

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 am THE SUNDAY SERVICE

Holy Communion - first Sunday of each month

(Please refer to Diary on page 8 for details of all Services as arrangements may vary).

WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Monday	5.00 - 6.00pm 6.00 - 7.15pm	Rainbows (5-7 years) at Radford Road Brownies (7-10 years) at Radford Road
Tuesday	2.00pm 7.00 - 8.30pm	Friendship Circle Guides (10-15 years) at Radford Road
Wednesday	10.30am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Wednesday Lunch alternating with Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship at 1.30 pm.
Thursday	2.00pm	Film Club (monthly)
Friday	6.15 - 7.45pm 6.15 - 7.15pm 7.30 - 9.00pm	Cub Scouts (8-10½ years) Beaver Scouts (6-8 years) Explorer Scouts
Saturday	9.00 - 11.00am 10.00am	The Big Breakfast (monthly on 2 nd . Saturday) Christians Together in Leamington Ramblers (monthly)

Radford Road Church web site: www.radfordroadchurch.org.uk

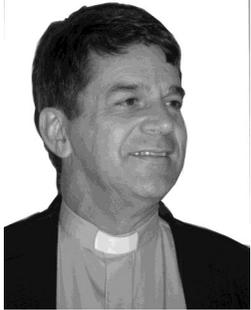
Radford Road Church
Leamington Spa
CV31 1NF

Magazine



June 2016

THE MINISTER'S LETTER



Dear friends

On June 11th we will see the Queen celebrate her official birthday and lead Trooping the Colour (also known as the Queen's Birthday Parade). Apparently it is held at this time of the year in the hope of better weather - we will see!

This is a very special year for her majesty, marking her 90th year (and 69th as our Queen). The Queen has looked in two directions for almost her entire life - upwards towards God, and outwards towards her people. And throughout, she has given unstinting service to both. She

said in her coronation vows and her 21st birthday radio address, "I declare before all of you that my whole life whether it be short or long shall be devoted to your service but I shall not have strength to carry (this) out unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do; God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share it." She did, we did and He did!

True to her word, our Queen still works over 40 hours a week. She is a supreme example of the servant Queen, working alongside the servant King. She has modelled for us what our approach to service should be. She has sacrificed a 'normal' life so that she could serve others. And she has never been afraid to show publicly her faith in God, frequently quoting the Bible or using Bible stories in speeches and in her Christmas addresses: "The story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37) reminds us of our duty to our neighbour. We should try to follow Christ's clear instruction at the end of that story: 'Go and do likewise'" (The Queen, Christmas 1985).

In this secular age it is surprising to hear a leading international figure, not a member of the clergy, choosing to talk of faith and prayer in the middle of a public speech which will go around the world. In 2013 she said, "For Christians, as for all people of faith, reflection, meditation and prayer help us to renew ourselves in God's love, as we strive daily to be better people". She sums up beautifully what God does for us when we serve him. Let us accept this call, echoing that of Jesus, to love God and one another, as we serve in the same way Jesus did, as our Queen has tirelessly done. And still does.

God save the Queen!

Andy

MINISTER (Methodist)	Rev. Andy Laird andrew.laird@methodist.org.uk
MINISTER (URC)	Rev. James Church jamesichurch@hotmail.com
ADMINISTRATOR	Margaret Bull
CHURCH TREASURER	Tina Wise
ORGANIST	Margaret Height
MID-WEEK WORSHIP	Jane Grunfeld
WEDNESDAY LUNCH	Veronica Brown
FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE	Margaret Height Ruth Eyles
PROPERTY COMMITTEE	Ken Robertson
RAINBOWS	Bridget Halpin
BROWNIES	Bridget Halpin
GUIDES	Rebecca Williams
BEAVER SCOUTS	Matthew Drinkhall
CUB SCOUTS	Janet Doody
EXPLORER SCOUTS	Deb Cooper
GROUP SCOUT LEADER	Louise Kalus
MAGAZINE EDITOR AND WEBMASTER	Marjorie Carrier carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk
CARETAKER	Pat Langley

