



Welcoming,  
Caring,  
Sharing

**February/March 2015**

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**CHURCH ADDRESS:**

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WR1 3DU

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

# The Sunday Plan



Sunday 1st February  
10:30 am Worship

Conducted by Rev John Marsh  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 8th February  
10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Individual glasses

Conducted by Rev Diane Cooksey  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 15th February  
10:30 am Worship

Conducted by Helen Yare  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 22nd February  
10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Common Cup

Conducted by Rev Ian Ring  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 1st March  
10:30 am Worship

Conducted by Des Robson  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 8th March  
10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Individual glasses

Conducted by Rev Rosalind Selby  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 15th March  
10:30 am Worship

Conducted by Nicky Neville-Lee  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 22nd March  
10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion  
Common Cup

Conducted by Rev Richard Jones  
Coffee after the service

Sunday 29th March  
10:30 am Worship

Conducted by Bill Sumner  
Coffee after the service

## From the Manse



‘You therefore, beloved, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.’ (2 Peter 3.17-18)

Dear friends

By the time you read this, I shall be in the middle of my Sabbatical. Hopefully, I shall enjoy new experiences, and my batteries will recharge, ready to return at the start of April like the Duracell bunny. My first service will then be on Easter Sunday. So I have prepared for Easter already, which seems very odd to me, as I did so before Christmas. But that’s the way the years roll by. We follow the Church calendar of Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Advent, and so on, and the years tick on, every day another gift from God.

I find that we always have two challenges when it comes to the church year. One is to see that it doesn’t make us dull and bored. And the other is to find comfort in the gift of regularity. What I mean is that, when we celebrate the same events every year (Christmas, Easter, and so on), we can let our brain go to sleep. We cease to think about what these events mean. We hear the same story every time and it becomes like a little nag in the back of our heads. We switch off and allow our attention to wander. My job, and the job of all leaders of worship, is to try to make you see the grand sweep of Christian life and Good News in fresh ways. After all, there is no greater story in the whole of the universe than the one about a God who sends his Son to be born, live, die, and rise again, in order to call us to him.

So, don't let it become humdrum. Remind yourself again and again that this story is personal to you. And thank God for each chapter.

The other side is to find comfort. When we cease to think about what these great events tell us, we can forget that it is personal. And it is personal because God loves so much. If we forget it was all for us, then we can fret and worry and allow ourselves to be stressed. Jesus says several times, 'Do not be afraid. Do not worry.' He says that God cares. And he says that he will never leave you nor forsake you. So, as we are reminded of each event, the challenge is to fix our minds on who Jesus is and what he has done for us. What other place is there to find such comfort?

For 2015, ask God to open your minds afresh to this grand story. You have been given a new heart, a new spirit, and Jesus has come to live within you. When you start to think that through, there is enough to keep you astounded through this age and into the ages to come.

Every blessing for 2015  
Duncan

By the way, if any of you feel you desperately cannot go three months without a glimpse of me, then come to the pantomime of 'Sleeping Beauty' in Upton. It runs from 17th to 21st February, and tickets can be had from Upton Laundrette (01684 592208) as normal. You may not recognise me through all the make-up, but I'll be there!

## **Items for the April Newsletter**

If you have any items for inclusion in the April 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 22nd March at the latest please.

# Diary Dates

Sunday February 22nd : Church Meeting after the Service

Saturday March 14th : Silent Movie Night : 7:30 pm

Tuesday March 31st : Holy Week Worcester Wedge Service  
St Georges RC, 7:30 pm

Monday Evenings : Singing Group : Contact Margaret Morris

Friday Evenings : Table Tennis : Contact Tim Dunn

Monthly Book Group : Contact Tim & Teresa Dunn

Monthly Albany Fellowship : Contact Jean McCluskie/Teresa Dunn



## Women's World Day of Prayer

Jesus said to them: Do you know what I have done to you?

