



Welcoming,  
Caring,  
Sharing

# October/November 2012

## MINISTER

Rev Duncan Tuck  
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Malvern Link  
WR14 1DN

Tel 01684 562404

## CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs Pat Berryman  
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WR10 2EJ

## CHURCH ADDRESS:

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Worcester  
WR1 3DU

[www.worcesterurc.org.uk](http://www.worcesterurc.org.uk)

# The Sunday Plan



Sunday 7th October  
11 am Worship

Conducted by Rev Richard Alford  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 14th October  
11 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Individual glasses

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 21st October  
11 am Morning Worship

Conducted by Mr Robert Apps  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 28th October  
11 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Common Cup

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 4th November  
11 am Worship

Conducted by Mr Robert Apps  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 11th November  
10:50 am Worship & Holy  
Communion  
Individual glasses

Conducted by Rev Sue Pollard  
Remembrance Sunday  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 18th November  
11 am Morning Worship

Conducted by Rev Peter Foster  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 25th November  
11 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Common Cup

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck  
Coffee after the service

# From the Manse

In our busy lives, nobody wants a visit from their church Minister, do they? I mean, it's a bit like an inquisition. What if the Minister asks about our walk with God? What if the children ask something awkward like, 'Will my pet hamster go to heaven, now the dog has dug him up?' What if the Minister notices how stressed I am and asks pointed questions? What if the house is a mess because I've been too distracted to tidy up? What if...?



The URC makes it clear that the pastoral care of the congregation is the responsibility of the Eldership as a whole. The system is supposed to be a support and sign of active caring. And that should never involve stress. If you find that a visit from an Elder (or Minister) is causing you stress, then something needs to change.

Having said that, support and caring are important. And normally, a 'Nice to see you,' on Sunday morning is all most people need. But there are times when life overwhelms us, when we feel alone, unloved, unable to cope. That is when the support is designed to be there. Who would not want to see a friendly, non-judgemental face when we are up to our eyeballs in worry? Who couldn't do with a coffee and chat when life seems to get on top of us? That's what our churches try to be. When it comes to a Minister's visit, it gets more complicated. For some reason, a lot of people consider a visit, or hello, from an Elder as somehow not as important as one from the Minister. That, of course, is ridiculous. Paul says God gives gifts 'To equip the saints for the work of ministry.' That means all of us. Ours is a 'priesthood of all believers.' A minister is no more holy than the next person. You can be as blessed by Albert checking you are alright as you can by the Minister turning up.

For me, visiting is important. And I have tried to set up a regular system for getting round the three congregations. It doesn't work well. Gone are the days when everyone lived close to their church, and were always in during the day. If I simply go out and try to visit in a particular area, then, almost inevitably, a lot are out. If I try phoning a list of people beforehand, then either there is no answer or it's a logistical nightmare trying to fit in when people are free and when I'm in the area.

In the back of my mind is always the need for sensible stewarding. And the number of times I make wasted trips because people are not in is not helpful. With Jim retiring, I have no idea how the next few months/years are going to work out. So, can I ask a few favours.

Firstly, for the sake of my time, and the finances, don't expect to suddenly find me on your doorstep as if I magically know when you're in. Secondly, if you wish me to visit you (and I would love to come) then let me know. Don't be shy. Give me a ring, set up a date, and I'll be there. And if you know someone who is sick who would like a visit, or home communion, then also let me know. And if you don't see me, don't think I'm ignoring you. I'm busy with three churches, and I'm respecting your privacy.

That doesn't mean you're not in my prayers.

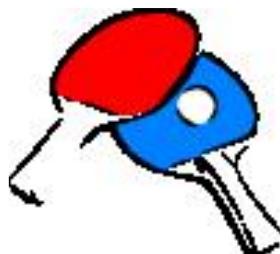
Every blessing  
Duncan

# Diary Dates



- 21st October      SONshine Cafe 10.30 am in the Church Hall, Malvern Link - "More than Gold" - Olympic Theme. All welcome.
- 27th October      Pastorate Evangelism Training Event - "Confidence in the Gospel", with Rev. Sally Willett. 10.30 for 11.00 am - 4.00 pm at Malvern Link. Drinks and soup provided but please bring your own sandwiches. It would be helpful to know numbers attending from Worcester if possible.
- 3rd November      Worcester Flower Fund Coffee Morning, 11am
- 7th November      Worcester Elders Meeting, 7.30pm
- 25th November      Worcester Church Meeting after the Service

## Table Tennis



Due to holidays Table Tennis is unlikely to take place until Friday October 19th - But we will be pleased to see you ALL at 7.30 pm!

