

The Broadsheet



December 2018 / January 2019



To know Jesus better,
And to make Him better known

Time for a Fun Raising ministry!

I want to take the “d” out of fund and start a new fun raising ministry in which we don’t worry so much about money but more about the honey to be found in the promised land! When we stop expecting money to be our saviour, the Word of God will become like the taste of honey.

I am tired of worrying about money and how we will manage without it or what we can do with it. If we haven’t got it perhaps we’re not meant to have it and if we have got it let’s just celebrate what we can do with it.

Take the “d” out of fund and let’s make ministry fun. Let’s have fun raising smiles on sad faces and investing our energy in maintaining the “church” of flesh and bones which does the work rather than one of wood and stones which requires a lot of work being done to it!

We are now on an Advent journey at the end of which we can find new life — if we want to! — so what better time to get wise and change the direction of our ministry. We can be like wealthy kings with plenty to give or poor shepherds with little to offer, but we will share the same celebration if we stop what we are doing and make the effort to get to the party.

We don’t have to raise funds to make the journey, to pay for accommodation and to buy gifts for the birthday child because we can have fun as we travel together to find a new life crying out from the poverty of a stable.

Some of our churches seem to be wealthy and wise like the travellers from the East while many are like shepherds struggling on low incomes with families to feed. Wise and wealthy or struggling with poverty they stop what they are doing for a mission of fun and at the end of the journey rejoice in what they find.

We don’t have to ask a fund raising committee for the resources to make the journey because we start in faith by taking the “d” out of fund and knowing we can have fun as we travel together knowing that God’s Spirit lives in us, not in the building!

Paul said it, not me, and perhaps Christmas is a radical challenge for us to find a new relationship with God in the heart of humanity rather than in some religious building which costs so much to maintain.

“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you.”

(1 Corinthians 3: 16)

If we can imagine our body as the stable, not a comfortable palace, and our heart as a cradle we won’t need a fund raising committee to help us find new life this Christmas because we can have fun doing what God wants us to do: Turn his Word into honey and stop depending on money!

God Bless

Richard

Peter’s latest Newsletter from South Africa reporting on October includes this summary:

This month has had many teaching engagements which have gone well. Beside our normal school groups, we had a ministry day at a camp and a few opportunities to preach and share at churches about what we do. We held a training event on Making Children a Priority which 45 leaders attended including many new people. The response to all these projects was very positive and children and leaders were challenged to change and drawn closer to Him. The next month should be a little quieter as I wind down the year. On November 26th I will fly back to UK for two months and on November 29th I will place my application for a new visa to return for 3 years. In that time I will be travelling the UK, seeing friends and sharing with churches what we have been doing.

We are of course one of the churches he will be visiting – on **13th January**, and we look forward to hearing and seeing more about his Youth leadership work. Church in Society are organising his visit and will be leading the Service. More details in the Sunday Link nearer the time, as this is the last Broadsheet before his visit.

Susan Nuttall

News from the Church in Society committee

Recent emergency donations

In October a total of £351.14 from the Emergency Fund and a special collection was sent to Indonesia for the recent Earthquake and Tsunami Appeal. Initially, £150 was forwarded via the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC); then, a fortnight later, a further £201.14 was sent via 'All We Can', the Methodist Relief and Development Agency - which was already working in Sulawesi.

Christmas Special Collection:

This year the Church's Christmas collection will be for 'Young Carers in Worcestershire.

This is a service that supports young people between seven and 17 who have a caring role at home. The caring role could be for a parent, a sibling or a grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse. It also supports young adult carers between the ages of 18 and 24. The youngsters' caring role can be varied, ranging from administering medication; to cooking, cleaning and bathing; to helping to parent siblings or providing emotional support. Statistically, young carers are more likely to suffer bullying at school, are less likely to stay in education, employment or training and tend to have lower aspirations.

After an assessment, a variety of services and social activities can be offered to the young person, including one-to-one support if required.

Further information can be found on www.yss.org.uk.

This special Christmas collection will be made at the Sunday Services in the second half of December.

Ann Walters



A series of questions for Advent:

Sunday December 2nd: 10-30 am

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 and Luke 21: 25-36

What should we look for in December?

Revd. Richard Becher

Sunday December 9th: 10-30 am

Malachi 3: 1-4 and Luke 3: 1-6

How can we prepare for the journey?

