



Welcoming,
Caring,
Sharing

October/November 2015

LAY LEADER

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The Sunday Plan



Please keep an eye on the Church
Noticeboards to see updates to this list.

Sunday 4th October 10:30 am Harvest Festival	Conducted by Helen Yare Coffee after the service
Sunday 11th October 10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion Individual glasses	Conducted by Rev Diane Cooksey Coffee after the service
Sunday 18th October 10:30 am Worship	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service
Sunday 25th October 10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion Common Cup	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service
Sunday 1st November 10:30 am Worship	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service
Sunday 8th November 10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion Individual glasses	Remembrance Sunday Coffee after the service
Sunday 15th November 10:30 am Worship	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service
Sunday 22nd November 10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion Common Cup	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service
Sunday 29th November 10:30 am Worship	Conducted by TBA Coffee after the service

From the Elders

Gleaning,

The book of Ruth in our bibles reminds us of gleaning – when the poor and destitute were able to follow the harvest workers and pick up the bits they had missed to feed themselves. In my youth people used to be able to go round after street markets collecting dropped and bruised fruit. In our clean and tidy world this tends to be vacuumed up by machines and dumped.



So where are the gleaners now, those who need the free food? They are sleeping rough and eating at soup kitchens, waiting for soup runs and lining up at food banks. As we come to the time when we celebrate harvest, let us remember the gleaners, those who followed the harvesters. Tins and dried foods may not be as nostalgic as sheaves of corn but they fit the needs of our contemporary gleaners, few have fields and forests of free food on their doorsteps.

This year we are bringing tins for Maggs so they can share the harvest gifts in the lean times of winter not just for a few bountiful days. God's love for us is deep and for all. We hope and trust in Christ. Let us respond to that love as we bring hope and care to others in God's world.



Diary Dates



Thurs 22nd October : Book Club in the Church 2:30 pm
Thurs 5th November : Albany Fellowship, 2:30 pm
Thurs 19th November : Book Club in the Church 2:30 pm

Friday Evenings : Table Tennis : Contact Tim Dunn
Monthly Book Group : Contact Tim & Teresa Dunn
Monthly Albany Fellowship : Contact Jean McCluskie/Teresa Dunn

Shoe box covering and Coffee morning

Please join us to begin the task of covering shoe boxes for Maggs at Christmas. This will happen on Saturday, November 21st. from 10.30 am until about 12 noon. Coffee (or tea) will be served and we have a fun time. Goods to pack into the boxes can be brought to church that morning or at any Sunday service in November. This is a joint Church and Britannia Square Residents initiative.



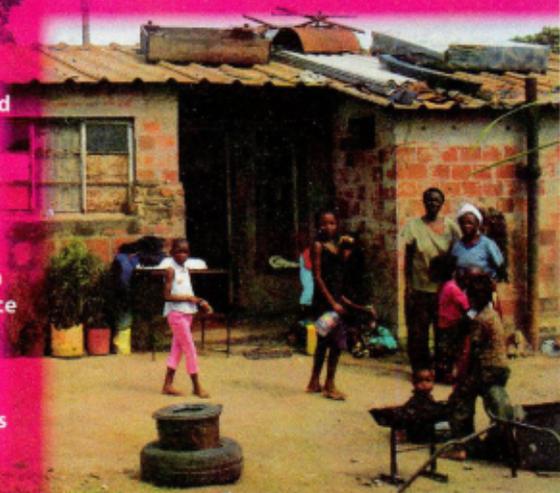
For more details, please contact Nicky Neville-Lee.

Items for the December Newsletter

If you have any items for inclusion in the December Newsletter please give them to Tim Dunn. 27a Cornmeadow Green, Claines, Worcester. WR3 7PN. Tel 01905 457909, Email newsletter@worcesterurc.org.uk by Sunday 15th November at the latest please.

What is Commitment for Life?