Prepared by Christian women of The Bahamas

6<sup>th</sup>. March 2015

### City service

Worcester United Reformed 10.30 am

Albany Terrace

followed by refreshments

### Westside service

Bromyard Road Methodist 1.45 pm

St. Mary's, Kempsey 2.30 pm

John the Baptist, Claines 7.30 pm

St. James, Callow End 7.30 pm

St. Clements, St. Johns 7.30 pm

Fernhill Heath Baptist 7.30 pm

# Helping the people of the Gambia

You are invited to a concert  
'Helping the people of the Gambia'  
Featuring

Rough Diamonds Choir [www.roughdiamonds.info](http://www.roughdiamonds.info)  
and  
Worcester Ukulele Club [www.worcester-uke-club.co.uk](http://www.worcester-uke-club.co.uk)

Saturday 21st February 7.30pm at Hallow Village Hall

Tickets £6.00 in advance or £8.00 on the door



to include light refreshments.

Bar available.

Contact Rosemary Henman

01905 640351

07775 806203



Email [rosemaryhenman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rosemaryhenman@hotmail.co.uk)

Proceeds from the concert will go to The Dowda Sonka Trust, a charity which was set up and named after a boy called Dowda. Rosemary met him while they were giving footballs to some boys in rural Gambia. His face was badly damaged by a cobra which spat at him. He had had surgery which saved his life but had not been taken back to see doctors since.

Rosemary and family raised £3,500 enabling Dowda and his mother to spend 3 months in Ghana where he received surgery on his damaged face and eyes. He returned to school and now at 18 he is doing very well at school and is due to go to college.

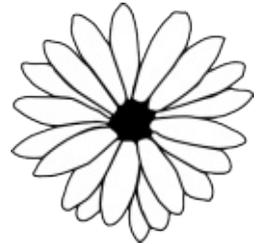
For the last 5 years Rosemary, through the charity, has supported a local social nursery which is run by the women of the village. All 5 classes have been decorated and the floors tiled. The dining hall, kitchen and wash area have been painted and retiled. Toys and books have been provided for the nursery and neighbouring primary

school.

The charity is registered but very small ie Rosemary and helpers at funding events, and helpers in Gambia. The next project is to build new toilets which will cost £2,500.

Money raised at the concert will hopefully go a long way to meeting this need.

Rosemary has been in the Gambia in January and will be giving us up to date news from there. No doubt she will also have brought back craft items to sell!



I would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way with the flowers over the last few years. You have all been very generous and I have certainly appreciated it. It is a job I have thoroughly enjoyed doing as I love flowers – which helps. I will help in any way I can if I am around in the future.

Again Thank you to you all

Teresa Dunn

## **Women's World Day of Prayer**

Friday, March 6th. 2015

This year we are hosting the main Worcester service here at Albany Terrace. The service starts at 10.30 am and we will be serving coffee and biscuits after the service. As it is on a Friday morning, Nursery will be in the Hall so we can only use the Church and the Vestry kitchen. Help with any part of the service will be gratefully received by me!

Please talk to me, phone or email. Nicky.

# Childrens Pages

As we go into the pre Easter season of Lent, Why not Make a 'Window Cling Cross'. You can make as many as you like to attach to your mirrors or windows to help prepare for Easter. The materials are readily available and inexpensive.



Trivia: In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline.

## Supplies:

Large Size Freezer Bag or Other Heavy Duty Plastic Piece  
White Glue, Food Colour, Craft Stick, Scissors, a Cross Pattern

## Instructions:

To make a Window Cling Cross, print the cross pattern. Slide it under the plastic bag on your work surface.

Spread a generous layer of white glue on the plastic bag cover the area of the cross. Drip a few drops of food coloring around on the glue area. Swirl with a craft stick, add additional drops of the same or other colors until the desired effect is achieved. The colors will dry darker and be translucent when dry. Set aside to dry, using a hair dryer will speed up drying time. If using a hair dryer, don't get too close to the plastic. It may start to shrink or melt.

When dry, cut out the shape and peel from plastic bag.

Lightly moisten the back and it will cling to a window or a mirror.

