar Major Rajindar Singh Dhatt of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, from the Punjab.

2024 also marks the 80th anniversary of Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, when the Allies managed to free Eindhoven and Nijmegen, but famously failed to capture the bridge at Arnhem. (The story is told in the film *A Bridge too Far*)

As the British Legion says, "While D-Day was fundamental to the allied victory, the Second World War was not won on any single day – or battle – and we will recognise and pay tribute to all who served from the British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and allied nations, such as those who served in the Battles of Monte Cassino, Imphal and Kohima, Operation Market Garden and the Scheldt."

This year the British Legion is also looking beyond the Second World War, to Kosovo and Afghanistan. It wants to pay tribute to those who served and currently serve in Kosovo 25 years after the deployment of the NATO peacekeeping force, KFOR, and to those who served in Afghanistan, as this year marks 10 years since the end of Operation Herrick.

from Parish Pump

Spires' Advent Concert - 23rd November

Spires are busy preparing for their Advent Concert which will be held in the sanctuary on 23rd November. There are more details of the programme on the poster.

We would like to thank those church groups who alter their arrangements so that rehearsals for both the choir and the orchestra run smoothly.

Tickets are available from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/spiresmusic.

Kathy White



**Spires Philharmonic Orchestra
and Chorus**

Conductor: Jack Lovell-Huckle Leader: Alistair Kennedy

Advent Concert
an afternoon of sublime string orchestra and choral music

Vaughan Williams *Five Variants Dives & Lazarus*
Saint-Saens *Christmas Oratorio*
Handel *Dixit Dominus*
Bach *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

Saturday 23rd November 2024
2:30pm

United Reformed Church
83 Baginton Road, Coventry, CV3 6FP

www.spiresmusic.org

Scan for Tickets

Tickets: £15 (£5 students), Children Free
available from:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/spiresmusic
and on the door

The Giving Tree Church Parade and Gift Sunday

1st December 2024



Coventry City Mission says: "The Giving Tree Project runs each year to provide Christmas presents to those children in Coventry who otherwise wouldn't receive them. Last year we were able to help a record number of children and families, providing gifts for 1,411 children from 586 families. This was a particularly high number of families and it highlighted to us the problems that the high cost-of-living is causing. This is an amazing opportunity for us to share God's love with the people of Coventry."

Could you buy a toy for a child in need in Coventry this Christmas?

If you would like to buy a **new gift** for The Giving Tree, Coventry City Mission would be very grateful. We need gifts for all ages of children and teenagers. We aim to give each child a gift worth approximately £15.

You can buy a gift from the suggestions below and bring it to Baginton Road Church for 1st December, or use this Amazon wish list:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1F08E4G2IOTWO?ref_=wl_share.

The gifts must be new and unwrapped.

Money donations are also accepted and you can donate direct to the CCM's bank account: Coventry City Mission: CAF Bank, Sort Code 40-52-40, Account 00018702 (Please use the reference GT2024)

Suggested ideas: Baby toys; Duplo; Lego and Lego friends; Dolls; Action figures; Star Wars toys; Disney princess dolls; Barbie-style dolls; Jewellery making kits; Remote controlled cars; Skateboards or scooters; Footballs (and pumps); Fidget toys; 'Rubix' style cubes.



'One for All' gift vouchers are great (from the Post Office) – please get £10 value

If you are able to give us board games / jigsaws as well, then we can give these out as additional family gifts.

No books, clothing, CDs, DVDs, electronics or video games

We always need standard sized rolls of wrapping paper, small rolls of Sellotape, AA and AAA batteries and chocolate selection boxes.

Many thanks for supporting the children in need of Coventry

Any questions to office@bagintonroadurc.org.uk.

NEWS IN BRIEF FROM AROUND THE UK AND BEYOND

Rubbish in the streets of Rome has often been a complaint of both visitors and Romans. In light of next year's Holy Year with the potential additional 500 tonnes of rubbish per day, the authorities have sanctioned for 250 temporary refuse workers – 11,000 citizens applied. In addition, 500 “intelligent” waste bins that squash the rubbish are to be used plus 18,000 fireproof polythene bins; however, seagulls have discovered the new bins are great as they have slits in them for aeration which enables pecking to take place. The slits were not intended for the seagulls, a design fault – not so intelligent after all!

The Japanese elderly population has reached a record high with 36.25 million over-65s, a quarter of them still working. These figures were announced on Respect the Aged Day, a national holiday in Japan. In England and Wales, 18.6% of the population is over-60, compared to Japan's 29.3%.