ROTAS

	Welcomer	Coffee	Flowers to give	Arranger
June 5	Rosemary Moore	Veronica Brown & Sally Cligg	Mavis Moore & Sue Downton	Tony
June 12	Ann Blower	Jean Young & Julia Morris	Brenda Tandy	Margaret
June 19	Julia Morris	Jane Grunfeld & Joyce Limmagine	Gill Hubbard	Rosemary
June 26	Veronica Brown	Ruth & John Eyles	Ken & Hilda Robertson	Hazel
July 3	Joan Bicknell	Brenda & Alan Watts	Phil Schofield	Jean
July 10	Sue Darlison	Janice Dean & Veronica Brown	Veronica Brown	Kath

Would the first person on the Coffee Rota please bring 2 pints of milk and the second bring biscuits. Thank you!

We thank all those who have promised flowers for the church and also thank the arrangers for using their time and talents in this way.

PRAYER LINE

If you have a prayer request call **07594526888** and leave a message on our answer machine. Alternatively you can email prayer requests to **rrchurchpray@hotmail.co.uk** or speak with Jane Grunfeld or Hazel Hobbs. Our prayer group at the church will commit to praying for those requests.

Marjorie Carrier would welcome your contributions and suggestions for the July/August Magazine by Sunday June 19th at the latest, and preferably earlier, please. Email: carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk

FAMILY NEWS



We hold **Joan and Doug Bicknell** in our prayers as Doug awaits tests before undergoing an aortic valve replacement.

All good wishes go to **Bridget Halpin** on her retirement. Bridget celebrated by going on part of the Camino de Santiago Pilgrims' Walk with a group of friends. For centuries many pilgrims, for spiritual reasons, fitness or just to discover the natural beauty and heritage of the area, have followed the many paths to Santiago de Compostela and the tomb of St James.

Welcome to **Jherell** who is worshipping with us. Jherell is living in Warneford Mews and is a theatre nurse at the Nuffield Hospital.

Congratulations to **Tony Gulliman** who celebrated his 80th birthday on May 12th. A belated "Happy Birthday" to you, Tony.

Jessie Lawson sends her love and greetings to all her Radford Road friends. Although she is unable to attend church nowadays she still has a keen interest in church life and activities.

Gill Hubbard remains in Homewood and her husband, **Derek**, is spending a few weeks at Kenilworth Manor.

Anne & Kingsley Pilling have had a difficult year and remain in our prayers.

We send love and condolences to **Jane Grunfeld** on the sudden death of her father. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jane, her mother, brother, Edward and Rhiannon at this sad time.

Jane writes:

I would like to thank everyone at Radford Road for their prayers, messages and cards on the occasion of my father's death. They have meant so much to us as a family and truly have been a wonderful support. The words of the poem that was printed in last month's magazine ring very true, I quote the last line of 'The Church Family' by Marquita Lawson:- "For this family, oh, Father I thank you!" Thank you again and God Bless. Jane

A Prayer for our Church Family

God, we commend to your care families in our congregations, community, and world. Be with them all and bless them.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Mr. Peter Spencer, our Church Organ Builder and Tuner, wishes to thank friends at Radford Road Church who supported his fundraising for Asthma Research.

He ran the Coventry Half Marathon in February, completing the course in 2 hours 9 minutes and raising £7,000, of which £50 was our contribution.

Many thanks to all who so willingly gave to this worthwhile cause.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEAMINGTON

The annual open air **PRAISE IN THE PARK** service will be held on **June 5th at 11.00am** in the Pump Room Gardens. Bring your garden chairs, a rug and perhaps a picnic to join in this joyful service of praise.

If wet the service will be held at All Saints Church.

LEAMINGTON PEACE FESTIVAL

Saturday 18th June and Sunday 19th June.

Churches Together in Leamington is organising a stand where face painting, Christian temporary tattoos, balloons, bottles of water, a listening ear and a prayer tent are offered to all at absolutely no cost.

Two volunteers are needed from each church to help with face painting or with the stand for just an hour between 11.00am and 5.00pm on either day.

