

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	Rainbows (5-7 years) at Radford Road
	6.00 - 7.15pm	Brownies (7-10 years) at Radford Road
	7.00 - 8.30pm	Guides (10-15 years) at Radford Road
Tuesday	2.00pm	Friendship Circle
Wednesday	11.00am	Coffee Morning
	12.30pm	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	Cub Scouts (8-10½ years)
	6.15 - 7.15pm	Beaver Scouts (6-8 years)
	7.30 - 9.00pm	Scouts & Explorer Scouts
Saturday	9.00 - 11.00am	The Big Breakfast (monthly on 2 nd . Saturday)
	10.00am	Christians Together in Leamington
		Ramblers (monthly)

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

Radford Road Church Leamington Spa CV31 1NF

Magazine



One World Week

October 22nd - 29th 2017

**Remembrance
Day
November 11th
2017**



**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.**

Oct. & Nov. 2017

THE MINISTER'S LETTER

To the Family of God at Radford Road Church,

The chill in my office tells me that we are definitely heading into the autumn season, and I guess, like many of you, I am stubbornly resisting turning the central heating on until at least the start of October! Looking out of the front window I can see the colour of the leaves turning on the horse chestnut tree at the front and I am reminded of God's beauty and goodness.

In the spring and summer the trees reflect every shade of green, but the browns and reds and golds are gone, the colours of the leaves are hidden by chlorophyll which absorbs the other wavelengths of light to photosynthesize, but in the winter as the temperature drops and the hours of daylight recede, the chlorophyll is reabsorbed and the leaves begin to reflect every colour on the spectrum!

It seems to me that if we are not careful our lives can become like that, we can obscure the beauty of God's goodness by absorbing it rather than reflecting it. God's blessing becomes something we hoard rather than something to pass on. Sometimes, it is only as things start to decay, as we die to self, that we begin to most fully reflect God's beauty to the world around us. I pray, 'Oh help us Lord to reflect your beauty to the world around us, the many colours of your goodness.' In this season of reflection, as the leaves reflect every colour God sends, I might wish them to remain forever, but again that is not what is best for the earth. For 'while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease' (Genesis 8:22). It was the necessity of this that Jesus pointed to in his own life and ministry when he assured his disciples, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit' (John 12:24).

This autumn then I don't fear the falling leaves, I admire the colours and rejoice in the season's beauty, I pray that my life would reflect this goodness of God's grace. I also look to Jesus' own words as the basis of my own confidence, that even the falling of the leaves is not the end of life, and that after winter comes spring. Then I look forward with a wry sense of amusement as I think of all the self-seeded horse chestnuts I'll be pulling up!

Yours faithfully,

James



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	Bridget Halpin Andrew Cligg
RAINBOWS	Bridget Halpin
BROWNIES	Bridget Halpin
GUIDES	Rebecca Williams
BEAVER SCOUTS	Matthew Drinkhall
CUB SCOUTS	Janet Doody
SCOUTS	Alec Doody
EXPLORER SCOUTS	Deb Cooper
GROUP SCOUT LEADER	Louise Kalus
MAGAZINE EDITOR AND WEBMASTER	Marjorie Carrier carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk

ROTAS

	Welcomer	Coffee	Flowers to give	Arranger
Oct 1	Rosemary Moore	Bridget Halpin & Janice Dean		Rosemary
Oct 8	Sue Darlison	Veronica Brown & Jean Young	Kath Richardson	Kath
Oct 15	Jherell Galang	Julia Morris & Margaret Bull	Marie Anscombe & Mavis Moore	Margaret
Oct 22	Sarah Church	John & Ruth Eyles	Mavis Peace	Tony
Oct 29	Ann Blower	Brenda & Alan Watts	Bridget Halpin	Jean
Nov 5	Veronica Brown	Sarah Church & Marian Malsam	Janine Jones	Rosemary
Nov 12	Julia Morris	Jane Grunfeld & Janice Dean	Hugh Smith & Hazel Hobbs	Hazel
Nov 19	Joan Bicknell	Sally Cligg & Bridget Halpin	Sue Darlison & Joan Bicknell	Margaret
Nov 26	Sue Darlison	Julia Morris & Veronica Brown	Jean Young	Jean
Dec 3	Jherell Galang	Margaret Bull & Jean Young	Jessie Lawson	Kath
Dec 10	Sarah Church	John & Ruth Eyles	Valerie Douglas	Rosemary

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.

