

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 am THE SUNDAY SERVICE

Holy Communion - first Sunday of each month

(Please refer to Diary on pages 8 & 9 for details of all Services as arrangements may vary).

REGULAR WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

Monday	5.00 - 6.00pm 6.00 - 7.15pm 7.00 - 8.30pm	Rainbows (5-7 years) Brownies (7-10 years) Guides (10-15 years)
Tuesday	2.00pm	Friendship Circle
Wednesday	11.00am 12.30pm	Coffee Morning Wednesday Lunch alternating with Mid-Week Worship
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 nd . Saturday) Christians Together in Leamington Ramblers (monthly)

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

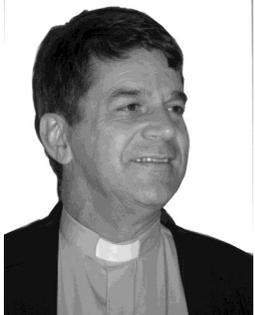
Radford Road Church
Leamington Spa
CV31 1NF

Magazine



July/August 2018

THE MINISTER'S LETTER



Dear friends,

So here it is, my final pastoral letter to you all as your Minister. In recent weeks I have been thinking back to when I started out on this particular chapter of my life in September 2003, when I took up my first appointment as a Probationer Minister in pastoral charge of Kenilworth Methodist Church. In many ways it seems like only yesterday!

In those 15 years there have been highs and lows and almost constant change. And that says as much about life as it does about the Church, because without change we don't progress, we stagnate. Many people say they don't like change. The reality is that we deal with it every day.

In the book of Isaiah we read that God says 'Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!' (Isaiah 43:18). Even God, it seems, says we have to be ready to embrace change. And there is evidence that he is doing a new thing with us, in that you will have a new Methodist Minister, Rev Sam McBratney, to share with James in leading you on. I pray that you will show Sam the love and support you have shown me as you welcome and work with him.

So to conclude, can I just simply thank you for the warmth of fellowship I have experienced as your Methodist Minister and the love and support I have received. Ann and I have always felt welcome and there is a wonderful sense of the Spirit at work each time I walk through the doors. I have greatly valued your friendship throughout the last seven years.

Many of you already know we've bought a bungalow in Hampton Magna and that I'm going to take a year off from Circuit Methodism to allow Sam and Jeongsook (pronounced Tongsook), the new Minister at Dale Street and Kenilworth, the space they need to become established in their new roles. But I will offer dates for the Plan from September 2019 so will undoubtedly pop up at Radford Road to preach in the future and will look forward to those appointments. You will remain in my prayers.

Every blessing to you all,

Andy

MINISTER (Methodist)	Revd. Andy andrew.laird@methodist.org.uk
MINISTER (URC)	Revd. James jamesichurch@hotmail.com
ADMINISTRATOR	Margaret B
CHURCH TREASURER	Tina
ORGANIST	Margaret H
MID-WEEK WORSHIP	Jane
WEDNESDAY LUNCH	Veronica
FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE	Margaret H Ruth
PROPERTY	Bridget Andrew
RAINBOWS	Bridget
BROWNIES	Bridget
GUIDES	Emma
BEAVER SCOUTS	Matthew
CUB SCOUTS	Janet
SCOUTS	Alec
EXPLORER SCOUTS	Deb
GROUP SCOUT LEADER	Louise
MAGAZINE EDITOR AND WEBMASTER	Marjorie carrier_mj@yahoo.co.uk

ROTAS

	Welcomer	Coffee	Flowers to give	Arranger
July 1	Sue	Veronica & Bridget	Phil	Hazel
July 8	Jherell	John & Ruth	Veronica	Kath
July 15	Sarah	Brenda & Alan	Valerie	Rosemary
July 22	Ann	Margaret & Jean	Margaret B	Margaret B
July 29	Veronica	Bridget & Janice	Aileen	Hazel
Aug 5	Rosemary	Veronica & Sally	John & Marjorie	Jean
Aug 12	Julia	Jherell & Rosemary	Alan & Brenda	Tony
Aug 19	Joan	Brenda & Alan		Rosemary
Aug 26	Sue	Ruth & John	Jean	Margaret B
Sept 2	Jherell	Sally & Jean	Jane	Kath
Sept 9	Ann	Janice & Bridget	Rosemary	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.

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

FAMILY NEWS



Please remember

those who have suffered bereavement.
Comfort the families and friends who grieve.

those who are ill.
We ask that they will soon be restored to full health.

those who have worries and anxieties.
Give them peace and comfort in the knowledge that you are close to them

You are asked to pray for all those known to you who are unwell or are in hospital and those who have worries or concerns.

Please especially remember Clarice, Jessie, Jane & Frank and John F.