The prayer tent rota is being organised by the Revd. Brian Nash. Please contact him by email (leamvineyard@aol.com) if you could volunteer for that rota.

CHURCHES TOGETHER RAMBLERS - LEEK WOOTTON

Saturday June 18th 2016 9.45am for 10.00am



Meet in the car park at the Anchor Inn, Leek Wootton and enjoy a 4 mile walk round the perimeter of Warwickshire Golf Course.

There will be an optional lunch at the Anchor Inn.

Leaders: Rosemary Steel (Tel. 886372) and Edward Macpherson.

WARWICK DISTRICT FAITHS FORUM - ANNUAL FAITHS TRAIL

In April the Annual Faiths Trail, which aims to raise awareness and understanding of the different faiths in our area, visited three places of worship.

We began at the Polish Centre on High Street (formerly the Town Hall and then the Police Station). On the upper floor regular masses are celebrated in the church room. The Centre has served the Polish community since 1968 when the building was purchased, and provides social activities, a language school and worship facilities.

We were then welcomed at the Life Community Church in Charlotte St., (formerly called the Pentecostal Church), where we heard about the exciting, growing family congregation with their Kings Kidz Club on Fridays and Sunday Stars on Sunday Mornings, Parents and Toddlers work and the inspirational weekday teaching.

Finally, we visited the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association at the Baitul Ehsan Mosque at Riverside on Adelaide Rd, which was opened in 2008, where a delicious meal was served. The Muslim brothers spoke of the true message of Islam which is of "peace and love for all and hatred of none".

Our day was very rewarding and was an opportunity to connect with new friends and to discover new facets of our town and its people.

Please consider joining us in April 2017.

Veronica

FILM CLUB

The next Film Club will be on **Thursday June 23rd at 2.00pm** when you can enjoy

"FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD"

Based on the literary classic by Thomas Hardy, this is the story of independent, beautiful and headstrong Bathsheba Everdene, who attracts three very different suitors: Gabriel Oak, a sheep farmer, captivated by her wilful spirit; Frank Troy, a handsome and reckless sergeant; and William Boldwood, a prosperous and mature bachelor. This timeless story of Bathsheba's choices and passions explores the nature of relationships and love.

Tea and cakes will be served £2.00 per person



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
May 15th - 21st



Thank you to those who helped with the Christian Aid Week Sponsored Walk and the House to House collection.

The walk was enjoyable as we strolled around the Jephson Gardens in pleasant sunshine. There was a lot to admire as we noticed new features in the Gardens. Thank you to our sponsors who give willingly and generously to help to improve the lives of the poorest people in the world.

Our area for the House to House collection increases as new homes are built on the Sydenham estate and we also collect in smaller areas in different parts of the town. Some people collect individually whilst others prefer to go in a group. We knock on doors and some doors remain closed although the residents are at home; some people do not wish to donate but those who do give as generously as they are able and we raise a goodly sum

I have been Christian Aid representative for 15 years and a collector for many years before that. This is the last year I will be organising Christian Aid for Radford Road Church and so we are seeking another person, or a small group of people, to take over this role. If you feel that God is calling you to do this work, please speak to James or Andy and I will give any help I can.

Marjorie

THE LONDON MARATHON by the Revd. James Church

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. – Hebrews 12:1

When you're training it is very difficult to anticipate the atmosphere of the London Marathon, as the athlete and physician George Sheehan wrote, 'It's very hard in the beginning to understand that the whole idea is not to beat the other runners. Eventually you learn that the competition is against the little voice inside you that wants you to quit.'

I would go further and suggest that the other runners become your team; you are there to care for one another and encourage one another along the way.

I set off on Sunday 24th April at 7:30am with the challenge to run 26.2 miles and complete the London Marathon. I sat in the station at Streatham Common with three others dressed in running gear going in my direction. We chatted about our training and fundraising as the train made its way to London Bridge.

When we arrived the platform was heaving with thousands of people squashed like sardines, some looked nervous others looked ridiculous. Elvis was there, alongside a good number of men in drag. From London Bridge a free rail service took us to Greenwich where marshals directed us from the station up the hill to the park.

