

## 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	11.00am 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) Scouts & Explorer Scouts
Saturday	9.00 - 11.00am 10.00am	The Big Breakfast (monthly on 2 <sup>nd</sup> . Saturday) Christians Together in Leamington Ramblers (monthly)

Radford Road Church web site: [www.radfordroadchurch.org.uk](http://www.radfordroadchurch.org.uk)

# Radford Road Church Leamington Spa CV31 1NF

## Magazine



# October 2016

## THE MINISTER'S LETTER

To the Family of God at Radford Road Church.

In the past week I have had a number of meetings that made me reflect upon the importance of language. I met a medical missionary serving in Madagascar amongst a community that has no written language. Christian translators have to write a dictionary before translating gospels into the language of the people group. Later in the week I discussed the nature and language we use to describe our Christian commitment and what that indicated about what we believe, and then today at a Safeguarding conference we were asked to think about the language we use in worship.

The philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein once said, "The limits of language mean the limits of my world", and he is right in that language provides us with categories through which we see the world around us. For Christians we learn a particular language in worship, not simply the 'Thees and Thous' of some hymns, but a language about God, as 'Father, Son and Spirit', rather than say 'Baal'. And in reading the Bible we read stories not only about who God is, but also who we are as the people of God. It can be tempting in today's world to translate our language about God into words that make more sense in a secular society. In the twentieth century, the theologian Paul Tillich exemplified this temptation by describing God as 'the ground of being-itself'. It's an admirable attempt to communicate across a gulf, between Christians and atheism, but when you reduce our language of God to 'the ground of being-itself' we end up losing our connection with the living God that was experienced in history, whose Spirit inspired words we meet in the Scriptures. And who is encountered in the worship of the church.

For Christians our God is Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and cannot simply be reduced to some other experience or awareness. These are actual claims about the nature of God as love, for God to be love there has to have been eternal relationality, and in the Bible we learn the ways that God has been seeking us through the overflow of His love in history. For us, God cannot simply be translated across cultures, the history of God's saving loving activity must be remembered, and encountered in our lives. As Philip said to Nathaniel in the Bible: 'Come and see' (John 1:46).

The challenge for us as a Church then is not simply like the medical missionary, one of faithful translation, it is also the challenge of teaching a new language, encountering a new reality, and developing a community that makes sense of that language an encounter. 'Worship, as Rabbi Abraham Joshua Herschel has said, 'is a way of seeing the world in the light of God'. I hope and pray that as we meet together for worship this month, we might see the world afresh in the light of God's love.

In the grace and peace of Christ Jesus,  
James



MINISTER (Methodist)	Rev. Andy Laird	andrew.laird@methodist.org.uk	426084
MINISTER (URC)	Rev. James Church	jamesichurch@hotmail.com	733265
ADMINISTRATOR	Margaret Bull		716625
CHURCH TREASURER	Tina Wise		430561
ORGANIST	Margaret Height		313027
MID-WEEK WORSHIP	Jane Grunfeld	02476	696700
WEDNESDAY LUNCH	Veronica Brown		429465
FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE	Margaret Height Ruth Eyles		313027 771834
PROPERTY COMMITTEE	Ken Robertson		422296
RAINBOWS	Bridget Halpin		426419
BROWNIES	Bridget Halpin		426419
GUIDES	Rebecca Williams	07708	915277
BEAVER SCOUTS	Matthew Drinkhall	07804	364327
CUB SCOUTS	Janet Doody	07796	223361
SCOUTS	Alec Doody	07789	523552
EXPLORER SCOUTS	Deb Cooper	07859	050123
GROUP SCOUT LEADER	Louise Kalus	07713	770338
MAGAZINE EDITOR AND WEBMASTER	Marjorie Carrier	carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk	427451
CARETAKER	Pat Langley		311486