Margaret Sheldon has asked for her new address and phone number to be included in this magazine. She is now living at 4, Abyssinia Court, Newport, Barnstaple, Devon. EX32 9FD. Tel. 01271 523494. We send love and good wishes to her and hope that she settles happily in her new home.

Jessie Lawson's daughter, Moira, would like everyone to know that Jessie is now in Room 21 at Galanos House, Southam. She is settling in but would be delighted to have visitors.

Congratulations to **John & Marjorie** who celebrate their Diamond Wedding in August.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Is a circle of strength;
Founded of Faith
Joined in Love,
Kept by God
Together
Forever.

GDPR

Over the past weeks we have all been bombarded with notifications from businesses about the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

You may be amused with the following:

Knock knock

Who's there?

GDPR

GDPR who?

I can't tell you as you don't have consent to process my data.



OUR COVER PICTURE

There are many people within our church who work quietly and unobtrusively to do God's work. They are the unsung heroes who carry out tasks and who do not seek acclaim. They quietly play a pivotal part in keeping the wheels of our church rolling and do things that are essential to the health and growth of the church.

The Ministers and Elders are essential to the life of the church but we also need to remember those

whose regular duties we tend to take for granted. Think of our flower arrangers, our music makers, our youth workers, our leaders of organisations, the folk who look after our premises, those who produce publications, those who care for the car park and flower troughs, the many who organise events and money raise, those who prepare Communion, the people who provide the coffee after morning service and wash up after special events. The list goes on and on.

These, and many others, regard what they do as service to God. They follow Paul's teaching in Colossians 3:23 when he said that whatever we do in life we should do it ...for the Lord, not for men.

The truth of the matter is that the majority of Christians must be ready to serve God in this way without special acclaim and with little or no accolades because there are not many spotlights for Christian heroes on this side of eternity.

CHANGES TO STAFFING IN THE METHODIST CIRCUIT

As you all know, Andy Laird is retiring at the end of July and a new minister, the Revd. Jeongsock Kim has been appointed to the Methodist Circuit with responsibility for Kenilworth and Dale Street churches. She will be welcomed to the circuit at a special service on September 2nd at 4.00pm at Kenilworth Methodist Church.

The Revd. Sam McBratney will have responsibility for Radford Road Church on a part time basis, initially for one year. He has already led a service at Radford Road on a snowy Sunday in March and he attended the recent Congregational Meeting. His first service as Minister at Radford Road Church will be on August 19th.

CRAFT FAIR

Preparations are being made for our Annual Craft Fair on October 6th. This is an occasion when everyone in the church works really hard to raise money for our church funds. Fourteen Crafters have already booked stalls for the day but we also have several church stalls which need to be stocked and staffed. We need lots of exciting goods to sell on these stalls so please look out suitable items in good condition which other people would like to buy.

We need:

Gifts

Bric a Brac

Bulbs & Bottles (non-alcoholic variety)

Jigsaws

Promises of cakes

Preserves

Raffle prizes

Promises for the Auction of Promises (see below)

Any help in staffing the stalls, serving the refreshments on the day or setting up and clearing up after the event would be valued.



Please let Marjorie know what you are able to do to make this event a fantastic success.

AUCTION OF PROMISES

Once again we shall be holding an Auction of Promises at the Craft Fair when you will be invited to bid for a special treat which you will enjoy. Perhaps it will be a home-made cake, a parachute jump(!), a couple of hours gardening or a day out in the country. Hopefully, we shall have many varied, interesting and exciting promises.

We need everyone to think about what they are able to offer as a Promise and to sign the chart in the Vestibule. Let's try to fill all the "clouds" on the chart so that we have lots of Promises to offer.

When we have sufficient Promises, and much nearer the time of the Craft Fair, we will add an Auction Chart and you will be invited to make a "bid" for the Promise that takes your fancy.

Last year over £300 was raised by this Auction. Can we do better this year? Let's give it a go!

FILM CLUB

On Thursday July 26th at 2.00pm when you are invited to see

“Hampstead”

This film was inspired by true events. An American widow, Emily Walters, sets out to find some more excitement. Exploring the gorgeous area of Hampstead Village which surrounds her home, she meets Donald Horner who lives in a broken down shack in his own private paradise and the two strike up an unexpected romance until unscrupulous developers threaten to uproot Donald. Emily is determined to fight back to defend the Heath as well as the man she loves.

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

HOUSE GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Meets each Friday at 135, Leam Terrace
at 7.30pm



At present the Group is discussing “Loving Justice” and would welcome others to join them. Please see James for further details.



THE NEXT BIG BREAKFASTS
are on July 14th, Aug. 11th & Sept 1st
at 9.00am



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

June's total: £72.30

The Big Breakfast is extremely popular and the money raised is a big contribution to our annual Mission Project when we aim to raise £1000. If you haven't yet sampled our delicious Big Breakfast then do come along and enjoy good food and good company.

