

# The



# Broadsheet

October 2018



To know Jesus better,  
And to make Him better known

# The Church optimist!

*The Grapevine is one of the best church magazines I have seen and offers a wonderful opportunity for mission to the community. It would be wonderful if it was a project all the local churches shared in so I was quick to accept the opportunity to write an article for it. I won't make you find a copy of Grapevine, but share what I have written here.*

For the pessimist many things are impossible. For the optimist everything is possible. So, one thing for sure, God is the eternal optimist. Unless, of course, you are one of the pessimists in Church who doesn't believe in the God of the impossible!

I did say the optimist will believe everything is possible and although I like to believe I am one of them I might think God was joking if an angel said I was pregnant and "nothing is impossible with God!" (Luke 1: 37) Perhaps I can be pregnant with the Holy Spirit though and give birth to an exciting new church within me.

Yes, I am the optimist because I will find a positive meaning from scripture that inspires me to be positive about the future when so many people see a church spiralling into decline, even death in many places. If death leads to resurrection isn't it exciting to think of a Church rising again to a new life?

I'm beginning to think this reflection more appropriate for Easter but I have just had a coffee with Shellie, the Anglican vicar, and now have the vision of a stranger walking down a road with two church members whose eyes are opened to scripture in a new, exciting way. Their hearts are burning with passion as they listen and when they break bread they realise that the stranger is the unrecognisable church full of new life! (Luke 24: 43-32)

Christmas is closer than Easter so perhaps we can imagine the impossible of a Church being born again and growing to become an inspiration in the life of a pessimistic world. It will be the Body of Christ manifested in the One Church that will transform a community in which it lives.

It will be a Church working together, walking together, praying together, sharing what they have together and because of that they achieve much more than they ever thought possible. Yes, there is justification for the pessimists in the “dying” church but if we embrace the resurrection of Easter or the new birth of Christmas there is cause to be optimistic together. Christmas can’t come soon enough for me!

So as we struggle at the United Reformed Church to understand how we can maintain some of the community projects we have started I wonder whether there are other Christians who can help us. As we dream of exciting new ministries but haven’t got the resources to start them I imagine people from different traditions working together to make them happen.

Perhaps the view from the church we know is a pessimistic one, but we can be optimistic about seeing the kingdom of God if we are blown into unexpected new relationships by the power of the Holy Spirit. (John 3: 3-8)

I look forward to walking down the road with a new, unrecognisable church full of new life!

*Perhaps this is a vision of our Church in the future — strengthened in its ministry through help from other Christians in the community and contributing to a village overflowing with a new spirit of hope for the future. I will remain the optimist!*

God Bless Richard



**Note for your Diaries - The Traidcraft Stall will be available on the 3rd Sunday in October and November rather than the 2nd.** Traidcraft catalogues will be available in early October.

Please speak to Pat if you would like to look at one.

## God's perspective

From my grandson Peter, Christian Youth Leader with  
Scripture Youth Leaders in South Africa.

“I enjoyed a week’s break up north in some game reserves and God spoke to me through several things I saw. For one of them another car stopped at a waterhole and I wondered why – since I could see nothing. Yet when it moved off and I moved forward, I saw a terrapin sunning itself on a rock. From my previous angle I could not see it, but with a change of angle, it was clear. The same is true in life and ministry. Often we look at things from the wrong angle and we need a change of angle and things become clear. We need to see things from God's perspective or from another person’s view or another change of view to see what is really happening. This helped me in a few decisions and I was even able to use it in talks on having peace in our hearts this week – as a way to help us have that peace. Another day, watching a kingfisher, I thought on how the kingfisher could sit patiently for ages looking for fish, but would then go and try another place. I thought that this was true for ministry too. There is a time to wait patiently and a time to do something else, which we have seen in children's lives, through regular school groups over the years. As if to prove it, when I decided to move on and look elsewhere – a kingfisher turned up there and hovered above the water within 5m of me and I got some great photos.”

Susan Nuttall

## Services in October

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

7th October	Revd. Richard Becher
14th October	Revd. Tim Huc
21st October	Revd. Richard Becher One World Week
28th October	Service at Methodist Church
4th November	Revd. Richard Becher

Elders Meeting 1st October

Church Meeting 19th October

## Birthday Celebrations

October 4 <sup>th</sup>	John Payne
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christine Kershaw
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce Wallace
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Strange
October 21 <sup>st</sup>	Judith Gibbons.



**Duty Elder** Laura Holt

**Sunday 7th October**

Welcome Judy Aiton

Reading Sheila Payne

Coffee Wyn Whitten and Jill Hedges

Flowers Margaret Taylor

**Sunday 14th October**

Welcome Roger Harrington

Reading Frank Waller

Coffee Margaret Harrington and Christine Waller

Flowers

**Sunday 21st October**

Welcome Margaret Taylor

Reading Noel Kershaw

Coffee Christine Kershaw and Laura Holt

Flowers Wyn Whitten

**Sunday 28th October** Service at Methodist Church

If you are unable to carry out the duty or have already swapped please let the Duty Elder or Judith know so that everything is covered in the service and the Duty Elder knows who to expect. Thank you for continuing to help.

