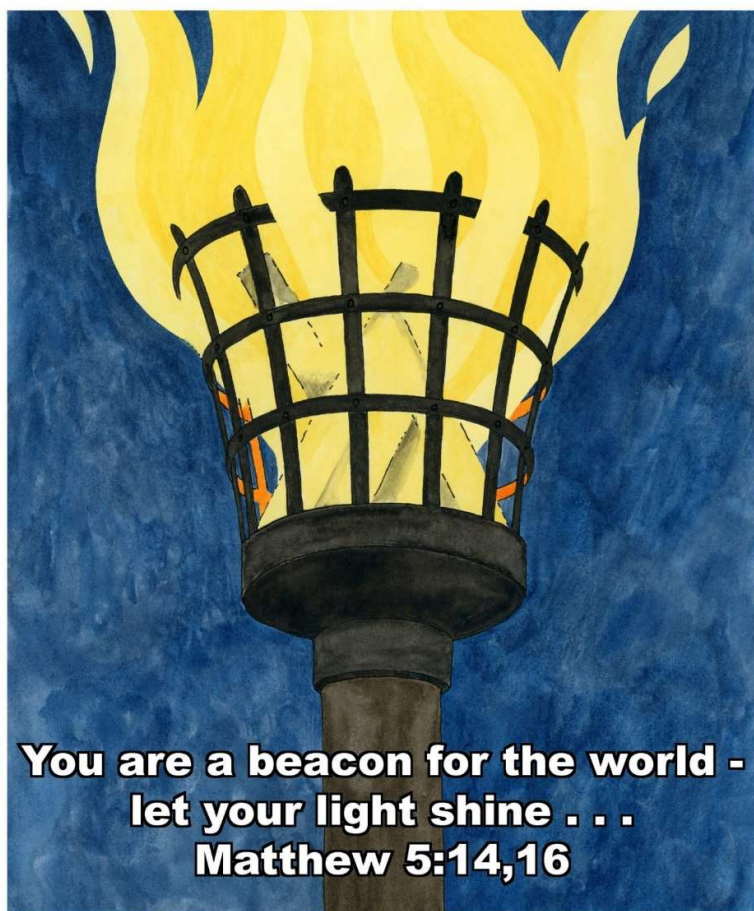




*'Sharing God's love so that
all may know Jesus'*



Connections



**You are a beacon for the world -
let your light shine . . .
Matthew 5:14,16**

November 2021

The Church Magazine for Warwick Road URC & West Orchard URC

**Warwick Road URC
10 Warwick Row
Coventry
CV1 1EX**

**West Orchard URC
Baginton Road
Coventry
CV3 6FP**

November



In this month's magazine

Poetry Café.....	2
Dear Friends.....	3
Remembering Service	3
Advance Notice – West Orchard Christmas post.....	4
Away Day at Red Hill	4
Welcome to West Orchard's new Administrator	5
Making Mondays	5
Harvest Thank You from the Coventry Foodbank Team	6
Burns Night celebration – a date for your diary.....	6
News in Brief from around the UK	7
Reasons for Silent Fireworks	8
Nativity Sets.....	8
Remember.....	9
More News in Brief from beyond the UK	11
Synod Report for October 2021	12
Puzzle Pages.....	14
Mouse Makes	16
Open Doors Café Menu for November	17
Christian Aid Soup Lunch	17
Retirement – Thank you!	18
Connections – December 2021/January 2022 issue deadline.....	19
Worship at Warwick Road & West Orchard – November 2021.....	20
Church Contacts	20

Poetry Café

Poetry Café meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Open Doors Café at Warwick Road URC at 2.30pm. We each share two or three poems – these are usually on a set theme but don't have to be!



The next meetings are:

Thursday, 4 November, Theme: 'Remembering'

Thursday, 2 December, Theme: 'Gifts'



All are welcome. For more information, please contact David Lathbury:
david@dlathbury.co.uk.