IMPORTANT

**As usual there will be a joint Magazine for December and January. Please submit news and items for these two months by Sunday Nov. 19th at the latest, and preferably earlier.
Email: carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk.**



FAMILY NEWS

We are delighted that **Jenny Masters** is making good progress and, although she is not back at work yet, felt well enough to operate the church projector on Harvest Sunday. Our prayers are with her and with her mother, **Mary Treadwell**. Several of our members are holidaying abroad. **Jherell Galang** is spending 3 weeks with her family in the Philippines; **Margaret Bull** and her brother have been in Canada and **Jane Grunfeld** and her mother are also spending a holiday there. We hold **Margaret Sheldon** in our prayers as she recovers from a nasty fall. **John Farrington** has also had a fall and injured his shoulder. As a result he is unable to drive at present. We have missed him at church. We send out love and prayers to **Sue Darlison** on the passing of her partner, **John**. We pray for the housebound in our community and those who are unwell. **John Carrier** is awaiting an appointment with a consultant about his hip problem. We remember **Andi Begantaj** and the Christian work he is undertaking in Albania. We also hold in our prayers those who have suffered loss of homes and livelihoods because of the recent hurricanes in the Caribbean and the earthquake in Mexico.

STUDENT WELCOME AFTERNOON

On Sunday 29th October a welcome afternoon is planned so that we can invite our neighbours and local students to join us between 4pm and 6pm for an informal opportunity to meet over some food and drinks. It is our honour to welcome people from around the world to Royal Leamington Spa for work and study, and we believe as a Church we have a great responsibility to make people feel at home and to help them settle in. I hope we will learn how better to support people in our local community, but I also realise that everyone God sends us is a gift with their own talents and skills to offer. There are many opportunities for people to exercise their talents through service within the life of Radford Road Church, from helping to collect Communion glasses, arranging the flowers, welcoming people on the door, serving food at our Lunch Clubs and Midweek Worship, offering people lifts, through to the work of the Night Shelter, or working with our Uniformed Organisations, Junior Church, and Holiday Clubs, or participating in our Worship Group. So over the next few weeks there will be a map at the back of church for us to indicate where we have come from in the world to be here, as we celebrate the diverse and global nature of our fellowship. If you are already serving our Church in some way there will be an opportunity to create a presentation about some of what we do and how others can get involved. There will also be an opportunity to publicise this event to your friends and neighbours too. Though most of all I hope that you will prayerfully consider joining us that afternoon to participate in this conversation, to ask people how we can support them, to listen and to welcome people to our community.

James

OUR COVER PICTURES

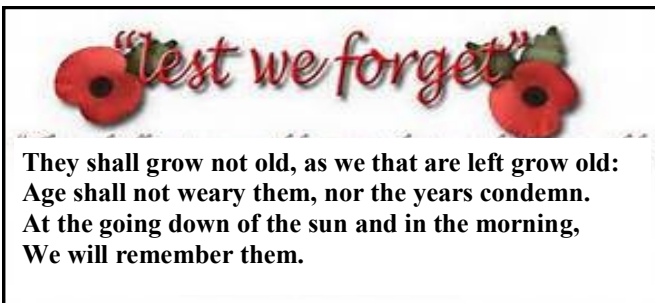


One World Week October 22nd - 29th GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Being a “good neighbour” means much more than just being quiet and unobtrusive... It includes actively looking out for our neighbours to ensure their needs are met. It applies at personal, local, national and international levels. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have identified the needs of our global neighbours. Governments around the world, including that of the UK, have pledged to

address them. The strap line, “My World Depends On Us” reminds us that our personal world is directly affected by what we do, purchase, read, say, consume, vote, ... and that these do not happen in isolation. Our life depends on how we impact on and influence others in our common experience at home and in the world. Active citizenship, media literacy and critical thinking are vital tools in acknowledging our interdependence with others, locally as well as further afield, while countering populism, extremism and hate. One World Week invites you to create or become a part of local OWW events to explore what we need to do to be a good neighbour locally and globally in our 21st century world.

Remembrance Day November 11th 2017



**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
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We will remember them.**

Remembrance Day (sometimes known informally as **Poppy Day**) is a memorial day observed in Britain and the Commonwealth of Nations since the end of the First World War to remember the members of their armed forces who have died in the line of duty. Remembrance Day recalls the end of hostilities of World War I on that date in 1918. Hostilities formally ended "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" and since then 2 minutes silence has been observed at this time.