## ROTAS

	Welcomer	Coffee	Flowers to give	Arranger
Oct 2	Sue Darlison	Bridget Halpin & Veronica Brown	Kath Richardson	Kath
Oct 9	Rosemary Moore	Julia Morris & Sally Cligg	Marie Anscombe	Margaret
Oct 16	Ann Blower	Ruth & John Eyles	Mavis Moore	Jean
Oct 23	Julia Morris	Brenda & Alan Watts	Mavis Peace	Rosemary
Oct 30	Veronica Brown	Janice Dean & Margaret Bull	Bridget Halpin	Tony
Nov 6	Sue Darlison	Joyce Limmagine & Jane Grunfeld		Kath
Nov 13	Joan Bicknell	Jean Young & Bridget Halpin	Hugh Smith & Hazel Hobbs	Hazel

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 **rchurchpray@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 November Magazine by Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the latest, and preferably earlier, please. Email: [carrier\\_mj@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 427451.**

## FAMILY NEWS



*The Magazine this month is being produced under difficult circumstances as I have broken my ankle and am unable to get about. The Craft Fair organisation will also be extremely difficult so any help with this would be much appreciated. Marjorie*



We were delighted to welcome **Sally and Andrew Cligg** into full membership of the church during Morning Worship on September 4<sup>th</sup> and trust that they will be very happy in their spiritual home.

**Hazel Hobbs** is undergoing major breast surgery. Please pray for her during the coming weeks and surround her with your love.

We continue to remember those who are ill or housebound especially **Anne & Kingsley Pilling, Derek & Gill Hubbard, John Farrington, Ralph Patterson and Mary Coles.**

We were pleased to see **Jessie Lawson** worshipping with us recently.

**Rob Coles** has had a recent operation but is now able to attend church again.

We hope that **Jherill Galang** will settle happily when she moves into her new home at 35, Birch End, Warwick CV34 5GQ on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### A Prayer for our Church Family

God, give each member of our church family a hunger for, and the ability to, hear and obey the Word of God. James 1:21-25

## OUR COVER PICTURE

### Speak Up week of climate action

8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October 2016

This year Christian Aid is joining with The Climate Coalition for the **Speak Up week of action** across the UK from **8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October**. Communities across the UK will come together to Speak Up for the love of the people, places and cherished things affected



by climate change.

These exciting local events will give you the opportunity to meet other people who are passionate about tackling climate change in your area and to ask your local MP what progress has been made since last June.

Together, we can reach our vision of 100% clean energy in a generation, so that everyone can live life to the full. See [www.christianaid.com](http://www.christianaid.com) for further details.

**This month we also celebrate One World Week from October 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>.**

One World Week is an annual opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds to come together to learn about global justice, to spread that learning and to use it to take action for justice locally and globally, by:

- **Working together in caring for the earth and its resources**
- **Taking action for justice, equality, peace and fullness of life for all**
- **Building relationships of mutual respect that cross boundaries**
- **Running local events that celebrate the diversity of cultures in our communities**



### A prayer to be awakened

Call us out of our sleep; awaken our hearts and minds to the reality of so many lives.

Awaken us to our connectedness as a global community.

Awaken us to a future free from poverty and climate change.

Father, call us out of our sleep. Amen

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY MORNING

Trumpets, drums and shakers plus entreaties and pleas failed to light the altar and the prophets of Baal were beaten. Elijah knew God would do as he had promised and needed no theatrics but just trust and acknowledgement from His people that He is the one true God. This is what we spent time sharing with the children this year in our holiday club. Time was spent thinking about prayer and how important it is to listen to God as well as talk to Him—Elijah was very good at doing this. We had a super morning with everyone having lots of fun making their instruments and taking part in role play and singing. The aim was to continue the theme on the following day but unfortunately many of our regular children were away, so, we decided to postpone the second day until half term when, hopefully, we will see more children able to come.



**The next Children's Activity Morning will be on Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30am - noon**

## NATIVITY EXHIBITION



It is two years ago since we had our last Nativity Exhibition and several individuals and schools have requested that we organise it again this year. It will be held at Radford Road during the first week of Advent (November 29<sup>th</sup>- December 3<sup>rd</sup> inclusive- and then it will be on display at Endersby United Reformed Church in Leicestershire. If you have a nativity set which you are willing to loan for the Radford Road display only, please

let Marjorie or John Carrier know.

