

# The Broadsheet



April 2022



To know Jesus better,  
And to make Him better known

## New Beginnings.

As many of you know I love computers (NOT) ! They seem to have a mind of their own, work wonderfully at times and then decide to do their own thing at another. This causes me ( and Eric as my help desk!) considerable frustration and upset. When thinking rationally I realise this is largely due to them being considerably more efficient and logical than I am!

Then I look at the news of the terrible and frightening attack on Ukraine and realise that my frustration and upset are unjustified and I am being self-absorbed. We are so lucky in my generation in the UK to have not experienced war in our country and to have had a reasonably stable economy. Even then there are the homeless, those struggling with poverty, those with health problems, the lonely, bereaved and those worried about their family here and abroad. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed by how we can help as individuals.

Luke 13 v18-21 writes about the mustard seed growing into a large bush. Each little thing we do as Christians can help and grow into something much larger. The firm that offered to take an extra pallet in a lorry delivery to Poland has now had 2 extra vans promised and have been inundated with donations – just one example.

Lent is a time for reflection and perhaps we can reflect on the talents we have (not computers in my case!) .

Easter is a time for New Beginnings and the promise of better things following on from a time which the Disciples must have felt was the darkest of their time with Jesus. By now we will have had the Annual Church meeting and if we all give our talents we can work together for a new church year.

We have two big celebrations to look forward to this year – The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and URC's 50th Celebrations. This month we also have 2 communion services with Rev Mike Harrison on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rev Kathryn Louch on Easter Sunday.

Meanwhile the days are drawing out and the spring flowers are showing their glory. Time to give thanks for the beauty of this earth and to look forward with hope.

Marilyn

### **notes from the Church in Society Committee**

1. The Christmas Collection : Thank you for all who gave to St Richard's Hospice ,Worcester. £ 175 (plus gift aid) was raised. They were most grateful.
2. Thank you also to all who donated in March to the DEC ( for Ukraine ) via the Emergency Fund . The sum raised will be noted in next month's Broadsheet . At the beginning of April the Emergency Box returns to await the next supported emergency.
- 3.Christian Aid Week . The Committee have decided the Church will do a repeat 'dropping' street collection like last year, ie we drop envelopes only and any householder who wishes to donate drops their filled envelope into a designated letterbox. Any member of the Congregation who wishes to 'drop' envelopes please let Ann know.

On Saturday, 21st May , at the end of Christian Aid Week , we will again be having a mini-market at the front of the Church in aid of CA - just as we did last year. There will be bric a brac , cakes, books and plants etc. Please think ahead if you are sorting out your house or dividing plants and planting seeds! Many thanks in anticipation.

CIS Committee .

## Services in April

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

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|-------------------|---|
| Sunday 3rd April  | Revd. Mike Harrison                           |
| Sunday 10th April | Michael Payne and Worship Group               |
| Sunday 17th April | Easter Day<br>Revd. Kathryn Louch - Communion |
| Sunday 24th April |   |
| Sunday 1st May    | Revd. Jo Williamson - Communion               |

### Holy Week

If you only come to church on Sundays, most of us do, then on Palm Sunday you hear about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The following week we have the triumph of Easter. Between those two Sundays we have a rather important part of our faith - the betrayal and death of our Lord on the Cross - which we risk missing.

This omission can be corrected by coming to the service of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday at 7.00 pm. Tenebrae means 'shadows' and in this service, adapted from an early Christian service, we start in the light but move through Bible readings, reflections and music to think about the shadows that surrounded Jesus during his Passion.

Do try to come.

**Elder** Marilyn Watts

**Sunday 3rd April**

**Welcome** Wyn Whitten

**Reading** Margaret Harrington

**Coffee** Pat and Bruce Wallace

**Flowers** Julie Stickler

**Sunday 10th April**

**Welcome** Sue Jones

**Reading** Julie Stickler

**Coffee** Marilyn Watts and Christine Browne

**Flowers** Christine Browne

**Sunday 17th April**

**Welcome** Chris Walters

**Reading** Laura Holt

**Coffee** Margaret and Roger Harrington

**Flowers** Easter

**Sunday 24th April**

**Welcome** Judith Gibbons

**Reading** Judy Aiton

**Coffee** Maggie and Ian Tucker

**Flowers** Kath Pickering

## **The Sabeel-Kairos United Reformed Church (URC) Action Group urges members of the URC to take a stance against injustice.**

In January, a Palestinian [family was evicted from their home in Sheikh Jarrah](#), a neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, by Israeli police and stood helplessly as it was then demolished. Israeli forces claim such houses such [are illegal](#) as they were built without planning permission. Although the event had drawn international attention, with the [UK Consulate in Jerusalem tweeting](#) “that such evictions were against international law and fuelled tensions on the ground”, the Sabeel-Kairos URC Action Group says more needs to be done and is encouraging members of the denomination to write to their MPs. The call to action is in line with [ten significant resolutions](#), pertaining to the situation in Israel and Palestine, which passed at General Assembly in July 2021. A primary focus of these solutions deals with the way in which Israeli settlements and forced land acquisitions represent a de facto annexation of the occupied Palestinian territories. As Resolution 31 states: “General Assembly requests local churches and members to contact their constituency MPs to express concerns about the actions of the Israeli government with respect to settlement expansion and house demolitions, and to ask what the UK is doing in response.” The group said: “If the Israeli authorities continue on this track, more Palestinians will face eviction from their homes, as the settlement expansion continues apace, with the consequent appropriation of Palestinians’ land, demolition of houses and loss of farming land.” It should be important to us as Christians to bear witness to injustice when we see it. The recent [Christian Aid report](#) ‘Where is Palestine? A story of loss, inequality and failure’ makes very significant comments about the situation on the ground. It also notes that we ‘hold both Palestinians and Israelis as equals’. We must comment on a situation which needs to be rectified for the ultimate good of both (indeed all) groups.” If you would like advice and information about writing to your MP, please contact the Sabeel-Kairos URC Action Group by email at [Sabeelkairos.urb@gmail.com](mailto:Sabeelkairos.urb@gmail.com).

## **SHELTERBOX UPDATE**

Unfortunately the OPEN HOUSE at Longlands scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL has to be postponed.

Sue has recently had a fall and we feel the 9<sup>th</sup> is too close to be sure that, as she put it, she will be fully operational in time to help with the shopping etc!

We will reschedule the day, BUT this in no way affects the commitment to individual giving during Lent as these boxes are required for immediate response to all kinds of disasters.

The OPEN HOUSE when rescheduled will boost our Lent giving.

Joanne

## **Traidcraft**

**Due to unforeseen circumstances there will be no Traidcraft stall in April but we will be back in May.**

**Pat and Judith**

## **Leprosy Mission**

**I have received a letter from Guy Willcock saying how much he enjoyed meeting everyone at Broadway and thanking the congregation for their donations on the day of £216 for the Research Centre at Anandaban Hospital. I will put up the poster he sent.**

**As usual the Leprosy Mission boxes will be collected in April on Easter Sunday. I am aware that some of you may have already given your collection/donation to Guy. If you have any queries do ring me.**

**Thanks**

**Pat**

## Broadway United Reformed Church

77, High Street , Broadway , Worcestershire. WR12 7AL

[www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk](http://www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk)

Minister  
Secretary

Vacant  
M. Tunwell  
secretary.broadwayurc@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 or can be placed in the folder at  
the back of the Church

Closing date for articles Monday 18th April 2022

## *Birthday Celebrations*



*6th April Megan Thomas*

*10th April Judy Aiton*

*12th April Wyn Whitten*

*29th April Pat Wallace*