Tim



# Think Speak Act: equipping Christians for mission and justice

A one day conference of inspiration and practical advice to help join the dots between action, politics and discipleship

Saturday 2 February 10.30am – 4.00pm  
Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham B4 7SX

**SPEAKERS:** The Revd Dr Giles Fraser, priest, writer and broadcaster  
Revd Roberta Rominger, General Secretary of the United Reformed Church  
Revd Dr Martin Atkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Church

**WORKSHOPS TO INCLUDE:** • Preaching and praying for justice • Getting your message across to your local media • Ten top tips for running a campaign? • Lies, damned lies and statistics! • What are the needs of my local area? • Praxis: From theology to action: using the pastoral cycle • A local politician's guide to changing your community

**Cost: £10 to cover the cost of lunch and coffee.**

For more details and to book a place – [www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/think-speak-act](http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/think-speak-act)

Organised by the Joint Public Issues Team: Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Churches working together

The **Methodist** Church



Baptist Union  
of Great Britain  
Methodist, Moravian Disciples

# VIP Invitation:

Your VIP Half-Board Holiday

at the Windermere Centre

16-19 October 2012



*Why not treat yourself to a 3-5 day VIP break at the Windermere Centre? As a member of the United Reformed Church, you qualify not only for a stay at the discounted price of £50 per day (instead of the usual price of £54) but you also get the full VIP treatment: a glass of Bucks Fizz on arrival, complimentary chocolates, wine with your evening meal, a full English breakfast and the choice of three main courses each evening. After dinner, relax as you will or watch one of the movies that we'll be showing.*

*Let us look after you, while you spend your time exploring the Lake District, shopping or simply 'being' at the Windermere Centre. You will also be able to order a packed lunch (£7) to take out with you, and afternoon tea with home-baked cake or a Lakeland cream tea (£5).*

To qualify for the VIP break, you need to be a member of the URC (or friend of a member!) and stay for a minimum of 3 nights during the period 16-19

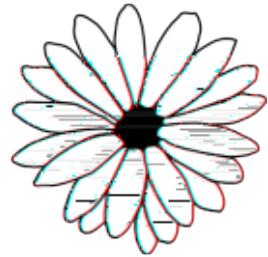
October 2012. Call 01539444902 or visit

<http://windermere.urc.org.uk>.



# Church Flower Fund

As you all know I now try to organise the flowers from week to week. I am very grateful to any of you who sign up on the rota to make an arrangement for the Sunday Service or give me money to create something for you. I think this is a very special way of remembering those who we love.



About twelve months ago at a Church Meeting, we decided that if no-one was providing flowers on a Sunday then a maximum of £5 from the flower fund should be spent on Church Flowers. This was widely agreed and supported at the meeting. It was also agreed that artificial flowers could be used.

At this moment in time there is £9.54p in the flower fund. I am very grateful to all who give me money for this fund.

On top of purchasing flowers we need to buy:  
Oasis to aid an arrangement, whether with fresh or artificial flowers.

Tape to hold down the oasis  
Dishes to make an arrangement in. (These do not have a long life as they go brittle).  
Wires to use in flowers such as Gerbera, to give strength and stop drooping.

I am proposing to hold a coffee morning and have a cake sale on 3rd November running 11am until 1pm. This will, hopefully, raise money for the flower fund.

Please come and support this event. If you find you cannot make this date I will always take donations for the flower fund.

Many thanks  
Teresa Dunn

# Albany Fellowship



Many thanks to all who joined us on 6th September for our Birthday Celebrations with Jim and Lynn.

Jim and Lynne entertained us with a selection of music and songs that held memories for them. Mrs Yeates read a poem she had written for Jim and Lynne and Brian McCluskie shared his entry in the Black Book of thoughts that had been collected for Jim. A photo was taken of Albany Fellowship by Brian, which hopefully we can send a copy to Jim and Lynne as a momento of this group.

We enjoyed sandwiches, birthday cakes and tea before the meeting broke up.

In October we look forward to our meeting on 4th October. Jean is going to organise this and I am sure it will be a great meeting. Teresa sends her apologies as she and Tim will be on holiday in Spain.