More details of the exhibition will be in next month's Church Magazine but please publicise the event as widely as you are able.

We are also planning another big exhibition at Easter when we shall have about 24 knitted scenes from the Bible on display. These have been made by Jenny Clarke, a very talented lady, who, with her husband, David, lived in Lillington before they moved to

For both these events help would be very much appreciated in setting up the exhibitions, manning them during opening hours and packing away afterwards. Do offer if you are free for a couple of hours.

## FILM CLUB

The next Film Club will be on Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm  
when you can enjoy

### “The Parent Trap”

Identical twins, separated at birth and each raised by one of their biological parents, discover each other for the first time at summer camp and make a plan to bring their wayward parents back together.

**Tea and cakes will be served £2.00 per person.**

## THE PAINTING OF THE CHURCH CENTRE ENTRANCE



I would like to thank all those who helped to paint the Church Centre Entrance.

We realized that the entrance had probably not been decorated since it was built, so it was in dire need of a make over.

The concrete walls were very difficult to paint as the paint soaked in and in our enthusiasm some of us painted shoes and chairs as well as the correct locations!!

However, it all looks a lot brighter and

cleaner now.

Thanks go to Alan, Margaret, John, Marjorie, James, Sarah, Andrew and Sally and my nephew, Cameron, who was roped in to help.

Please do have a look at the difference our efforts have made.

Only the lounge and toilets to go now to finish the whole of the centre.

Bridget

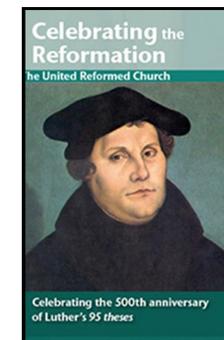
*Bridget and her team have done a fantastic job in decorating yet another area of our Church Centre. The Centre is used by our own Uniformed Organisations and by very many community groups and they will all appreciate the fresh and clean appearance of the premises.*

*Thank you, Bridget and the team for your hard work.*

## MARTIN LUTHER: 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE WITTENBERG THESIS

In October 1517 Martin Luther pinned his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg inviting all who were interested to a public discussion on papal indulgences. The sparks from his provocative act lit a fire which was soon to engulf Europe in a prolonged and bitter conflict. War raged on in different areas of the continent for a hundred years until the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. Across England bonfires were lit in town squares to burn alive a number of ‘inflexible’ Protestant leaders. Catholic martyrs were generally hanged, drawn and quartered.

Over the centuries various strands of Reformation theology have blended or developed new features, but the year and the month stand for a turning point. In Germany, national celebrations are being organised, and will include the Kirchentag in Berlin and Wittenberg at the end of May and the biennial gathering of the International Ecumenical Fellowship in July. The URC’s Faith and Order committee is proposing a tour in 2017 of German towns associated with Luther for Committee members and friends. The Faith and Order Committee of the United Reformed Church has published a booklet to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wittenberg theses. The booklet traces the relationship between some of the themes of Luther’s early revolutionary tracts of 1520 with current URC religious views and with the founding documents of the denomination. The booklet is intentionally short and light on scholarly referencing so that it might be easily and widely read. It is hoped that the questions for discussion might serve to stimulate people to engage with the matters raised and that the glossary might prove helpful to any who are unfamiliar with the historical context. It is available in full on the URC’s web site: [www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk)



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEAMINGTON



### CHURCHES TOGETHER RAMBLERS - COOMBE ABBEY

Saturday October 2016 10.00am for 10.15am

Leader: Cynthia Stanton Tel: 01926435719

More details will be on the church notice board at the end of September.

## WARWICK DISTRICT FAITHS FORUM

### PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016 9.15am to 1.00pm

at St Peter's Conference Centre, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa.

The conference is free to all local people but registration beforehand is necessary.

