



**Welcoming,
Caring,
Sharing**

April/May 2014

MINISTER

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CHURCH SECRETARY

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CHURCH ADDRESS:

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The Sunday Plan



Sunday 6th April
11 am Worship

Conducted by Robert Lewin-Jones
Coffee after the service

Sunday 13th April
11 am Worship & Holy Communion
Individual glasses

Conducted by Teresa and Tim Dunn
Coffee after the service

Sunday 20th April
Easter Sunday Communion 10am

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck
Coffee after the service

Sunday 27th April
11 am Worship & Holy Communion
Common Cup

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck
Coffee after the service

Sunday 4th May
11 am Worship

Conducted by Helen Yare
Coffee after the service

Sunday 11th May
11 am Worship & Holy Communion
Individual glasses

Conducted by TBA
Coffee after the service

Sunday 18th May
11 am Morning Worship

Conducted by TBA
Coffee after the service

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

Conducted by Rev Duncan Tuck
Coffee after the service

Sunday 1st June
11 am Morning Worship

Conducted by Helen Yare
Coffee after the service

Sunday 8th June
11 am Morning Worship

Conducted by TBA
Coffee after the service

From the Manse



Don't times change? I heard someone saying the other day that their young boy, when he manages to get dressed in the morning, will say, 'Level completed!' And someone else said that when they play board games together at home, and his children want to go to the toilet, they will say, 'Pausing play!'

If you have no idea what's going on, let me just say that both those phrases, and many more, come from the world of computer games. For the younger generations, those phrases are bleeding into the world of normal conversation. Words move. Language develops. Times change. It was always the way. The way we speak to each other now is completely different from the language used in Victorian times. King Henry the Eighth would have been appalled at the way Victorians spoke. And so on and so on. Times change.

I say this because I have a 'Manga Bible.' It tells the bible stories in a popular cartoon style called Manga, which originated in Japan. It is very gritty, aimed at young people, with modern language. So, when Pilate addresses the crowd at Jesus' trial, in this version he says, 'Listen up, you lot!' In the garden, when Jesus is arrested, it has Peter saying, 'Get your filthy hands off my master!'

I imagine that it won't be long before even this Manga Bible language is old-fashioned. But the interesting thing is that the actual crucifixion of Jesus is not tinkered with. Still they say, 'Jesus was nailed to a cross. On either side of him hung robbers.'

The scribes, Chief Priests and passers-by looked up and mocked him: "He saved others, but he can't save himself..." Suddenly Jesus gasped his last words: "It is finished." And he died.'

There is the Easter story. It is traditional and unchanged. I guess the Manga writers were either being sensitive, or they felt that nothing they could write would have a bigger impact. The story is timeless. The events of Easter remain unchanging and unswervingly powerful. They are the events we cannot avoid if we are to make sense of God, evil, sin, and the problems of living this life.

God himself came, in Jesus, and lived, was crucified, died, and rose again for us, and he lives now within those who have faith in him. To know that as a truth for ourselves is as powerful a piece of life-affirming and moving drama as we could hope for. There is the reason for living, and the reason to keep going.

Languages may come and go, and attempts may well be made to water down the Easter story. People may try to change the language. But the knowledge of what God has done for you, in Christ, is the golden link that transcends nations, languages, dialects, trends, fads, game languages, and anything else that our shifting world may come up with.

This Easter, remind yourself of that powerful drama. Tell yourself the story of Jesus. Know that it was all done for you because you are loved. Let God's Spirit work within you. And allow yourself to respond, following your Lord no matter where he may take you into this often mysterious and incomprehensible world. Whatever the language, he walks with you.

Have a blessed Easter

Duncan

Diary Dates

Wednesday, April 2nd	Elders Meeting, 7pm
Thursday, April 3rd	Albany Fellowship, 2.30pm
Tuesday, April 8th	Church Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm
Sunday, April 20th	Easter Breakfast, 8.30am In the Hall
Thursday, May 1st	Albany Fellowship, 2.30pm
Thursday, May 15th	Elders Meeting, 7pm

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

50th Anniversary Celebration



Dear Helen (and the congregation at Albany Terrace),

Jackie and I thank you and everyone at Albany Terrace for such a lovely occasion on Sunday - including the splendid lunch.

There seemed to be a good mix of people from the church's past and present - which felt encouraging for the future of the congregation. We're sure you felt well rewarded as you saw how much everyone enjoyed it all.