The Reform Beit Din, the rabbinic court that certifies a person's conversion to Judaism after they have undergone a rigorous course or instruction at a synagogue, has seen an unexpected increase of conversions. Research has shown that DNA testing is the cause, with people's discovery of Jewish ancestry going back several centuries sparking the exploration of Judaism.

Started in Japan in 2010, a Wind Phone has been replicated there and also in the USA, Canada and Ireland. This is a conventional red telephone box without a connection that is used by those bereaved to speak to deceased relatives or friends. This can be very therapeutic for the over-60s – as Bob Dylan wrote, “the answer is blowing in the wind”.

Prior Park College, Bath, is cutting its link to the Catholic Church after almost 200 years. It is now classed as Christian, to be less constrained by the RC Church. The head teacher in a letter to parents said: “we pride ourselves on not proselytising to our young people, but instead in encouraging them to engage with faith and spirituality on their own terms.”



In 2023, charity aid worker Simon Boas learnt that he had terminal throat cancer. As a result, he wrote candid and humorous articles for the Jersey Post newspaper which were reprinted in several publications, leading to an interview on BBC Radio 4. This became the basis of a book *A Beginner's Guide to Dying*, which in pre-publication reached No.2 on the Amazon bestseller list. Alas, Simon died on 15 July 2024, aged 47 years, before the book's publication in September. Through his writing he “wanted to try to explain this apparent paradox: that it is possible to leave life with a sense of equanimity – not because one is fed up with it, but because one loves it so much.”

Barry Stelfox



Mission, Outreach and Worship Report for November 2024

Bounce and Play: This year we will be offering the families of Bounce and Play the opportunity to share Christingle service on 11th December. This a truly exciting new venture; please pray that this is well received by the families and that Christ's love continue to flow into the Bounce and Play mornings.

Home Communion at Home: I have the great privilege to lead Holy Communion at St Andrews House every month, sharing with Rose Tomlinson, John Bruffell, Julia Dixon and Revd Alan Stanyon. If you know someone who would appreciate receiving Holy Communion please get in touch with me.

Warwick Road Centre: I am continuing to support Warwick Road Centre and visit them on a Friday lunchtime. I would like to register my thanks to Richard and Pauline Blanchard who have retired from volunteering at the Open Doors Café after many years' service. Thank you, I know that the staff at Warwick Road will miss you.

Agenda-less worship: This is usually held on the last Tuesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm. The next ones will be on 29th October and 26th November.

Schools work: I continue to build relationships with our local schools. I will be visiting Manor Park School this month to discuss with the Year 5 students "Who is Jesus?".

Ecumenical Working: We continue to build strong relationships with other churches our area. Local church leaders from Baginton Road, Christchurch, King's Church, St James and Quinton Park are continuing to meet on a regular basis to share fellowship and ideas for working together. Our next meeting is in November.

Church Membership: During December's Holy Communion service (8th), I will have the privilege of welcoming Joan Roberts into church membership. Please join me in welcoming Joan into membership. If you are not currently a church member but regularly attend Sunday worship, could I ask you to seriously consider and pray about becoming a member.

Hope Coventry: Last month I joined the 10 year celebrations for Hope Coventry. I very much look forward to supporting and working with them in the future.

Thrive Youth Ministry: Sherry and I will be meeting with Fiona Strutton from Thrive Youth Ministries in November to share ideas regarding our Children and Youth work.

Holiday: I will be taking a week's leave starting on 7th November.

Every Blessing
Revd Peter Kimberley



← scan me!



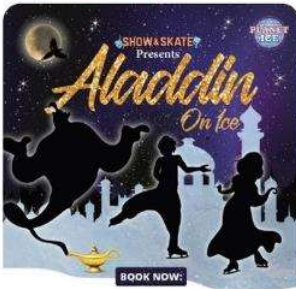
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Santa's Christmas Cracker | The Albany Theatre

Saturday 30th November | Ages 2-8

Santa's Christmas Cracker is a 45 minute, interactive family show, particularly suitable for 2-8 year olds. Afterwards the adventure continues as each child gets to meet Father Christmas and receive a specially wrapped present. It's the most Christmassy Christmas show ever, HO-HO-HO!



Aladdin on Ice | Planet Ice Arena

Tuesday 3rd December | All Ages

Be whisked away to the mystical city of Agrabah with some of your favourite songs, and breathtaking ice skating performances. This show features amateur local skaters who have honed their skills through Planet Ice's Learn To Skate program. A timeless classic that promises enchantment for the whole family!