Love and Best Wishes  
Jean and Teresa

## Items for the November Newsletter

If you have any items for inclusion in the November Newsletter please give them to Tim Dunn. 27a Cornmeadow Green, Claines, Worcester. WR3 7PN. Tel 01905 457909, Email [newsletter@worcesterurc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@worcesterurc.org.uk) by Sunday 18th November at the latest please.

# Prayer Partners 2012

Prayer for Jamaica AIDS Support (JAS)

To you whose touch brings healing,  
we pray, touch those with HIV/AIDS,  
and through the work of JAS,  
bring healing.

Healing from bigotry and hatred,  
healing from fear and pain,  
healing from isolation and loneliness.

But we ask, touch us too,  
that we may be moved with compassion,  
healed of our prejudices and  
freed to respond in love. Amen

Prayer resources 2001: ©Nigel Varndell/ Christian Aid



Prayer for Zimbabwe

Most gracious and loving God,  
We are sorry for being part of a world that is capable of hate and destruction.

We want to stand beside our fellow Christians but often we fail them.

Give us understanding to fully appreciate what is happening in your world.

Give strength and comfort to those in Zimbabwe  
who suffer daily because of the words and actions of a few.

Living God, we ask for courage.

Living Lord, we ask for clear vision.

Living Spirit, we ask for stamina  
to do your will.

Prayer Partners 2006: © Commitment for Life

# **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**by**

**FRON**



## **Male Voice Choir**

(Voices of the Valley)

Soloist - Kathryn Cook Contralto

**8th. December 2012 at 7.30pm**

**Darlington Street Methodist Church  
Wolverhampton**

Proceeds for Komera Project Rwanda

Tickets £10

For further information

Tel. 01902 332508 or 01922 492398

## Worcester URC Duty Rotas

	7-Oct	14-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct	
Carry in the Bible	Rob Peachey	Jeremy Davies	Liz Davies	Paul Denham	
Books & Offertory	Carol Hardyman	Doreen Cheesbrough	Tim Dunn	Barbara James	
Sarah Lodge	Sarah Lodge	Tom Cheesbrough	Teresa Dunn	David James	
Reading	Helen Moore	Bryan Neville-Lee	Nicky Neville-Lee	Betty Forrer	
Prepare Table		Sarah Lodge Rob Peachey		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	
Serve Communion		Helen Moore Rob Peachey David James Roger Morris		Margaret Morris Teresa Dunn	
Beadle	Helen Yare	Liz Davies	David James	Rob Peachey	
Foyer	Nicky Neville-Lee	Brian McCluskie	Carol Hardyman	Sarah Lodge	

	4-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	
Carry in the Bible	Teresa Dunn	David James	Brian McCluskie	Helen Moore	
Books & Offertory	Paul Denham	Pat Berryman	Michael Clarke	Brian McCluskie	
Rob Peachey	Len Berryman	Rosemary Clarke	Jean McCluskie		
Reading	Michael Clarke	Paul Denham	Rob Peachey	Rosemary Clarke	
Prepare Table		Teresa Dunn Jean McCluskie		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee	
Serve Communion		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee Tom Cheesbrough Michael Clarke		Jeremy Davies Liz Davies	
Beadle	Sarah Lodge	Brian McCluskie	Paul Denham	Nicky Neville-Lee	
Foyer	Tim Dunn	Doreen Cheesbrough	Tom Cheesbrough	David James	

	2-Dec	9-Dec	16-Dec	23-Dec	30-Dec
Carry in the Bible	Bryan Neville-Lee	Doreen Cheesbrough	Jean McCluskie	Sarah Lodge	Carol Hardyman
Books & Offertory	Alison Hall	Carol Hardyman	Bryan Neville-Lee	Jane Barber	Jeremy Davies
Betty Forrer	Pat Williams		Nicky Neville-Lee	Margaret Dodds	Liz Davies
Reading	Margaret Morris	Jeremy Davies	Liz Davies	Margaret Dodds	Tim Dunn
Prepare Table		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough		Len Berryman Pat Berryman	
Serve Communion		Paul Denham Brian McCluskie Sarah Lodge Helen Moore		Rob Peachey David James	
Beadle	Liz Davies	Pat Berryman	Rob Peachey	Sarah Lodge	Brian McCluskie
Foyer	Paul Denham	Jeremy Davies	Bryan Neville-Lee	Len Berryman	Rob Peachey

Please arrange your own duty swaps as required



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