It was good that so many people took part in the service, including young Ruby who read with good clear meaning. The printed Order of Service was a real help (we might have run out of hymn books!). We liked the welcoming balloons, and enjoyed the singing group's contribution. And that splendid cake - a fine artistic confection that was a feast for the eyes! - strictly so for me (John) since my one regret was that, somehow, I missed out on the cake !! - but not on the rest of the wonderful feast - really tasty!

There's so much hard work and planning involved in such an event, which we well appreciate.

Thank you all very much indeed.

John & Jackie

50th Anniversary Celebration - Part 2

I think John Marsh's email says it all but I would like to thank those who helped to make it such a special day.

Liz Davies for organising the fantastic food and Nicky for her invaluable support.

Val Geddes for making and donating such a wonderful cake.

Teresa and Chris Harris for the lovely flower display.

Tim for the slide show and the photograph display, and Brian McCluskie for being our photographer for the day.

Ruby for reading so well, the Choir for taking part and Lucas for playing for us.

Last but not least – to Helen Yare for undertaking the task of organising and setting out the Service based on the original that was held 50 years ago on 29th February 1964.

~And of course thank you to all those who helped and donated towards the day and all who attended for making it a very memorable occasion.

Pat B

Free Volcano Concert



A Volcano Concert will be held in the Cathedral at 12.30pm on Saturday 17th May. Collection for Maggs.

The concert will last for an hour but anyone who wants to come and listen for a short time will of course be very welcome!

Silent Movie Night



Our Movie night on 15th March was a very enjoyable evening and we raised in excess of £210 for the Hope Carriers Trust.

We managed to get several people from outside of our normal congregation to attend so we had a chance to meet and greet with some of the local residents. Hopefully we can run a similar evening again next year.

Some funnies....

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Childrens Pages

Searching for GOD

G	D	O	O	G	G	O	G	D	O	O	G	G	O
O	G	O	O	D	D	D	G	O	G	D	O	D	D
O	D	O	D	G	O	O	G	D	O	O	G	G	G
G	D	G	O	O	O	D	D	O	O	D	G	D	O
O	D	G	D	O	D	G	D	O	D	D	O	D	G
G	G	G	D	G	G	O	G	O	O	D	G	O	O
O	G	D	O	D	D	G	O	O	D	D	O	O	G

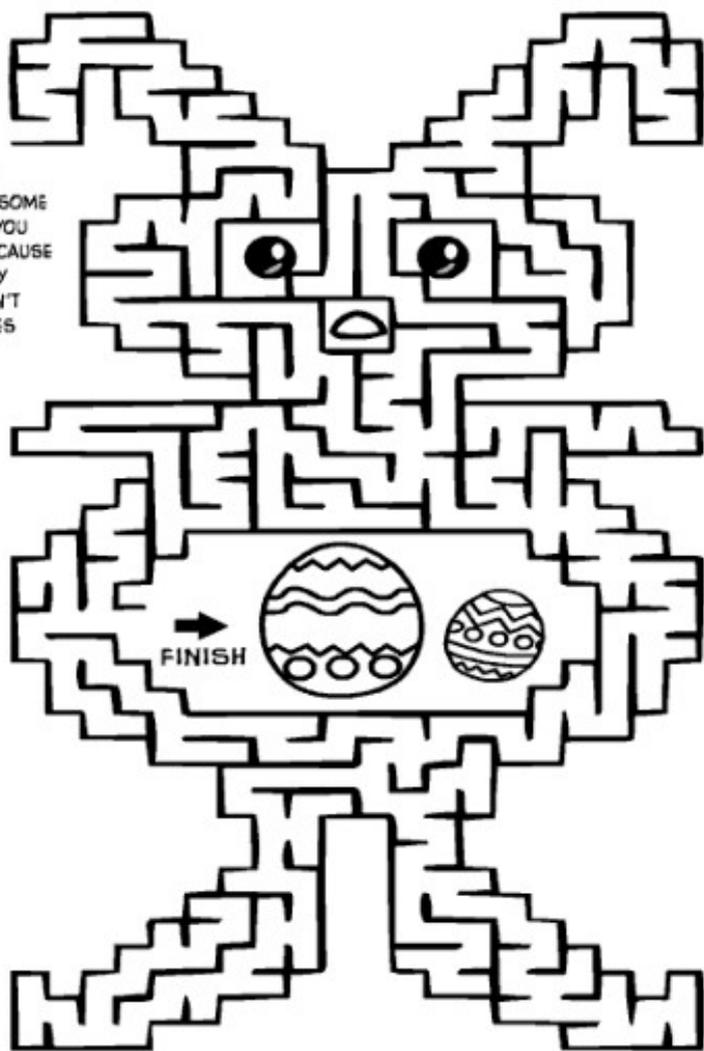
MAZE EASTER MAZE

START



UH OH! THE EASTER BUNNY IS MISSING SOME EASTER EGGS. DO YOU THINK IT MAY BE BECAUSE HE ATE THEM? SILLY EASTER BUNNY! DON'T YOU KNOW? BUNNIES DON'T EAT EGGS!