Dear Friends

We have heard for ourselves, O God, our predecessors have told us the deeds you performed in their time, how in bygone days you saved us from our enemies. [Psalm 44:1, 7a]



"Do you remember when we came here before?" Ted often says. I try to remember; I rack my brains but it is no good. The occasion has been completely forgotten as if it never happened. I do remember lots of things, usually useless facts, but I forget many others, names in particular. I am sure I am not the only one. Things that we really ought to remember have that infuriating habit of disappearing from our minds just when we really need to recall them the most and so we resort to bits of paper, sticky notes or some form of technology, hoping beyond hope that something might jog our memories.

Such, increasingly, is the rationale behind Remembrance Day. Every year the number of those who lived through one or both of the World Wars diminishes, yet for that reason perhaps the occasion becomes more rather than less important. We only have to witness the horrors of Bosnia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria (to name just a few since 1945) to realise that things have not changed as much as we would like to think. Some dare even to suggest that the horrors of the Holocaust never actually happened, thus dismissing at a stroke the suffering, horror, terror and anguish endured by so many millions of individuals.

The fact is that we cannot afford to forget the past. Remembrance Day does not glorify war but rather recalls the price of peace, reminding us of the evils and inhumanity that some people can stoop to and the sacrifice so many have had to make to ensure that such tyranny does not triumph. It intentionally pushes such things into our consciousness – lest we forget.

God bless,
Yvonne



Remembering Service

Sunday, 21 November 2021 at 6pm – West Orchard

Reverend Yvonne will be leading an act of worship for the remembrance of loved ones. All are invited to attend and special invitation cards are available for members of the congregation and their families who have been bereaved in the past 12 months. If you have not received an invitation either for yourself, members of your family or a friend, and would like one, please speak to Reverend Yvonne or one of the Elders. Light refreshments before the service will be available from 5pm.

Pauline Luckett

Advance Notice - West Orchard Christmas post



Once again, we will be giving you the opportunity to post your Christmas cards using the West Orchard Postal Service. Cards can be posted on Sunday mornings, 5 and 19 December, and can be collected after these services. There will also be the opportunity to post cards at Call in for Coffee between these dates.

When addressing the envelopes, please include **surnames** of the recipients and **only post to people who attend West Orchard Church regularly**. We always have several cards which remain uncollected!

There is no suggested donation for using the service, but when considering how much to give please take into account that the cost of a second-class stamp is now 66p. The chosen charity to receive our donations for 2021 is the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Sue Matthews

Away Day at Red Hill

On Saturday 9 October 2021, about 20 members of the congregations from both Warwick Road and West Orchard went to the Red Hill Christian Retreat Centre for a day of prayers, crafts and other social activities.

The morning started with prayers led by Yvonne on the theme of touch. This was followed by a selection of craft activities including painting in silk, message in a bottle, decorating biscuits, embroidering crosses and several quizzes. These were interspersed with teas, coffee and the consumption of some lovely biscuits.

After lunch the more adventurous went on a 'Walk with a Difference' led by Mark, looking at plants on the site that could be used for medicines and healing. At the top of the hill, we visited the Via Beata ("way of the blessing") carved wooden cross and were led in a forest mediation by Pete.



Arriving back at the Barn, Mark answered questions, showed us books about healing and had a selection of creams and potions to be handled and smelt. We were then fortified by tea, cream scones and a blessing from Yvonne before departing for home.

Thank you to all the people who helped during the day and especially those who donated their craft activities for all to enjoy.

Jenny Barnes



Welcome to West Orchard's new Administrator

We are delighted that Kevin Bodsworth has been appointed as West Orchard URC's new Church Administrator. Kevin will be responsible for notices and other administrative matters while Hugh will handle room bookings.

Kevin was born in West London and moved to Oxfordshire as a youngster when his father was relocated with British Railways. He studied Chemical Engineering at Oxford Polytechnic and then, after a spell with the UK Atomic Energy Authority, worked with a pharmaceuticals manufacturer.

He married Carol in 1985 and they went to Bible College in The Netherlands a few years later after God gave them a clear call into a missionary career. After mission journeys to Poland, Spain, Belgium and The Ivory Coast, they worked in France with WEC International for 24 years, serving in a number of French and International churches.