Once in the large enclosure with the 30,000 other runners, you could put your belongings in a plastic bag with your running number, and go to meet the other runners (especially the CLIC Sargent Team), then make your way to your pens.

These are cordoned off sections to stagger the runners starting times. I was in pen 8 of 9 and behind me stood a man with a giant tiger on his back, claws out-stretched and ready to pounce. I looked across and there I saw someone else with "churchy" across their top. He was running for the Enham Trust, a charity that supports people with disabilities and enables them to live independently.

It is incredible to be surrounded by so many people who are passionate about the causes they are running for. Just to the right of me two sisters were running for a heart disease charity, in memory of their baby sister, whilst carrying a six-foot banner! In front of me someone was dressed in a rhino outfit, part of a large team, dedicated to the charity 'save the rhinos'.

Adam and Eve may have come first in the human race, but we don't know how they performed at the 2016 London Marathon, though Sarah felt that Adam definitely needed a larger fig leaf. There was a boat of Native Americans running together, even a chap running with a fridge on his back, and a man with a ghetto blaster singing karaoke all the way round. It was particularly moving to see blind runners tied to their guides running the route.



SAINSBURY'S SHOPPING VOUCHERS

You may have noticed a box on the table in the vestibule of the church. You are invited to place the vouchers you are given when you pay your bill at Sainsbury's checkout into this box. If you do so our Scout Group will benefit as they are able to redeem these vouchers for equipment which will be of use to the young people in the Scout group. Please support our Scout Group as you shop, and drop your vouchers into the box over the next few weeks.

THE QUEEN'S AFTERNOON TEA PARTY AT RADFORD ROAD

The Afternoon Tea Party held at Radford Road Church on April 21st to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday raised £158.80 for Church funds.



HOUSE GROUP BIBLE STUDY

each Friday at
135, Leam Terrace
at 7.30pm

The House Group would be
delighted to
welcome others who would like to
share in the evening.

Please see James for further details.



**THE NEXT
BIG BREAKFAST
is on June 11th
at 9.00am**

Come along and bring your friends
and smell the sizzling bacon as you
come through the door to our
Big Breakfast.

Proceeds to our
Mission Project

PRAYING TOGETHER IN JUNE

A monthly Prayer Diary has been created to encourage the Church family to focus prayers on a daily basis, together with the concerns raised in the weekly news sheet.

1st	The House of Light & Hope	16th	Mary Coles
2nd	Jean Innis	17th	Wendy
3rd	Churches Together in Leamington	18th	Revd. James Church
4th	Uniformed Organisations	19th	Margaret & Chris
5th	Hilda & Ken	20th	Kingsley & Anne Pilling
6th	Jessie Lawson	21st	Bible Study Group
7th	Mid-Week Worship & Wed. Lunch	22nd	Film Club
8th	Valerie	23rd	Pat Jennings
9th	Big Breakfast	24th	The Night Shelter
10th	Jane & family	25th	Elders of the Church
11th	The Flower Arrangers	26th	Gill & Derek Hubbard
12th	Revd. Andy Laird	27th	Kit & Hugh Smith
13th	Faith Forum	28th	Clarice
14th	Friendship Circle	29th	John Farringdon
15th	Joyce Hill	30th	Clive Fowle's work

You are invited to take a pebble from the basket on the Table of Remembrance, sit or stand quietly and concentrate on your particular concern. Then hold or stroke your pebble – feel your hurt, worry, loneliness, pain, guilt, unhappiness or anxiety flowing into your stone. Feel it warm in your hand. If you are praying for someone else, feel your love and compassion flowing into your pebble.

When you are ready, leave your pebble at the cross of Jesus. Leave it with your concerns, so that Jesus can deal with it. Then go – knowing that Jesus loves and cares about you.

There is also a Book of Prayer. Any situation entered in the book will be prayed for at Friday Bible Study and included in the monthly Prayer Diary.