ROCK CHOIR CONCERT Saturday October 14th at 7.30pm

The Rock Choir, which hires our premises each week for rehearsals, has kindly agreed to perform an evening concert for us.

Rock Choir is a pioneering, contemporary choir which performs the most uplifting and feel good songs ever written and you will delight in the

wonderful singing, atmosphere and fun which pervades at all their concerts.

Do not miss this wonderful choir! Please support the event and invite others to come along too.

Tickets £5 from Margaret Height. Proceeds to Radford Road Organ Fund and a charity of the Choir's choice.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

The Good News The toilet areas in our Church Centre have recently been painted and many people have already remarked about the improvement. It is thought that this is the first time these rooms have been decorated since our alterations in 1995!

Many thanks to Bridget for tackling this job so efficiently.

If you see a job that needs attention and are unable to do it yourself, please write a brief description on one of the boards which are in place in the vestibule and in the Church Centre.

The Bad News Major work is necessary to the church roof to stop the rain water doing further damage to the interior plasterwork. This is likely to be a costly operation but it is vitally necessary.

LOCAL AUDIO NEWS SERVICE

Would you like to hear more about it?

Jackie Jarvis, News Editor and Publicity Manager of our local Talking News will be visiting Radford Road on Wednesday October 11th.

She will be sharing lunch with us at 12.30pm and at 1.40pm will be telling us all about the excellent service that Talking News provides.

All are welcome to come to lunch or just to the talk which will finish about 2.30pm.

CRAFT FAIR

Saturday October 7th 11.00am - 2.00pm

This is an enjoyable annual social event in the life of our church. We want to encourage you and your friends to come along to support the Craft Fair.

We have 12 Crafters selling items which they have lovingly made and which are unique. Many of the goods on sale make ideal Christmas gifts.

In addition we have Church stalls selling delicious home-made cakes, preserves, gifts, bulbs and apple juice.

Our Auction of Promises is an innovative opportunity to bid for something which you can enjoy at a date to suit you.

Our refreshment team will be serving mouth-watering food throughout the Fair.

Bring your friends and neighbours and help to make this a splendid occasion. Don't forget -

Preparation

Thursday Oct. 5th at 7.00pm - Erection of stalls. Help appreciated.

**Friday Oct. 6th at 7.15pm - Scouts to move furniture.
Stalls positioned and goods set out.**

FILM CLUB

On Thursday October 26th at 2.00pm come to see
“The Bucket”

Two men from very different walks of life meet in hospital and write a joint bucket list and embark on a hilarious adventure across the world.

A touching story in which they build a deep friendship and discover their own identities.

On Thursday November 23rd you can enjoy

“Song for Marian”

Grumpy pensioner, Arthur, joins his wife's local choir. When his relationship with his son breaks down it is left to Elizabeth, the choir director, to persuade Arthur that it is never too late to embrace life. He embarks on a life-affirming journey of musical self-discovery. A hilarious, joyous and poignant film.

You will be moved to both laughter and tears.

Tea and cakes will be served £2.00 per person.

EASY FUNDRAISING

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/radfordroadchurch/>

To date we have raised £75.94 through no effort or extra cost and 13 people are in the scheme. What a splendid and easy way this is of raising money for our church. We do need more people to join!

A current participant can invite you to join and, by doing so, earn an extra £1 for the church when you make your first purchase through easy giving. You can install an easy giving icon on your screen which will then direct you to the retailer from which you wish to make your purchase.

It's easy - just try it!

SAMARITAN'S PURSE & NIGHT SHELTER GIFTS



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 also the love and thoughtfulness behind the gifts.



RADFORD ROAD CHRISTMAS GREETINGS CARD

The Church Christmas Greeting card will be included with the December Church Magazine. Please let Bridget have your greeting (and a small donation for Christian Aid's Present Aid scheme) **by Sunday November 12th** at the very latest.

The Christian Aid catalogue will soon be available in the church vestibule.



WELCOME TO 'WALKING THE WAY: LIVING THE LIFE OF JESUS TODAY'

Walking the Way is the umbrella term for the United Reformed Church's exciting focus on lifelong Christian discipleship and mission. When you engage in Walking the Way, your own understanding of what being a Christian disciple is,

will deepen. You may grow beyond your dreams in living as a disciple when you are in church and, perhaps more importantly, when you are not.