It is a programme of General Assembly which exists to encourage all United Reformed and Local Ecumenical Partnership churches to take action, pray and give for people across the world. By linking with campaigns, partners and projects through Christian Aid and Global Justice Now (previously the World Development Movement) you can make a real difference to the lives of some of the world's poorest people.



What happens when your church joins?

You choose which country/region you would like to take an interest in. Commitment for Life churches are linked through Christian Aid to one of the four countries/region below:

- Bangladesh
- Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua)
- Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory
- Zimbabwe

Each church has a link person who is the vital link between your church and Commitment for Life. Through your link person, your church will then receive mailings three times a year.

We encourage you to have a special Commitment for Life service each year to learn more about the partners in your chosen country/region. This time can also be used as the focal point for your personal giving.

Giving

There are many ways you and your church can support Commitment for Life financially:

- by giving 1% of your income as a committed giver
- by holding monthly envelope collections. Gift aid can be added via the church
- by leaving a legacy (ask for more details)
- through a yearly Sunday service
- by hosting social and educational events

Mailings include:

- news straight from the country
- the latest information on campaigns
- posters and leaflets for your church
- ideas for action
- opportunities to give
- worship and prayer resources
- links to extra resources and ideas on the website

The communities you support

Together with your committed support we made a difference to thousands of men, women and children living in poverty each year. The funds you raise are divided equally between the following four countries. Thank you!

- **Bangladesh**

Alongside corruption, poor governance and an over-dependency on natural resources, tackling poverty in Bangladesh has become increasingly difficult due to the impact of climate change. Whether preparing communities for climate related emergencies, supporting farmers to improve their harvest and income, or ensuring women participate fully in vital decisions that shape their lives, Christian Aid partners are committed to ensuring poor and marginalised people enjoy thriving and dignified lives.

- **Zimbabwe**

Political instability lies at the heart of Zimbabwe's problems. The majority of Zimbabweans are emerging from the socio-economic crisis and every year, millions of people rely on food aid in Zimbabwe. Drought and erratic rainfall patterns, a ruined infrastructure and an economy in collapse means many people can't grow enough food to survive. Church partners here focus on a range of issues from food security and nutrition, to HIV, health and gender equality.

- **Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory**

Failure to secure a lasting solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is causing poverty to deepen, and allowing violence and despair to persist.

Christian Aid has been working with the poorest people in the region since the

early 1950s, when they provided help to Palestinian refugees. Today they are working with more than 20 Israeli and Palestinian organisations to protect human rights, access to services and resources, and to build peace based on justice for all.

Their development and humanitarian relief reaches Palestinians and Israelis; Jewish, Muslim, Christian and secular.

- **Central America**

Christian Aid works in four countries in Central America: Guatemala; Honduras; El Salvador and Nicaragua. We reach poor and marginalised families prioritising women, young people and ethnic groups historically excluded from society. We help small farmers access markets, produce higher quality products and obtain a better price for them. We work to build resilience of communities in areas along the Pacific coast which are particularly prone to disasters and environmental hazards such as floods and landslides. Finally, we enable people to lobby their governments to develop policies which take into account the voices of the poor and marginalised.

Campaigning

A vital part of Commitment for Life is campaigning. You will be sent information regularly on how you can work practically to change the systems, structures and processes that keep people locked into poverty. Commitment for Life links directly to statements 8, 9 and 10 of *vision2020*, the mission framework of the United Reformed Church.

75% is to support the work of Christian Aid's partners in the four featured countries. 5% of the money goes to Global Justice Now to support their fight against poverty.

20% is for co-ordinating the scheme, advocacy work and grant giving



I feel privileged to have seen the work of Christian Aid partners. I was impressed by the work at a community level changing the lives of ordinary people and the work with governments changing possibilities. The money we give turns into action that improves conditions for some of our poorest global 'neighbours', and it is important that we continue to support Commitment for Life.

Revd Simon Walkling, Moderator,
Synod of Wales



Together we are stronger, and the success of our advocacy and fundraising efforts to shift the balance of global power depends on your individual actions – so please do not underestimate your role in this journey. Thank you for your committed support.