The key speakers will focus on promoting safe faith communities and their talks will be illustrated with displays. Lunch is provided.

## HELPING HANDS COMMUNITY PROJECT

“Local people helping local people in need”

Helping Hands is a local charity which provides essential items for people in need whose help is requested by social services, children's centres, debt counsellors, churches, housing dept. and domestic violence charities.

Essentials like carpets, curtains and furniture are always needed and other items are listed on the charity's Facebook Page, “Helping Hands Community Project”. Alternatively you could call at their charity shop in Gloucester St which will open this month or ask Veronica to contact them for you.

Helping Hands are continuing the work of Steph and Geoff by running a soup kitchen and other hot food on Tuesdays and Thursdays on Newbold Terrace between 6pm and 7.15pm. Sleeping bags, clothing, footwear, toiletries, advice and support are also offered.

### How can you get involved?

Donations of money and goods are always gratefully received. Volunteers are needed in the charity shop and in the drop in café behind the shop. Van drivers and volunteers are welcomed to work at Stoneleigh Park where goods are stored and catalogued. Please also visit Gloucester Street in October, browse through their shop and maybe purchase something and have a cup of coffee.

The Wednesday Lunch Club is looking forward to a visit from Leanne on March 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, to hear more about this much needed work.

Make a note of the date and come and find out more.



## 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 October 8<sup>th</sup> 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 new Mission Project,  
The Mission Aviation Fellowship

## SHOE BOXES & KNITTED GARMENTS

Once again we are hoping to fill many boxes for Samaritans Purse. Leaflets and pre-formed boxes will be available in the church vestibule for everyone who would like to participate. A small donation towards the cost of filling or transporting boxes would also be appreciated.

If you have items that would be suitable for putting in boxes prepared by the Wednesday Lunch Club, please see Veronica (Tel 429465).

As in previous years we plan to give knitted gloves, hats and scarves to clients of the Night Shelter. Please start knitting now so that these homeless and vulnerable people have some warm clothing for the winter months. Those who receive the gifts are always appreciative and grateful for, not only the garments they receive but the love and thoughtfulness behind the gifts.

## RADFORD ROAD CHRISTMAS GREETINGS CARD

Once again the church will be circulating a Christmas card with the December Church Magazine which will contain greetings to church friends.

If you would like to include your greetings please would you give your brief message (together with a donation to Christian Aid), to Bridget Halpin by November 13<sup>th</sup>. This year Christian Aid is focussing on the prevention of malaria in Nigeria and the money donated will be used to support this work.

## PRAYING TOGETHER IN JULY

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	Craft Fair	16th	National Prayer Day for The Mission Aviation Fellowship
2nd	Jean Innis	17th	Hazel
3rd	Mary Coles	18th	Margaret, Chris & The Night Shelter
4th	Hilda & Ken	19th	The Elders of the Church
5th	The Uniformed Organisations	20th	Kingsley & Anne Pilling
6th	Jessie Lawson	21st	The Bible Study Group
7th	Mid-Week Worship & Wed. Lunch	22nd	The Film Club
8th	The Big Breakfast	23rd	Joan & Doug Bicknell
9th	Churches Together in Leamington	24th	The Revd. James & Sarah Church
10th	Jane & Family	25th	Harvest Festival
11th	The Revd. Barbara Greenwood	26th	Gill & Derek Hubbard
12th	Clarice	27th	The Children's Activity Morning
13th	Faith Forum	28th	Valerie
14th	The Friendship Circle	29th	John Farringdon
15th	The Revd. Andy Laird & changes to the Methodist Circuit	30th	Clive Fowle's work
		31st	Wendy

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.

## LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

Once again, on what is fast becoming another great Radford Road tradition, a group of us met together for fish and chips and The Last Night of the Proms. Festooned with Union Jacks and world flags the vestibule looked incredible and we all enjoyed an evening of good company, good music and excellent fish and chips. We all waved flags and joined in the community singing with gusto, encouraged and led by the very talented Peruvian tenor, Juan Diego Florez who delighted all in his Inca King's costume.