Revd. Jo Williamson

Friday December 14th at 7-30 pm

What can we do for the World?

a Christingle service for our Pilots and families

Sunday December 16th: 10-30 am

Zephaniah 3: 14-end and Luke 3: 7-18

What shall we do for Christmas?

Revd. Richard Becher

Sunday December 23rd: 3pm

Carols and Reflections

bring your voice and celebrate with song

There is no morning service

December 25th: 10-30 am

What can we do with the baby?

led by Revd. Richard Becher

Duty Elder Shared

Sunday 2nd December

Welcome Bruce Wallace
Reading Pat Wallace
Coffee Sue Jones and Joanne Griffin
Flowers

Sunday 9th December

Welcome Laura Holt
Reading Laura Holt
Coffee Margaret and Roger Harrington
Flowers Joanne Griffin

Sunday 16th December

Welcome Jill Hedges
Reading Chris Walters
Coffee Pat Aberdein and Ann Walters
Flowers Flower Guild

Sunday 23rd December Carol Service 3pm

Welcome Judith Gibbons
Reading Megan Thomas
Coffee Pat and Bruce Wallace
Flowers Flower Guild

Sunday 30th December

Welcome Wyn Whitten
Reading Sheila Payne
Coffee Judith Gibbons and Wyn Whitten
Flowers Pam and Alex Peters

Services in January

All services start at 10.30am. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments in the Church Hall after the service.

Sunday 6th January Revd. Richard Becher

Sunday 13th January Peter Nuttall

Sunday 20th January Revd Richard Becher

Sunday 27th January

Sunday 3rd February Revd. Richard Becher

Elders Meetings 3rd December 2018

7th January 2019

Church Meeting 20th January 2019

Birthday Celebrations

2nd December Marion Tunwell

5th December Noel Kershaw

16th December Vicki Packman

21st January Ann Walters

30th January Michael Eden

31st January Christine Waller



Hear Ye, Hear Ye - a communications update

1. **Broadsheet** contributors and articles

A big thank you to all the new and regular contributors of items for the Broadsheet. It adds to its richness. If you haven't made a contribution recently why not share something in the next edition?

Richard's message will also be included in the Grapevine in future

2. **Broadway Newsletter**

Ran several articles for us including Richard joining our church as Minister and what's on at Broadway URC

3. **Reform Magazine article**

We were approached by the URC communications team in regard of our outreach work, particularly our feel better, enjoy life more initiative. Charissa King visited and talked to people from several groups. The article appeared in the May issue of **Reform**, the monthly nationwide magazine of the URC.

4. **Bridge magazine**

Our Pilots' Tree of Peace article appeared in **The Bridge**, the nationwide magazine for Pilots companies

5. **Events / Display board**

The display board was used at the Nomads Community Bus celebration in June. Two new people started attending Look After yourself as a result. Interestingly there were conversations about the church in Broadway with members of other churches.

The board was reformatted and used at one of the fetes on the green

It was also used on the Pilots/ Nomads stall at the Horticultural show which was particularly busy.

Information of our activities was shared at the Multi- Agency meeting at Wychavon District Council. As a direct result Carers Worcestershire have booked the hall from September to March 2019 and a meeting was held with St Richard's Hospice and Signpost regarding bereavement support.

6. **Welcome pack and invitation materials**

The **welcome pack was compiled including the flier**. It has been posted to some new homes and given to visitors

The Peace With You card was printed and is being given to visitors who join us for worship

7. **Pop up banner**

A brief is being compiled to produce a floor standing pop up banner

If you have any suggestions of other ways our Church could be using media to communicate with our local community please let Megan, Joanne or Mark know.

Some more information about The Stained Glass Windows

Michael Eden.

In 2013/14 I wrote about what I considered to be the meaning or story, of the two stained glass windows. I felt they represented the teaching and practices of a religious sect called the 'Essenes'. One is called 'Charity', the other is 'St. John'. I produced a document setting out my research which I am now in the process of updating. Sometime ago I received permission from Church Meeting to do this, which I have only just started to do. This article is what has been discovered so far.

At the Christmas Tree Festival in 2017 a gentleman named Mr. Alan Brooks left his business card. He is from Winchcombe and is an Architectural and Stained Glass Historian. Myself, Revd. Richard and Roger Harrington recently met with him.