This Recycled Jeans Organizer is a fun way for teens to combine their creative side with their eco friendly side and create the perfect locker organizer. You can fuse the elements or use this project as a beginning sewing project.

Trivia: In 1853, Levi Strauss had canvas made into waist overalls. Subsequently he substituted a twilled cotton cloth from France that we now know as denim.

### Supplies

Permanent Fabric Adhesive, Buttons for decoration, Scissors, Rick-rack trim, Box of large paper clips, Ribbon of choice, 2 to 4 pairs of used jeans with various sized pockets, 12" Wooden ruler



### Instructions

1. Cut around pockets from old jeans and set aside.
2. Use fabric from one denim pants leg to create the body of your organizer. Cut to desired size allowing for a half-inch seam allowance around all edges. Make sure the finished width of organizer matches your wooden ruler length.
3. Fold all raw edges over to the backside and adhere with Fabric Fusion. Use large paper clips to hold seams in place until dry.
4. Use Fabric Fusion to adhere reserved jeans pockets onto organizer body. Lay flat until dry.
5. Cut trims and rick rack to fit width of organizer. Where desired, apply trims and rick rack to organizer with Fabric Fusion. Let dry.
6. Cut four lengths of ribbon to create loops for hanging. Make sure loops will accommodate wooden ruler. Secure to back of organizer with Fabric Fusion. Let dry.
7. Hang finished organizer from wooden ruler inserted through ribbon loops.

## To Do List From God

I ran my life in search of worldly things;  
My time and will were firmly in control.  
I thought I had no need for what God brings;  
I gave no heed to murmurs from my soul.

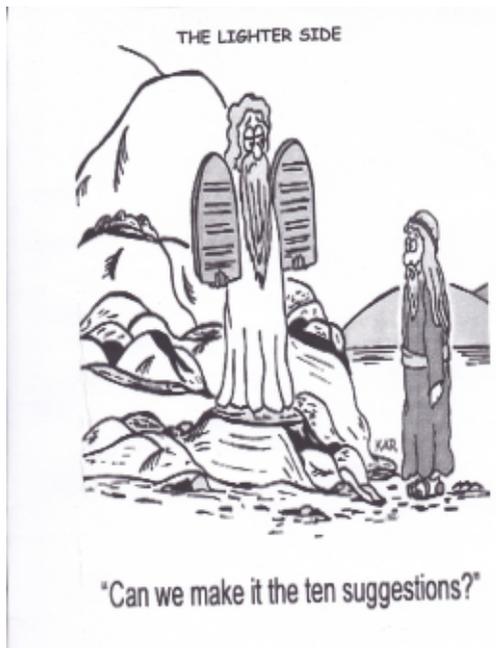
"You're planning, doing all the  
time," it said,  
"But something else is missing  
deep inside.  
Your mind is whirling, but  
your heart is dead,  
So turn to God and let go of  
your pride."

I did, and God said, "Here's  
My plan for you:  
Give your life to Me, and just  
let go.  
Have faith and pray, and read  
the Bible through,  
And you'll have blessings more  
than you can know."



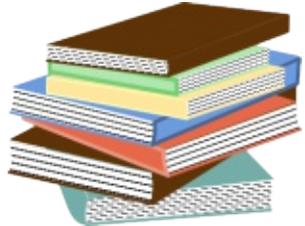
So simple, yet it brings me perfect peace,  
Living life for God the way I should.  
Direction, purpose, fullness and release—  
Life with God is very, very good.

By Joanna Fuchs



## Book Club

Book club is continuing to meet but we have decided to move away from a regular day of the week. This will give us all a chance to attend one month or another.



Suggested dates for the next couple of months are:  
Tuesday February 24th  
Thursday March 19th.

We will continue to talk about books we have read in the last month, but look out for our extra 'Special Topics' that we will announce each month.

# Albany Fellowship

Well here we are another new Year and it is almost February already!!!



Jean and Teresa send you all our very best wishes for a good year and hope it brings all the things you would like.