Alice in Wonderland | The Albany Theatre

Sat 7th - Sun 29th December | Ages 6+

Head to The Albany Theatre this Christmas and follow Alice and the White Rabbit down the rabbit hole for an extraordinary adventure in Wonderland. An adventure like no other, Alice in Wonderland is filled with fun, laughter and magic!



The Smeds and The Smoos | Warwick Arts Centre

26th November - 29th December | Ages 3+

Soar into space for your festive family treat with this exciting adaptation of the award-winning book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Music, laughs and interplanetary adventures for everyone aged 3 and up!

Mental Elf Fun Run for CW Mind | War Memorial Park

Sunday 1st December | All ages

Jingle all the way down to the War Memorial park! All proceeds will help fund CW Mind's key mental health and wellbeing services.

And there's more!

Head to www.coventryrocks.co.uk to find your fun.

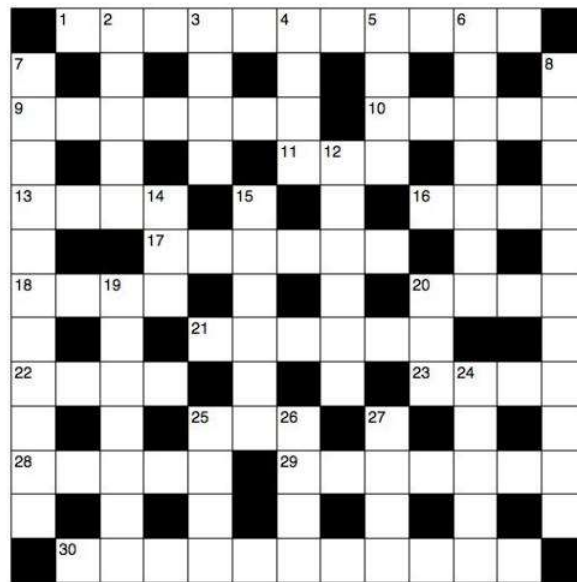
FOLLOW US AND JOIN THE COMMUNITY!

There are thousands of local parents following us Social Media, and we'd love for you to join in! Just search Coventry Rocks and like our page!

www.coventryrocks.co.uk



Puzzle Pages



Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
- 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27 See 18 Across

SUDOKU (EASY)

		8		6		1		
		5						
6	7			1	8	4	5	
7	9	8			1			
3	8	2		5		6	9	4
		1			9	5		7
5	9	6	7			2		1
						4		
	1		9			7		

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SUDOKU (MEDIUM)

				1				2
8		1	5					
	3			8			6	
			2			1		6
	6						7	
5		4			1			
	9			7			2	
					6	7		4
6				9				

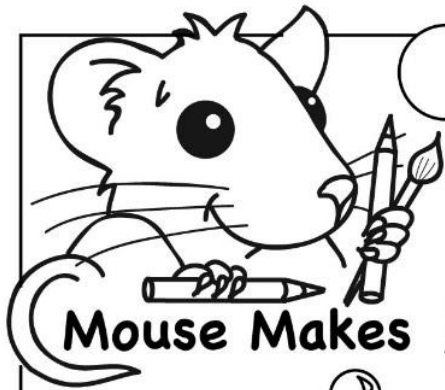
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Solutions on p.23

WORDSEARCH

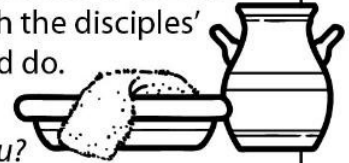
Remembrance Day this year has a special significance – it was 80 years ago this June that the D-Day Landings of the Second World War took place. Those D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy led to the liberation of France and Europe. And this year the Normandy region has been celebrating – with events including synchronized fireworks at the major D-Day sites, a giant picnic on Omaha Beach, Liberation balls, bagpipe parades, and international parachuting of hundreds of soldiers above Sainte-Mère-Église. It has been estimated that between 15 and 20 million people died in Europe alone during the Second World War. Worldwide, an estimated 75 million people died.

FIREWORKS	EUROPE	S A S W N O R M A N D Y E K E G B O D S N C S R E O R T N M I R A E H N Y A B O U I E T S L I D C W W H W H D A A E R D N A A U I E C N A R B M E M E R E P R A A E E P E P I P G A B I R L S B U E R L D K R P F A O R I R R C N K L O P E P M I L L I O N S D O R A O A C I N C I P A P N S P I H I E E C L Y E R I A H R A G S A O E P E I F O
REMEMBRANCE	PICNIC	
DAY	BEACH	
LANDINGS	OMAHA	
SECOND	BAGPIPE	
WORLD	PARADES	
WAR	PARACHUTE	
NORMANDY	MILLIONS	
LIBERATION	SOLDIERS	
FRANCE	DIED	



"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.