Everyone is very welcome and it would be good to see **YOU**.

REVD. ANDY LAIRD

Andy has had responsibilities in many of the churches in the Circuit and has been the Methodist Minister at Radford Road since 2011. He is now planning his retirement and his last service at Radford Road is on July 1st. After the service we shall say our farewells to Andy so please be prepared to stay for half an hour or so if you are able.

We all say thank you to Andy for his Ministry in the Methodist Circuit and particularly at Radford Road Church. We have appreciated his messages, his Lenten groups, his caring, his cheerfulness and his musical ability.

‘Au revoir’, Andy and we all wish you a happy retirement.

There will be a Circuit Farewell Service for Andy at 4.00pm on July 29th at Dale Street Church to which all are invited.

Geoff C has written the following poem which he would like to share with everyone:

RADFORD ROAD CHURCH MINISTERS

Our one Minister, James Church
Would never leave you in the lurch
Because, as you can see,
The middle of his surname is URC.

Our other Minister, Andy Laird,
Is one Methodist who really cared,
We all will miss him with a sigh,
As he is retiring at the end of July.

We certainly will miss him, and you've guessed,
We hope his retirement will give him rest,
We send him love with all our hearts,
The day he leaves, the day he departs.

Both the Ministers have given us Christ's love,
Like the descending peace in the form of a dove,
They give us hope, it is their vow,
To teach us in Christ to learn right now.

Come on, Radford Road Church, let's cheer with zest,
Our Ministers are the very best.
With one great Hoorah! we pray and then
It's with thankful hearts we say Amen.

God's Speed, Andy

OUR MISSION PROJECT

Our Mission Project for 2017/18 is coming to an end and we are pleased to report that our £1000 target has been reached. A cheque will be presented to the Revd. Clive Fowle during the Morning Service on August 5th for the continuation of 'Footprints', his peace and reconciliation work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Clive will also be visiting the Wednesday Lunch group on July 4th and everyone is invited to this event to hear more of Clive's work. Let Veronica know if you would like to be present.

In a recent News Update Clive wrote:

The Touch of Hope team Clive, Judith and Nena has been very active over the last few weeks leading two workshops in Bosnia with a group of 12 primary and secondary school teachers.

The first workshop was on the theme of Forgiveness. We heard different stories about Forgiveness including that of Jo Berry and Pat Magee. Jo and Pat work with the Forgiveness Project. Jo's father Sir Anthony Berry MP was killed in the IRA bomb attack on the Grand Hotel Brighton when the Conservative Party conference was taking place in 1984. The workshop was very challenging for the group for whom the whole theme of Forgiveness is very difficult because of so many atrocities that took place in the war in the 90s.

The second workshop, a fortnight later, was on the theme of Reconciliation and was equally challenging.

The workshops were held in Kozarica Dubica, a small town standing on the banks of the river Una which form the border between Croatia and Bosnia. We feel the time is right to bring a group over from Bosnia and Croatia to Nuneaton in the early Autumn for a study visit and workshop. At the time of writing we cannot give exact dates and details but we will be looking for hosts and offers of help for the visit.

We are hoping to have a high profile public meeting on the theme of Forgiveness at which visitors from Bosnia will speak alongside two other speakers.

As soon as details are confirmed we shall let you all know but in the meantime we would value your thoughts and prayers for the visit and for the public meeting.

For further details contact me or look at our website footprintstouchofhope@gmail.com.

*Thanks
Clive*

CHILDREN'S SUMMER ACTIVITY MORNING

Thursday July 26th 9.30am - 12noon

Another fun morning for children of primary school age is planned. These occasions are as much fun for the adult helpers as they are for the children who come along so if you are able to spare three hours to lend a hand then we would be delighted to see you. The morning is packed with craft activities, singing, story time and discovery. The idea is to give the children a deeper understanding of God's love for them. Even if you are not able to lead an activity, it is important to have people who can talk to the children and adults and make them feel welcome.

Let Margaret B know if you are able to be there.

ANGELS FOR ADVENT



People are busily knitting angels for Advent and we already have over 150. The angels will be placed in telephone kiosks, public places, shops and even in bus shelters in the town. Each angel will have a "Please take me home" tag attached to it together with a card giving greetings from Radford Road Church and inviting the finder to attend our Christmas services.

The more angels we can distribute the better and this is a novel way of engaging with the local community, showing our care for everyone and also of encouraging new people from our local area to visit our church.

You can use your own knitting pattern or pick one up from the Vestibule. so please get those needles clicking!

Note: there is a revised, and easier to follow, pattern for angels now available on the table in the Vestibule.