Walking the Way explores what it means to actively follow and learn from – and to be eventually transformed by – Christ. It's for everyone at any stage of the Christian journey – whoever you are, whatever your existing relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church is, whatever your personal circumstances.

While there's nothing new about being a disciple of Christ, we're confident that there is something new about Walking the Way in its accessible approach and in the wide range of supporting resources produced and planned.

Materials for 'Walking the Way: Living the Life of Jesus Today' is now available on the URC website – and these will be the hub for resources and continued Walking the Way information.

Find out more about:

- The season of prayer and preparation, starting now in readiness for the official launch of Walking the Way in Advent 2017
- A specially commissioned Advent liturgy, available in October
- Downloadable materials, including an introductory Walking the Way leaflet and bookmark
- How you can get hold of the Walking the Way footprint prayer charm – coming soon!
- Audio-visual resources, among them an animation and a vox pops video for use as a discussion starter. The vox pops video features people from all walks of life, who were asked to give their (very honest!) answers to the questions 'What would you expect to see in the life of someone who says they're a Christian?' and 'What do you think churches are for?'

As the preparation phase unfolds, you'll then be able to find out about:

News of the *Holy Habits* book written by Andrew Roberts and other resources which will be available at the start of the New Year

There will be discipleship stories and the development of a Walking the Way film and story bank.

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS & NEW MISSION PROJECT

The evening of September 10th was a mixture of chat, laughter, fun, fish and chips and patriotic singing and dancing for nearly 40 people who gathered together in friendship in the vestibule of the church.

The evening marked the launch of our new Mission Project aimed at raising £1000 for the Peace and Reconciliation work being carried out in Bosnia and which is led by the Revd. Clive Fowle who was at one time the Methodist Minister at Radford Road Church. Clive was unable to be with us but Judith Halliday, a co-worker of Clive's, gave an introduction of the Touch of Hope work being undertaken in Prijedor in conjunction with the Nansen Dialogue Centre. Their aim is to encourage the local community (Muslims and Christians) to talk together and explore ways of healing the hurt and bitterness that has developed following the atrocities of recent times in the Bosnia area. A priority is to train local people to be Facilitators and to run workshop activities in their local area. This has already happened in areas of Croatia and Serbia where Clive initially worked. Everyone was deeply moved by the work being undertaken.

After a piping hot fish and chip supper we all settled down to watch the second half of The Last Night of the Proms.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed what has now become a tradition in the Radford Road calendar and we were all amazed to learn that **£262.10** had been raised that evening for our Mission Project.

We are a quarter of the way to our Mission Project target!

A longer write up and photographs of the Radford Road event can be found on our church website www.radfordroadchurch.org.uk

CLAPHAM TERRACE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS VISIT

As I mentioned in the September magazine, Clapham Terrace Early Years children will be coming to visit us in the run up to Christmas. We want to help them to explore the meaning and story of Christmas by dressing up and creating scenes from the Nativity. They can then re-tell the story to each other and friends and relatives. To enable this to happen we need old tea towels, sheets, pillowcases and anything else that traditionally makes a good nativity costume. So please, have a sort out at home and a group of us will transform them into the nativity costumes on an afternoon in November.

If you would like to be part of this team please let me know.

Jane

PRAYING TOGETHER IN OCTOBER

The monthly Prayer Diary encourages the Church family to focus prayers on specific people or organisations on a daily basis

1st	Touch of Hope in Bosnia	17th	Churches Tog. In Leamington
2nd	Cynthia, Henry, Casey & Baby Ivy	18th	John Farrington
3rd	Clarice	19th	The Elders of the Church
4th	The New Hope Counselling Team	20th	Valerie
5th	Jessie Lawson	21st	Mavis Peace
6th	Margaret Sheldon	22nd	Joyce Limage
7th	Wed. Worship & Mid-Week Worship	23rd	Jenny Masters & family
8th	Hilda & Ken	24th	Maureen Hillman
9th	The Friendship Circle	25th	Mary Coles
10th	Revd. James Church	26th	The Film Club
11th	All involved with the Night Shelter	27th	The Street Pastors
12th	Kingsley & Anne Pilling	28th	The Congregational Meeting
13th	Clare	29th	The Student Event
14th	The Rock Choir Concert	30th	Gill & Derek Hubbard
15th	Revd. Andy Laird	31st	Andi & his work in Albania
16th	The Uniformed Organisations		

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.