The other and important reason for our get together was to launch our new Mission project which this year is Mission Aviation Fellowship. We have promised to donate £1,000 towards the purchase of a new plane for use in Bangladesh. We got off to a great start and want to thank everyone who came for raising the magnificent sum of £182.20.20. More details of the project can be found on the display board at the back of the church.

## ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Our Annual Craft Fair, which raises money for the upkeep of our buildings, will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 11am until 2pm.

We have a record number of visiting crafters who will be selling their unique crafts and the Craft Fair is now so popular that we have a waiting list of people who would like a stall!

We will have our own church stalls including preserves, cakes, bulbs, bric à brac, gifts, surprise parcels, jigsaws and a raffle. Of course we shall be serving our regular refreshments of bacon butties, soup and pork baps.

It is really important that we have a good turn out of people to attend the Craft Fair so do come along and bring along your friends and relations to snap up the bargains and to buy your early Christmas presents!



## OCTOBER DIARY 2016

<b>Sun</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by the Revd. James Church.</b>
Tues	4	2.00pm	Friendship Circle -
Wed	5	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship led by
Fri	7	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	9	9.00am	Big Breakfast
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Prisons Week. The Sunday Service led by Dr. Denys Hill</b>
Tues	11	2.00pm	Friendship Circle
Wed	12	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by a talk by Bridget Halpin about the "Santiago Way a Caminos"
Fri	14	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
<b>Sun</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>The Sunday Service led by the Revd. John Harris</b>
Tues	18	2.00pm	Friendship Circle
Wed	19	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch followed by Mid-Week Worship led by
Fri	21	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
<b>Sun</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church</b>
Tues	25	2.00pm	Friendship Circle
Wed	26	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by "Songs of Praise Junior & Senior Finals of choir of the Year
Thurs	27	2.00pm	Film Club "The Parent Trap"
Fri	28	9.30am	Children's Activity Morning
		7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
<b>Sun</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by the Revd. Andy Laird</b>

## OUR NEW MISSION PROJECT - THE MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP (MAF)



During the coming months Radford Road Church will be supporting the Mission Aviation Fellowship. This Christian organisation enables thousands of aid, relief and mission projects in really remote places, because that's where some of the greatest human needs are. MAF operates in the hardest-to-reach locations, where people live isolated from the rest of the world, cut off from the most basic necessities. The highly trained pilots manoeuvre Cessna and Kodiak aircraft through rugged terrain. And while passengers might hold their breath, MAF pilots skilfully land at short, unimproved airstrips on the sides of mountains, in jungle clearings, or on tropical rivers - to bring medicine and doctors, disaster relief, education, evangelists, Bible translators, food supplies, agriculture, clean water projects, and more. Why do they do it? Because they are passionate about sharing Christ's love beyond where the road ends.

Working in partnership with hundreds of other Christian and relief organisations MAF enables practical help, physical healing, and spiritual hope to be delivered to many of the most remote and inaccessible communities on the planet.

Do look at the display board in the church for more details.

The new project was launched at our 'Last Night at the Proms' evening on September 10<sup>th</sup> and **got off to an excellent start when £ was raised** for the Mission Aviation Fellowship.

The money raised at our monthly Big Breakfasts, by special efforts and by personal gifts will help us to achieve our target of £1000.

MAF holds a special Day of Prayer each year and this year it will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> October. You are invited to join Christians across the UK on a special day of prayer for MAF and for the Church in isolated places.

The theme for this year's Day of Prayer is '**Children of God**'.

The work and prayers of the MAF family reflect the value God puts on each of his children – that they be seen, reached, helped and given hope through word and deed; sharing the love of Jesus in the most isolated places and into discouraged hearts.

### MAF MISSION

Sharing the love of Jesus Christ through aviation and technology so that isolated people may be physically and spiritually transformed.

### MAF VISION

That every person on earth will experience the love of Jesus Christ and respond to the Gospel.

Philippians 2:10-11, John 3:16, Revelation 7:9