MORE QUIPS (WITH MUSIC IN MIND) FROM JENNY

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

PRAYING TOGETHER IN JULY

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

1st	Mission Project supporting Clive Fowle's work	16th	Uniformed Organisations
2nd	Congregational Meeting	17th	Junior Church
3rd	Friendship Circle	18th	John F
4th	Wed. Lunch & Mid-Week Worship	19th	Joyce
5th	Jessie	20th	Valerie
6th	Elders of the Church	21st	Mavis P
7th	Tea at the Manse	22nd	Film Club
8th	Clarice	23rd	Auction of Promises
9th	Clare	24th	Street Pastors
10th	Jean I	25th	Revd. James Church
11th	Hilda & Ken	26th	Children's Activity Morning
12th	Methodists in Renewal	27th	Maureen
13th	House Group	28th	Night Shelter volunteers
14th	Big Breakfast	29th	Revd. Andy Laird
15th	Kingsley & Anne	30th	Gill & Derek
		31st	Rob & Family

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 them. 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.

AFTERNOON TEA AT THE MANSE



James and Sarah have kindly invited the whole of the congregation and other friends to call in at the Manse (135, Leam Terrace) on July 7th between 3pm and 5pm to enjoy afternoon tea. This is an informal opportunity to meet with church friends and to enjoy tea, scones, cakes and chatter. Hopefully, depending on the weather, this will be an outdoor event but if the weather should not be brilliant there is room indoors.



£5.00 for tea or coffee, a sandwich, and a slice of cake or a scone with jam and cream.

All proceeds will go towards The Good News Hospital in Mandritsara, Madagascar, where Matt and Sarah Sherratt (from Myton Church) and their family are working to bring healing and hope.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEAMINGTON

CHURCHES TOGETHER RAMBLERS

Saturday 21st July 2018 9.45am for 10.00am

A Walk around Radford Semele

More details will be on the vestibule notice board.

“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see”.

Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)

JULY DIARY 2018

Sun	1	10.30am	The Sunday Service with Holy Communion led by the Revd. Andy Laird. Please stay afterwards to say farewell to Andy and Ann.
Tues	3	2.00pm	Friendship Circle - Annual General Meeting
Wed	4	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch - Revd. Clive Fowle will give an update on his work in Bosnia - the focus on this year's Mission Project
Fri	6	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	7	3.00pm	Afternoon Tea at the Manse
Sun	8	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church
Wed	11	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Mid-Week Worship - Revd. Peter Powers
Fri	13	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	14	9.00am	Big Breakfast
Sun	15	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by Mrs Christine Flood
Wed	18	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Wednesday Lunch Visit of Danny Razzoo with his Magic Show
Fri	20	2.00pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	22	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church
Wed	25	11.00am	Coffee Morning
		12.30pm	Mid-Week Worship
Thurs	26	9.30am	Children's Activity Morning
		2.00pm	Film Club "Hampstead"
Sun	29	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by Dr Denys Hill
		4.00pm	Circuit Farewell to the Revd. Andy Laird at Dale St. Church.

AUGUST DIARY 2018

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 & the Revd. Clive Fowle The Mission Project cheque for £1000 will be presented to Clive for the Peace and Reconciliation project in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
Fri	10	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sat	11	9.00am	Big Breakfast
Sun	12	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. James Church
Fri	17	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	19	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by the Revd. Sam McBratney
Fri	24	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace
Sun	26	10.30am	The Sunday Service led by Mr Paul Tennyson
Fri	31	7.30pm	House Group at 135, Leam Terrace

The Uniformed Organisations, Friendship Circle, Coffee Morning, Wednesday Lunch, Mid-Week Worship and Film Club will not meet during August. The dates of their September meetings will be in the next Magazine.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sept 2 nd	4.00pm	Welcome service for the Revd. Jeongsock Kim at Kenilworth Methodist Church
Sept 4 th	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sept. 8 th	7.30pm	Last Night of the Proms & Fish & Chip Supper £8.00. Our new Mission Project "Buffalo Bikes for Africa" will be launched.
Oct. 6 th	11.00am	Craft Fair.
Oct. 13 th	11.30am	Students' Brunch
Oct. 13 th	7.30pm	Heart of England Recorder Orchestra.
Oct. 20 th	10.00am for 10.30am	Congregational Meeting

CHRISTIAN AID TOTAL 2018

Thank you to all those who helped to raise money for Christian Aid this year.

The following amounts have been raised:

Donations	£150
Door to Door Collection	£542.33
Sponsored Walk	£187
TOTAL	£879.33

EASY GIVING

Already 15 people have joined this scheme and together have raised £166.08 for Radford Road Church. It hasn't cost them a penny! Please consider joining. If you are introduced by a present member and make your first purchase, Radford Road Church is given an extra £1.00. Then, whenever you buy on line, just click on the Easy Giving icon and find the retailer from whom you want to make your on line purchase. A small percentage of the money you spend is automatically credited to the church. Further details and help from Margaret B.