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.

Paul's Letter to the Galatians is currently being studied



THE NEXT BIG BREAKFAST



There will not be a Big Breakfast in October as the date clashes with the Craft Fair.

The next Big Breakfast will be on Saturday Nov. 11th at 9am.

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, Recent totals:

July £66.10

Aug £74.90

Sept. £78.10

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEAMINGTON

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 19th October at 7.30pm at Christ Church (Priory Terrace, CV31 1BA). As in previous years, it will feature a marketplace where various inter church ministries and organisations from across the Leamington area will be present to share news and details of their activities. Refreshments will be served too.

CHURCHES TOGETHER RAMBLERS

**Saturday October 21st 9.45am for 10.00am
WALK AROUND HATTON**

Meet at Hatton Locks car park near Hatton Arms on A4177.
Leaders: Anne & Mike Bench

Saturday November 18th 9.45 for 10.00am

Details for both walks will be on the Vestibule notice board as soon as they are available.

OCTOBER DIARY 2017

Sun	1	10.30am	The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by the Revd. Andy Laird
Tues	3	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Revd. Andy Laird "Songs of Praise"
Wed	4	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch & Mid-Week Worship led by Margaret Bull
Fri	6	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	7	11.00am	THE CRAFT FAIR
Sun	8	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church
Tues	10	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Bridget Halpin - "Street Pastors"
Wed	11	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by a talk by Jackie Jarvis, news editor & publicity manager of "Talking News"
Fri	13	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	14	7.30pm	Rock Choir Concert (see page 13)
Sun	15	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. Chris Clewlow
Tues	17	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Tony Gulliman
Wed	18	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch & Mid-Week Worship led by the Revd. Clive Fowle
		2.30pm	Mission & Outreach Meeting
Fri	20	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	22	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church
Tues	24	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Video afternoon
Wed	25	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wed. Lunch followed by Songs of Praise. Theme: Recycling
Thurs	26	2.00pm	Film Club "The Bucket"
Fri	27	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	28	10.30am	Congregational meeting (Coffee served at 10.00am)
Sun	29	10:30am	The Sunday Service led by Miss Betty Blower
		4.00pm	Students' Evening to display the activities and opportunities at Radford Road Church
Tues	31	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Jim Bruder & Peter Sherley "Tools with a Mission"

NOVEMBER DIARY 2017

Wed	1	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch & Mid-Week Worship with Communion Service led by the Revd. James Church
Fri	3	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	5	10.30am	The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by the Revd. James Church
Tues	7	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - John Cotterill
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Wed	8	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by Remembrance Day Worship led by the Revd. Peter Powers
Fri	10	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	11	9.00am	Big Breakfast
Sun	12	10.30am	The Remembrance Sunday Service led by Mr Paul Tennyson
Tues	14	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Remembrance - Readings from Coventry Cathedral & the National Memorial Arboretum
Wed	15	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch & Mid-Week Worship
Fri	17	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	19	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by Miss Carol Cave
Tues	21	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - George Jones
Wed	22	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch followed by a talk by Andy Metcalf, Chaplain of Homewood, talking about "Caring for the Elderly"
Thurs	23	2.00pm	Film Club "Song for Marian"
Fri	24	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	26	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting
Tues	28	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Rani Clare
Wed	29	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Lunch & Mid-Week Worship led by Margaret Weir

Recently, Wednesday Lunch had a visit from Lyn of New Hope Counselling. She has sent us their prayer needs as requested. She writes.....

We will shortly be taking on our 25th counsellor. We are becoming a large counselling team! Yet, we feel we are barely coping with demand. Our waiting list feels very long and clients referring to us this week have been told they face a 2-3 month wait following their assessment. Most of them do not have the option of private therapy because of cost. They also know that the NHS IAPT service currently has a 6 month waiting list and Mental Health Services, who deal with more serious mental health issues, have a two year wait for therapy. They are also not taking on new referrals unless they are considered a danger to others. CAMHS, the mental health service for children, has a 3 year waiting list!

As you can see by the above, so many are suffering and not getting the help they need. We feel that what we do is sometimes a drop in the ocean but it is still making a difference and many of our clients with testify to this. Praise God that we are able to do what we do! He has been with us mightily as we have grown over the years.

Your prayers would be very much appreciated for the work undertaken by New Hope Counselling. The full letter is available on the notice board in the vestibule