**Duty Elder** Megan Thomas

**Sunday 4th November**

Welcome

Reading Michael Davies

Coffee Pat and Michael Davies

Flowers Sue Jones

**Sunday 11th November**

Welcome Julie Stickler

Reading Judith Gibbons

Coffee Virginia Becher and Judy Aiton

Flowers

**Sunday 18th November**

Welcome Eric and Marilyn Watts

Reading Sarah Williams

Coffee Judith Gibbons and Pat Davies

Flowers Muriel Nelson arranged by C. Waller

**Sunday 25th November**

Welcome Michael Davies

Reading Wyn Whitten

Coffee Judith Gibbons and Pat Davies

Flowers Sheila Payne

# What's On ?

At Broadway URC , 77, High Street, Broadway . WR12 7AL



What's On	October	November	December
<b>Sunday Service</b> 10.30—11.30 am	7,14,21	4,11,18,25	2,9,16,23,25
<b>Tuesday</b>			
Table Games Afternoon 2-4pm	2nd	6th	4th
<b>Wednesday</b>			
Neighbours on Line Computers and Internet Coaching 2-4pm	3,17,31	14,28	12th
Threads 2-4pm	17th	21st	19th
<b>Thursday</b>			
Look After Yourself—Gentle Exercises 10.30 –12 noon	4,11,18,25	1,8,15,22,29	6,13,20
Today's Our Day Activities and Chat 2-4pm	4,11,18,25	1,8,15,22,29	6,13,20
<b>Friday</b>			
PILOTS Crafts, Games for all aged 4-18 6.30-8.00pm	5,12,19	2,9,16,23	
<b>Events</b>			
Beetle Drive	20th		
Remembrance Sunday		11th	
Quiz 5.30pm		17th	



## My Holiday in Canada

Having returned from a holiday in Canada with my youngest son , I wondered if you would like to hear about my time there visiting my late husband's sister, Margaret and her Canadian husband Harold. Margaret left England when she was 17 years old and is now in her early 70's. She is very proud of her adopted country; I've visited about 10 times to date but she always manages to find somewhere new for us to discover.

After spending our first night in Vancouver we travelled up to Whistler known mostly for it's Skiing and Winter sports; however it has such wonderful lakes and mountains plus the 'ski village' feeling that we loved it. As it was a 2 hour journey to Whistler, we stopped at Squamish which was well known for the Britannia Mining Company, closed down in 1978. This mine was for copper mostly and it spawned at least two villages which were hit badly when the mine closed. It is now open as a Museum and well worth the visit.

We spent the next day going up Cougar mountain - by gondola, not climbing, I hasten to add! We caught our first glimpse of a black bear, down in the greenery of the valley as we rose to the top. From there we took the Peak- to -peak gondola across the divide - almost 3 miles! Scenery was breathtaking and very humbling realising how difficult it must have been to construct all of this. The weather was wonderful - bright and sunny - and we saw what a great all-year round resort Whistler is.

Our one day of rain came as we left Whistler to drive to Kamloops - there had been lots of mudslides, visible on our journey but we managed to miss them all and had wonderful weather for the rest of the holiday.

Canada is such a vast country, impossible to describe - a trip down the road to the nearest town is a mere 50 miles away! However our holiday continued - catching up with family and old friends. We visited all the old, familiar haunts including the local Wildlife Centre, which takes in injured and abandoned animals. If they can be treated and rehabilitated they are returned to the wild, but when there is a cougar with only three legs or a golden eagle missing half a wing then they stay! The newest addition is a white, Kermode bear named Chloe. She is beautiful - a recessive gene made her original brown fur, white, so she couldn't stay in the wild for fear of poachers or her own group

turning against her. She earns her keep by testing rubbish receptacles for the manufacturer and has great fun at the same time.

I was able to attend a Service at the Kamloops United Church of Canada and talked to the Minister who knew of Broadway URC through Martin Henninger - they trained together in Cambridge and Martin spoke very fondly of Broadway.  
What a small world we live in!

My favourite trip, on our last afternoon, was a ride out to the river to see if the salmon were running - Harold thought that it was too early and at our usual place it was - not a fish in sight. However we carried on down-river about 4 or 5 miles when crossing a bridge Margaret shouted 'fish' - she has eyes like a hawk! But there they were - large, red Salmon swimming frantically, leaping in and out of the water and finally, after spawning, giving up and dying. So sad and yet so majestic, showing us the true cycle of life.

Another drive down to Vancouver, all 5 hours of it, for our last night in Canada.

A 'minor' problem with our plane meant we sat for two hours while the problem was sorted and then the 9 hour flight back home. An 11 hour of sitting is not the best way to end a holiday but I plan to go back soon if I am able.

Blessings

Wyn Whitten

## **The Sound of Africa**

On Saturday September 8th we were treated to a wonderful concert in the church. This was given by **Juliet Mukisa** from Uganda, **The Solid Ground Gospel Choir** and jazz pianist **Paul Morton**. It was amazing to hear the wonderful sound of music and voices. However the most inspiring part for me was hearing about **Project Shalom**, a charity working with orphaned children in Uganda and set up by Juliet.

Unfortunately the audience was small partly because it was organised at quite short notice but also because of other commitments.

If we are fortunate enough to have another visit from Juliet I recommend that it's a must to attend!

Pat Wallace

Mark, Kath and the girls would like to express their thanks for the support and kind thoughts from the church family at the time of Mark's mom's death.



Taster sessions of home meals at Look After Yourself and Today's our Day go down a treat

Question: How did the Look After Yourself smoothie session go down?  
Answer: Totally



Broadway Horticultural Show.

Lewis can barely contain his joy as he aces the highest ever bagatelle score in the world ever!

**Broadway United Reformed Church**  
**77, High Street , Broadway , Worcestershire. WR12 7AL**  
[www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk](http://www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk)

Minister	Revd. Richard Becher
Secretary	Joanne Griffin burcsecretary@outlook.com
Booking Secretaries	Margaret and Roger Harrington
Church E-mail address	broadwayurc@outlook.com

Articles for the next Broadsheet can be sent to [broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk)  
or can be placed in the folder at the back of the Church  
Closing date for articles 15th October 2018.

### **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