Then Jesus said:

"Do you understand what I have done for you? Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you."



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17

By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

W D A U A S E R V A N T A E H M
 A O R P S C L E A N X O T X O A
 I U M P H I J E S U S W E A T S
 S F E E T P A S S O V E R M H T
 T E N R B L E S S E D L L P E E
 K E T X T E A C H E R O O L R R
 B A S I N S C R I P T U R E S P
 C D A N M E A L O V E D E W
 C H O S E N F S
 F E A S T

JESUS
 DISCIPLES
 PASSOVER
 FEAST • SUPPER • MEAL

PETER
 SCRIPTURES
 LORD • TEACHER
 SERVANT • MASTER

GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE
 CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED

SOLUTION - SUDUKO (EASY)

9	4	8	5	7	6	3	1	2
1	2	5	4	8	3	9	7	6
6	3	7	2	9	1	8	4	5
7	5	9	8	6	4	1	2	3
3	8	2	1	5	7	6	9	4
4	6	1	3	2	9	5	8	7
5	9	6	7	4	8	2	3	1
8	7	3	6	1	2	4	5	9
2	1	4	9	3	5	7	6	8

SOLUTION - SUDUKO (MEDIUM)

7	5	6	3	1	9	8	4	2
8	4	1	5	6	2	9	3	7
2	3	9	7	8	4	5	6	1
9	8	3	2	4	7	1	5	6
1	6	2	9	5	8	4	7	3
5	7	4	6	3	1	2	8	9
4	9	8	1	7	3	6	2	5
3	1	5	8	2	6	7	9	4
6	2	7	4	9	5	3	1	8

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Charioteers. 9 Immoral. 10 Cairo. 11 SAE. 13 Inns. 16 Firm. 17 Accuse. 18 East. 20 Ogam. 21 Judith. 22 Seba. 23 Msgr. 25 Den. 28 Inane. 29 Entreat. 30 Chrysoprase.

DOWN: 2 Human. 3 Rare. 4 Oils. 5 Ecce. 6 Raising. 7 Citizenship. 8 Commemorate. 12 Assail. 14 Sat. 15 Scouse. 19 Sabbath. 20 Ohm. 24 Seeds. 25 Deny. 26 Nero. 27 Star.

Connections - December 2024 / January 2025 issue deadline

News, articles & other items to be included in the December 2024 / January 2025 double issue of *Connections* should be sent by email to the editor Claire Booth (clairehbooth@hotmail.com) no later than **Wednesday, 20th November 2024**.

Items should ideally be no more than 1 page in length (about 450 words) and definitely no longer than 2 pages.

Connections is published in digital format ten times a year and emailed to subscribers. You are also able to view it on the church website and Facebook page. If you want it emailed to you, please contact Kevin Bodsworth at the Church Office: office@bagintonroadurc.org.uk.

Thanks, *Claire*

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the views of the URC or its congregation



Worship at Baginton Road URC – November 2024



Morning service: 10.30am; Evening service: 6.30pm
(unless otherwise stated)

Date	Time	Preacher	
3 rd November	am	Rev Peter Kimberley	Holy Communion
	pm	Rev David Spriggs	
10 th	am	Sherry Owolabi	Remembrance Sunday
17 th	am	Rev Peter Kimberley	Holy Communion
	5.30pm	Sue Davis	BR Remembering service. Refreshments at 5pm
24 th	am	Revd Ian Cotes	Coffee Shop Sunday Style
1 st December	am	Sherry Owolabi	Advent Sunday - Gift Sunday
	pm	Crawford Dow	Church Parade Holy Communion

Church Contacts

 <p>Pastor: Sherry Owolabi tel: 07497 558120 email: pastor@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p>	 <p>Mission, Outreach and Worship Leader: Reverend Peter Kimberley tel: 07581 710348 email: outreach@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p>
<p>Baginton Road Church Office: Baginton Road, Coventry CV3 6FP tel. 024 7641 9927 website: www.bagintonroadurc.org.uk Usual office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 7.30am - 1.30pm.</p> <p>Church Administrator: Kevin Bodsworth email: office@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p> <p>Church Secretary: Sue Davis e: secretary@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p>	<p>Warwick Road Centre Office: 10 Warwick Row, Coventry, CV1 1EX tel: 024 7622 0299 e: cityoffice@bagintonroadurc.org.uk Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm</p> <p>Room Bookings: tel: 024 7641 9927 email: rooms@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p> <p>Premises Caretaker, Baginton Road: George Stone tel; 07468 585611 e: caretaker@bagintonroadurc.org.uk</p>