TRY TO FIND YOUR WAY TO THE EASTER BUNNY'S TUMMY TO FIND THE EGGS BEFORE HE TRIES TO EAT SOME MORE!



FINISH

Notes from Church Meeting

Extract from Church Meeting Minutes held on Sunday, 16 February 2014 (after the Service)

The Hut – The sale of the hut site was concluded on Friday, 14 February 2014 and the cheque paid to Synod. A gate has been purchased to cordon off the demolition work area to protect the Nursery School children.

Minister Vacancy – There has been no further candidates for the position of part-time Minister. We have expressed concern to Synod and a meeting with the Moderator, Revd Roy Lowes, and the Pastoral Group has been planned for 29 February. The situation is constantly changing and each month can bring the possibility of a new candidate.

Treasurer - Roger Morris has relinquished his role as Treasurer after many years. The meeting wished Roger well and expressed their gratitude and appreciation for all the work he had done. Jeremy Davies expressed his willingness to take on the role. The meeting was asked if there was anyone else interested in the position. No further offers were made and Jeremy's nomination was gratefully accepted and would be put the AGM on 8 April.

New Elders - Two serving Elders were required in April. Different people had different talents to bring to Eldership and if anyone was interested in this very important task they should speak to a serving Elder to get an idea of what was required.

Evangelism – A questionnaire had been received from Synod asking about our Church's involvement in Evangelism. Helen Moore spoke to the meeting and said she was willing to be the lead person for the Church if we undertook evangelism. However, she was only prepared to do this if she had the full support of the

Church and did not want to go it alone. Helen asked for anyone who was interested in Evangelism to speak to her.

Leading Elder - Helen Yare had undertaken the role of our Leading Elder for the past 12 months. Synod now required that the role be officially recorded. Helen explained the tasks she had been carrying out during the year. She was the first contact of the Church and had taken on Ministerial duties in the absence of the Minister. It was preferable for the Leading Elder to be Lay Preacher trained. Helen was linked to Warndon LEP and preached there once a month. The meeting was asked if there was anyone else who would be interested in taking on the role.

No-one came forward and it was unanimously agreed that Helen should be our Leading Elder and her nomination would be put to the AGM in April. Helen was thanked for all the hard work she had undertaken during the past year.

Date of Next Meeting – AGM Tuesday, 8 April 2014, at 7.30pm.

Items for the June Newsletter

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

Albany Fellowship

Our meeting in February began with us sharing in a lunch of Soup and a Roll followed by mince pies and cups of tea. It was really nice to catch up with everyone after the Christmas break.



After we had finished our lunch we spent some time reflecting on Eileen Barnett and Margaret Morgan who are no longer with us.

In our March meeting we enjoyed a talk by Tim Dunn who told about how the Red Cross 'worked'. We learned that they do not just run to help people where disaster has struck but do a lot of work here in the Uk. We learnt that there are many departments at the Red Cross, each department working for a different section of the Red Cross. Each Country has it's own 'Branch' of The Red Cross, so when a crisis occurs in a particular country then that Country sends help and aid to help in the crisis. We also learnt that the cross itself has no religious connection at all...it is just a symbol.

Many thanks go to Tim for his informative talk.

Jean and Teresa went to visit Pat Smith who was very perky and bright in her self and entertained us with many of her stories from years ago. We also visited Eileen Grayson who had been unwell over the Christmas period. Eileen was reasonably fine and we had a good visit with her and talked of many things. It would be nice if you could keep both Pat and Eileen in your Prayers.

In April we have Duncan Tuck to talk to us about his time in The Pepper Pot Players at Upton and his roles in the Pantomimes.

Unfortunately Teresa will not be at the April meeting as she is away in Kent. We look forward to seeing you all on 3rd April.

Best Wishes
Jean and Teresa

War tears lives apart

Love can help piece them back together

**'The Lord is my rock,
my fortress, and my
deliverer... in whom
I take refuge.'**

2 Samuel 22:2-3

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life.

Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise.

It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic and a stain on the conscience of humanity. We can't turn our backs. We must act now.

The good news is that your church can make a real difference.

Last year, a magnificent 20,000 churches across the country helped raise over £12m for Christian Aid Week.

This Christian Aid Week (11–17 May 2014) we want to go even further. We want every church in Britain and Ireland to get involved – whether by giving, acting or praying.

Together we can send people living in fear this message: you are not alone. We're with you, helping you to rebuild your lives, and working for peace.



Imagine what such an expression of love would mean to people searching for the strength to cope with the devastation of war, and how it could help to drive out their fear.

Demonstrate God's love for those living in poverty and show how much good the church is doing in the world this Christian Aid Week.

Together we can reach the 42 million people caught up in conflict and help them live a life free from fear.

Could you provide the gift of hope?

- £15** could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.
- £40** could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.
- £150** could help us provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

**Be an instrument of God's peace.
Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.**

caweek.org



Prayer Partners 2014

April –our Intern and his work

We pray for

- strength, understanding and passion for this year's Commitment for Life Intern, Ian Rowe, as he attends meetings and works with youth and PILOT groups.
- the Fellowship of United Reformed Youth (FURY) in England Scotland and Wales to be passionate about bringing an end to poverty. To understand that, in order to tackle the underlying causes of poverty, change must come from those in power and they can be part of a movement for change.
- all the Christian Aid Collective Interns as they tell the stories of their trip to Colombia in churches and youth groups of all denominations and none.



May – El Salvador

We pray for

- Christian Aid partner Acudesbal working with local communities to set-up emergency committees and developing emergency plans to lessen the devastating impact of tropical storms, hurricanes and floods. Concepción Moratalla, one of the leaders in her community explains 'The early warning systems we now use have helped us greatly; they have saved lives.'
- and give thanks for the help farmers receive after the storm destruction to plant new crops and new rice varieties which are resistant to floods. This should ensure that, if flooding occurs again, the community will have enough food to eat and to sell.
- those working for organisations supported by Commitment for Life through Christian Aid in the most violent country in Central America, with 19% of adults victims of some form of crime each year. May they be inspired strengthened and protected when their work is dangerous.



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Worcester URC Duty Rotas

	6-Apr	13-Apr	20-Apr	27-Apr	
Preacher	Robert Lewin-Jones	Teresa & Tim Dunn	Rev Duncan Tuck	Rev Duncan Tuck	
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Carol Hardyman Betty Forrer	Bryan Neville-Lee Nicky Neville-Lee	Jeremy Davies Liz Davies	Sarah Lodge Margaret Dodds	
Reading	Betty Forrer	Penny Peak	Nicky Neville-Lee	Michael Clarke	
Prepare Table		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee	
Serve Communion		Tom Cheesbrough Michael Clarke Jeremy Davies Liz Davies		Paul Denham Sarah Lodge	
Beadle	Nicky Neville-Lee	Helen Moore	Rob Peachey	Liz Davies	

	4-May	11-May	18-May	25-May	
Preacher	Helen Yare	TBA	TBA	Rev Duncan Tuck	
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Roger Morris Margaret Morris	Penny Peak Ann Cook	Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	Tim Dunn Teresa Dunn	
Reading	Paul Denham	Rob Peachey	Margaret Morris	Rosemary Clarke	
Prepare Table		Teresa Dunn Jean McCluskie		Doreen Cheesbrough Tom Cheesbrough	
Serve Communion		Brian McCluskie Margaret Morris Roger Morris Helen Moore		Rob Peachey Michael Clarke	
Beadle	Paul Denham	David James	Helen Yare	Helen Moore	

	1-Jun	8-Jun	15-Jun	22-Jun	29-Jun
Preacher	Helen Yare				
Books/Foyer & Offertory	Paul Denham Rob Peachey	Pat Berryman Len Berryman	Michael Clarke Rosemary Clarke	David James Barbara James	Brian McCluskie Jean McCluskie
Reading	Jeremy Davies	Liz Davies	Margaret Dodds	Carol Hardyman	Brian McCluskie
Prepare Table		Len Berryman Pat Berryman		Sarah Lodge Rob Peachey	
Serve Communion		Nicky Neville-Lee Bryan Neville-Lee David James Jeremy Davies		Liz Davies Tom Cheesbrough	
Beadle	Paul Denham	Liz Davies	Helen Yare	Nicky Neville-Lee	David James

PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR OWN DUTY SWAPS AS REQUIRED