Our Christmas meal was at The Blue Bell in Callow End and saw 22 of us enjoying a wonderful lunch and sharing it with some wonderful people. Thank you to all of you who came to the meal and made it extra special.

Our next meeting is coming up on February 5th 2015. We will meet at 12.30pm at Church for a soup and a roll lunch. This will also give us chance to catch up with all the news if we haven't already done so.

The programme is filling up and we hope to have a 2015 diary for you at the February meeting.

We plan to have an outing in June this year as July was quite difficult for a number of people. Please think about somewhere we could go that is not too far away that we could either have lunch or afternoon tea. If you think of anywhere please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you on 5th February at 12.30pm.

Love  
Jean and Teresa

**This year with a  
Brighter, Clearer  
Picture!!**

# **SILENT MOVIE NIGHT 3**

**Albany Terrace  
United Reformed Church  
Saturday March 14th  
7:30 pm**

**1920s Short Films from  
Charlie Chaplin, Keystone Cops etc.  
with Live Musical Accompaniment  
by  
Lucas Ball**

**Tickets £3.50 on the door  
(children free)  
to include tea and coffee**

**All proceeds donated to  
HOPE CARRIERS TRUST**

**Evening Dress Optional**

# Prayer Partners 2015

February – Bangladesh



We pray for

\* Golam and his elderly parents as he continues to grow his small business following the devastating loss of his shop and goods during a cyclone.

\* those giving support to community groups who have played a crucial role in ensuring vital local government services reach the poorest and most vulnerable.

\* all the other people, whose names we do not know, trained by Christian Aid partner, Shushilan, in poultry farm rearing, crop cultivation, small income generating schemes, disaster preparedness and much more.

March – Campaigning

We pray for



\* those attending global meetings and composing agreements towards a safer environmental future, that they may understand the importance of acting now.

\* all who hold special services, write to their MP or MEP about issues related to climate change or Tax Justice, that they may be strengthened through prayer into action.

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

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## Worcester URC Duty Rotas

	1-Feb	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	
Preacher	Rev. John Marsh	Rev. Diane Cooksey	Helen Yare	Rev. Ian Ring	
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Pat Berryman Len Berryman	Michael Clarke Rosemary Clarke	David James Barbara James	Brian McCluskie Jean McCluskie	
Reading	Nicky Neville-Lee	Paul Denham	Rob Peachey	Margaret Morris	
Prepare Table		Sarah Lodge Chris Harris		Teresa Dunn Jean McCluskie	
Serve Communion		Paul Denham Sarah Lodge Brian McCluskie Margaret Morris		Roger Morris Helen Moore	
Beadle	David James	Nicky Neville-Lee	Helen Moore	Chris Harris	

	1-Mar	8-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar
Preacher		Rev. Rosalind Selby	Helen Yare		
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Russell Needham Jo Needham	Chris Taylor Les Kease	Chris Harris Roger Harris	Val Geddes Ann Cook	Carol Hardyman Betty Forrer
Reading	Rosemary Clarke	Jeremy Davies	Liz Davies	Margaret Dodds	Carol Hardyman
Prepare Table		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee	
Serve Communion		Rob Peachey Michael Clarke Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee		David James Jeremy Davies	
Beadle	Brian McCluskie	Paul Denham	Liz Davies	Helen Yare	David James

	5-Apr	12-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr	
Preacher	Canon Mark Dorsett			Rev. Duncan Tuck	
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Bryan Neville-Lee Nicky Neville-Lee	Jeremy Davies Liz Davies	Sarah Lodge Margaret Dodds	Roger Morris Margaret Morris	
Reading	Brian McCluskie	Sarah Lodge	Roger Morris	Tim Dunn	
Prepare Table	TBC	Len Berryman Pat Berryman		Sarah Lodge Chris Harris	
Serve Communion	TBC	Liz Davies Tom Cheesbrough Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee		Paul Denham Brian McCluskie	
Beadle	Nicky Neville-Lee	Helen Moore	Brian McCluskie	Chris Harris	

**PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR OWN DUTY SWAPS AS REQUIRED**