Loretta Mingella, Executive Director,
Christian Aid



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**Want to be part of the programme?
If you are interested in the programme
we would love to hear from you.**

Commitment for Life
86 Tavistock Place
London
WC1H 9RT

Telephone: 020 7691 9867
Email: cforl.admin@urc.org.uk



For more information visit the Commitment for Life website www.cforl.org.uk

The United Reformed Church Trust (URC Trust) is a limited company registered in England & Wales (Registered Number: 135934).
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Global Justice Now registered charity number 1064066 Company number 2098198

Childrens Pages

Acorn Owls



What you'll need:

- *Acorns
- *Felt scraps (or colored paper)
- *Glue and paintbrush
- *Scissors

Step 1:

Cut out eyes, beak and wings

Step 2:

Glue body parts onto acorn

Step 3:

Cut out a branch, flower, leaves or other fun accessories

Step 4:

Step 4? You're done!

What other animals can you make? Try a pig, cat or rabbit...

DIY: Paper Heart Wall Art

Try this wall art idea. You can make it in a bunch of your favourite colours.

Best part of all, this will cost very little to make.

STEP 1: Make a heart template out of card and then traced and cut out all your hearts (88 total).

STEP 2: Divide the hearts into 8 sections of 11 and staggered the colors so they would look random.

STEP 3: Sew each strand together, leaving a 1" gap between each heart and long threads at the top of each row to wrap around the wood.

STEP 4: Wrap each line around the wood and secured the string on the top and back with tape.

STEP 5: Cut some lace and hot glue it over the front of the wood, making sure to seal each string.



SILK FLOWER DISPLAY

- Bourgainvillea / Orchids and Trailing Apple Blossom

In church as of Sunday 20 September is a tall green Dutch Planter and a white wooden obelisk featuring some silk flowers that formed part of my big Birthday celebrations which are now past! I have brought them into church to give them a second lease of life. They are not intended to take the permanent place of other flowers that people have signed up to do on the flower rota over the following few Sundays but if they are in the way and need to be moved then folk need to be aware of the following:

1) The obelisk on top is not secured to the planter. It is just placed on top so if you need to move the whole thing to a different position bear that in mind and take care. It's not too heavy but 2 people moving it would prevent any calamity.

2) When everyone is fed up of it please don't dispose of any of it before asking me.

3) The flowers are silk and they were not cheap(!!) so I would like to think they could be stored in the cupboard and re-used and not thrown away. I am happy to lend them out as long as people ask me first please so I know where they are.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. I hope you like them!

Helen Moore

The Knitted Bible

While travelling from Worcester to Bristol over the Summer we stopped off in Tewkesbury and stumbled across the Knitted Bible Exhibition at the Methodist Church.

Hartlepool URC started knitting at the end of February 2008, only intending to create the scene of 'The Last Supper', but, enthusiasm and imagination, combined to make them much more ambitious!

The hope is that in depicting some of the best-known stories in the Bible, everyone who sees them will be able to understand and enjoy them – and may discover some detail that they had forgotten or never noticed before – whilst learning more about God and his love for this world and its people.

The whole exhibition is done with a good deal of tongue-in-cheek, and this makes the 33 scenes so much more enjoyable. If you ever stumble across a Church that is holding the Exhibition do go and have a look.

Tim & Teresa



David and Goliath



Daniel in the Lions Den



Jonah and the Whale



Lowering the Paralysed Man

Albany Fellowship

Jean and Teresa hope that you all had a wonderful Summer that recharged batteries ready for the Winter ahead.



It was good to see so many of you after our summer break on September 3rd when we shared a ploughman's Lunch together. There were fourteen of us and there was a lot to catch up on.

We are not meeting in October as both Jean and Teresa are away, this is a rare occurrence for both of us to be away at the same time.

We will meet again on November 5th where we will be celebrating Rita's 90th Birthday. Doreen Yates is going to play the piano for us and recite some of her poems.