Crowds lined the course and cheered the runners on and offered Jelly babies, Jaffa cakes, and other fuel to power us forward. Having done most of my training alone it was an incredible experience to run with so many others, to high-five children in the crowd, and to see the streets of London lined with supporters. Many were holding signs saying everything from 'smile if you're not wearing any underwear' (who wouldn't smile at that), to 'hurry up my arms hurt'.



It was also great to see many churches open and offering drinks to supporters along the route; to see a couple of ministers praying for the runners and to be joined by runners from Christian Aid and the Salvation Army with whom I shared encouragements on the way round.

I found it tough particularly during miles 17 to 23, but I knew you would be praying for me, and I found the strength to keep going. It was amazing to see the way the other runners cared for one another. One CLIC Sargent runner, Alex Lacey, carried a young lad over two miles to enable him to complete the race.

One thing that I never doubted was that I would finish the race, but it wasn't until I was running down the Embankment I realised how close I was. It was at this point that I was joined by my brother, Mike, running alongside me and I knew that the finish was just around the

corner. It hurt, but I was determined to finish well, and almost before I knew it I had crossed the finishing line and was being handed a medal and sponsors' bag. I wrapped myself in the foil blanket and eventually made my way to CLIC Sargent's Hotel where I was given a quick ten minute massage. I was able to warm up and get something to eat. I was then joined by a few friends and family. I had completed the Marathon in 4 hours 43 minutes and 2 seconds (just over 3 minutes slower than Top Gear host and radio DJ, Chris Evans)! I am really pleased to have raised over £2,800 for CLIC Sargent which is great!

Thank you so much for all your generosity, support and encouragement.

Well done, James! This is an incredible achievement and everyone at Radford Road Church admires your physical ability and perseverance. We are all proud and delighted that you have raised so much money and awareness for this wonderful charity.

These pictures appear in colour on the church website.



JUNE DIARY 2016

Wed	1	10.30am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship led by the Revd. James Church
Fri	3	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	5	10.30am 11.00am	The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd. James Church Praise in the Park in the Pump Room Gardens with Christians from other churches in Leamington
Tues	7	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - no meeting
Wed	8	10.30am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Wednesday Lunch followed by talk by Marie Clare Barker "Guide Dogs for the Blind"
Fri	10	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	11	9.00am	Big Breakfast
Sun	12	10.30am 6.30pm	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church Methodist Circuit Service at Kenilworth Church Roger Jones production of "Snakes & Ladders"
Tues	14	2.00pm	Friendship Circle: Margaret Sheldon "Florence in the 60s"
Wed	15	10.30am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship
Fri	17	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	19	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. Andy Laird
Tues	21	2.00pm	Friendship Circle: AGM chaired by the Revd. James Church
Wed	22	12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by Songs of Praise video with Lesley Garrett
Thurs	23	2.00pm	Film Club "Far from the Madding Crowd"
Fri	24	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	26	10.30am 6.00pm	The Sunday Service led by the Elders Methodist Circuit Service at Dale Street Church - "Come & Pray" (see page 9)
Tues	28	2.00pm	Friendship Circle: The Lillington Ladies' Choir - Summer Concert. This is the final meeting until September 13 th
Wed	29	10.30am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship led by the Revd. James Church

METHODIST CIRCUIT SERVICE - COME & PRAY

This service will be held on **Sunday 26th June at 6.00pm at Dale Street Church**. Those wishing to attend are asked to give their names to Margaret Bull for catering purposes.
The organisers also invite anyone who may wish, to offer a prayer station.
This is innovative worship which all will find engaging.

SAYING GRACE IN A RESTAURANT

A friend of Veronica Brown saw the following story in her Church Magazine.

Last week, I took my grandchildren to a restaurant. My six-year-old grandson asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Nana gets us ice cream for dessert. And liberty and justice for all! Amen!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark,

"That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, my grandson burst into tears and asked me,

"Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?"

As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job, and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my grandson and said,

"I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer."

"Really?" my grandson asked.

"Cross my heart," the man replied. Then, in a theatrical whisper, he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my grandchildren ice cream at the end of the meal. My grandson stared at his for a moment, and then did something I will remember for the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae and, without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes; and my soul is good already."

What do you ask God for?