His first act was to find a very faint signature on the bottom right corner of the plaque to Emma Treherne. This was 'F Holt & Co'. Frank Holt had a company in Warwick making stained glass windows and presumably wall plaques as well. Mr. Brooks was in no doubt the windows were his work, they had his signature in their construction. The next thing was to say the two roundels in the top of the first set of windows were probably on the wrong sides, the reason comes later. One is an Eagle which represented St. John and the other has a verse that is appropriate for Charity. It is:- 'Beloved let us love one another for to love is of God'.

The building was erected in 1842/3 and was about 45 feet tall, which is quite a height. At the front were two tall windows either side of the door and what appears to be a circular window above the door. The four windows inside the building were even taller, as indicated by a shadow on a photograph. This is possible as light would be needed for people in the body

of the church and especially in the gallery which was accessed by a stairway by the door. The two stained glass windows were installed in 1902 and 1907. In 1959 it was discovered the building was sinking due to its weight so it was decided to lower the roof by about 15 feet. In a published book about Worcestershire churches it says the two stained glass windows were re-set. It is obvious it was at this point they were placed in their present position, and there was no longer room for the two roundels to fit above them. Were the roundels deliberately placed in their present position or was it a mistake?

Mr. Brooks was not able to assist in identifying the meaning of the windows, but he did say it was unusual to have two of this quality in a non-conformist church, especially Charity which was a very fine example of content and construction.

More about the windows in due course.

Ever thought of fire safety in your home?

You may know that after our weekly Look After Yourself exercise session, now and again we have a light lunch of soup and Joanne's renowned cheese scones.



This time 22 people come to the lunch, some staying after their exercises and some just popping in. We were joined by a volunteer with Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (HWFR) who was very helpful answering specific questions and giving general advice too.

Here are two hot tips in case they are useful to you.

1. HWFR can provide an easy to read booklet "Fire safety in the home" containing top tips that are easy to do and are massively effective. We have some in the hall, please take one.
2. You can even ring them, for free, to arrange a free visit to check your smoke alarms, or to install them, or give advice on free phone 0800 032 1155

Pilgrimage to Medieval Windows

This was the first of our Pilgrimage trips to create the opportunity for us to deepen Fellowship in our Christian community.

Ten people travelled together to St Mary's church at Fairford in Oxfordshire on the Nomads Community Bus.

On arrival we were refreshed with drinks and biscuits at the community centre. Then we were treated to an extremely informative and insightful tour of the church including an explanation of the 28 stained glass windows.

From a time when most people could not read, the Bible is summarised through images in 28 stained glass windows. The imagery provoked a number of thoughts. Including Jesus' face being different in the different stories which suggests perhaps that we each carry our own image of what Christ is like in our mind's eyes and in our hearts.



After the tour we joined together in the Lady's chapel with its marble altar. We shared in prayers of fellowship and reflected on the differences of life then and now. We also reflected on the similarities, as people through the ages share a consistent God who simply wants us to love one another here and now. Then followed a leisurely exploration of the village in small groups before heading for home.



New Good Lunch Club

Good news. Good News.

On 22 November it was announced to the thirty two Good Lunchers that the effort to keep the club going had borne fruit.

They were delighted. It means that they can get out of the house, chat with friends, meet new people and enjoy a good cooked meal together.

Churches Together in Broadway will host, whilst Rooftop Housing Group source and cook the food in their Parsons Gardens Restaurant, and Nomads Community Bus will help people to get there.

A big thank you to everyone in the community who helped to make this happen.

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Articles for the next Broadsheet can be sent to
broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk or can be placed in the folder at the
back of the Church

Closing date for articles 6th January 2019 for printing for February

REGULAR MEETINGS

Monday	Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon Elders Meeting (first Monday in the month)
Tuesday	Table Games Afternoon 1st Tuesday each month 2-4pm Tai Chi 6.30 -8pm
Wednesday	Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon Neighbours on Line 2- 4pm every other week Threads 2pm -4pm 3rd Wednesday of month Music Makers 7.30 - 9.00pm
Thursday	Look After Yourself 10.30am—12noon Today's Our Day 2-4pm
Friday	PILOTS 6.30pm -8pm Fun and activities in a Christian environment during term time for everyone aged 4-18