Then in December we have our Christmas meal. We have yet to make a decision where to go.

We look forward to seeing you all on 5th November at 2.30pm.
We send you all our love and Best wishes
Jean and Teresa

Cycle Ride

As you know Teresa and Tim took part in the National cycle ride on September 12th. We want to thank all of you who sponsored us.

We had an eventful day beginning with a burst tyre on Tim's bike which was rapidly repaired. We then visited three Church's and had to shelter under a huge tree out of a torrential downpour. As we were going round Bredon Hill the weather got up quite warm

and we were alright until we arrived back in Pershore, where we stopped by a bus stop to look at the next loop of Churches, as we sat there the heavens opened again.

By this time the battery on my bike was getting low, (I have a peddle assist electric bike as I can't get up the hills anymore with my back), so we made the decision to return home, put my battery on charge for half an hour and Tim could swap his bike for another one.

We did all this, then headed out to the Church's near where we live and the Worcester City Church's.

We raised a grand total of £165.

Again thank you to all sponsored us, our Church gets half of what we raised.

Best Wishes
Teresa and Tim



Prayer Partners 2015

October: Commitment for Life Churches



We pray for

- congregations that are part of the Commitment for Life programme as they hold special services and prayerfully consider their yearly contributions.
- link people who share the stories of their partner country/region throughout the year and encourage worshippers to take campaign actions.
- advocates in each Synod who care for Commitment for Life churches and offer speakers to make the connection between our faith and our actions.

November – Guatemala

We pray

- for communities affected by increasingly frequent and stronger storms that destroy homes and families .
- for those that have been helped by Christian Aid partner, CPDL, to lobby and campaign to local and national governments so they will act to help those affected .
- for those that dredge the rivers and reinforce river banks to provide protection for the communities.
- that people begin to have a deeper understanding of the ways in which large scale farming and deforestation can affect the environment



URC address TEL 020 7691 9867 Email: lmeadcforld@gmail.com

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Worcester URC Duty Rotas

	4-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct	
Preacher	Helen Moore Harvest Festival	Rev Diane Cooksey			
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Michael Clarke Rosemary Clarke	David James Barbara James	Brian McCluskie Jean McCluskie	Russell Needham Jo Needham	
Reading	Betty Forrer	Penny Peak	Michael Clarke	Nicky Neville-Lee	
Prepare Table		Teresa Dunn Jean McCluskie		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	
Serve Communion		Rob Peachey David James Roger Morris Margaret Morris		Tom Cheesbrough Michael Clarke	
Beadle	Sarah Lodge	Helen Moore	Brian McCluskie	Chris Harris	

	1-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov
Preacher					
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Chris Taylor Les Kease	Chris Harris Roger Harris	Val Geddes Ann Cook	Carol Hardyman Betty Forrer	Bryan Neville-Lee Nicky Neville-Lee
Reading	Paul Denham	Rob Peachey	Margaret Morris		Jeremy Davies
Prepare Table		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee		Len Berryman Pat Berryman	Len Berryman Pat Berryman
Serve Communion		Jeremy Davies Liz Davies Paul Denham Sarah Lodge		Brian McCluskie Margaret Morris	Brian McCluskie Margaret Morris
Beadle	Paul Denham	Pat Berryman	David James	Nicky Neville-Lee	Helen Moore

	6-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	
Preacher					
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Jeremy Davies Liz Davies	Sarah Lodge Margaret Dodds	Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	Penny Peak Ann Cook	
Reading	Liz Davies	Margaret Dodds	Brian McCluskie	Sarah Lodge	
Prepare Table		Teresa Dunn Jean McCluskie		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	
Serve Communion		Roger Morris Helen Moore Rob Peachey Michael Clarke		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee	
Beadle	Brian McCluskie	Chris Harris	Paul Denham	Pat Berryman	

PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR OWN DUTY SWAPS AS REQUIRED