Kevin and Carol returned to the UK in 2018. They have three children: Nicky is married and works with a church in Paris, Christopher is in his final year at Coventry University and Emilie is studying Travel and Tourism at Coventry College. They worship at Walsgrave Baptist Church, near their home.

Kevin says he is really happy to be working in the church office at West Orchard URC. He particularly enjoys the challenges, changes and cakes!

Kevin's working hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30am to 1.30pm. You can contact him at: westorchardoffice@gmail.com; tel: 024 7641 9927.

Making Mondays

Christmas Crafting at West Orchard URC (in the Sanctuary), with a Festive Afternoon Tea (more details to follow)

1 and 15 November, 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Also on Monday, 6 December, 4.00pm – 6.30pm



Come along and join in a fun afternoon of simple craft activities – just bring your own pen/pencil and scissors.

Everyone welcome.

Sue and Pam

Harvest Thank You from the Coventry Foodbank Team

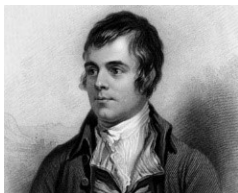


Generous donations from both our churches were gratefully received by the team at the Binley Foodbank warehouse, now known as the Halo Centre and operating as a project of the international charity Feed the Hungry. Here are some quotes from their thank you letter and facts which highlight why our donations are so needed:

- We are so very grateful for every item of food we receive from our donors. During the pandemic, so far we have fed over 34,500 adults and children in Coventry - unfortunately foodbanks are needed now more than ever. Not only do they receive food but where possible they are introduced to agencies which can help them on the road to longer term recovery.
- It may come as a shock to know that in some parts of Coventry over 45% of our children are living in income-deprived households (Coventry City Council stats). We know that many parents regularly struggle to put food on the table.
- One desperate Mum told us: "I would like to say a huge thanks for all your help in providing food for my son and me. You have managed to help me feed him a few proper meals; it's the start of him eating properly – I am so grateful for all your help."
- All of this has been achieved through the generosity of people like you, giving food, finance and many volunteers' hours.

We are working towards a foodbank-free future and would like to end the need for foodbanks. You can read more and join the Hunger Free Future campaign through www.trusselltrust.org.uk/hunger-free-future.

Margaret O'Kane



Burns Night celebration – a date for your diary

Saturday, 22 January 2022

We are hoping to hold a celebration in honour of Robbie Burns on Saturday, 22 January 2022. This will be in West Orchard's Large Hall and will include food and traditional speeches. It will end with some Scottish country dancing led by our good friend Keith Stevens.

Please make a note of the date and look out for further details in the Notice Sheet and Connections. It will be an opportunity for us all to get to know one another and share food and fellowship.

Crawford Dow & Pauline Luckett

NEWS IN BRIEF FROM AROUND THE UK

In an interview with the Rev Richard Coles whilst promoting his new book *Black Gold: The History of How Coal made Britain*, Jeremy Paxman made reference to his health as he has been recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Jeremy related that in the taxi cab on the way to the interview he was singing *The Church's One Foundation* and he went on to tell the cabbie that he was a very lapsed Christian. The cabbie said: "God never forgets you".

Gloucester Cathedral issued a statement that "3 September 2021 was a landmark date as, for the first time since the choir was founded in 1541, the girls and boys played an equal role in cathedral worship". Southwell Minster in Nottinghamshire have announced that its head chorister will be a girl for the first time in the cathedral's 900-year history. One problem in choral equality is knowing when a boy's voice will break.

Between 2017 and 2020 the Church of England has invested more than £240m in projects to try to stop the decline in attendance. This includes a £4.6m church complete with a gym and café, converted from a former nightclub in Bradford. In the 1960s, 3.5% of the English population attended Sunday services, which declined to just over 1% in 2019. The average age of attendees is 61 years.

St Mary the Virgin Church in Stockton-on-Tees needed to repair its clock face and automate the pendulum at a cost of £7,000. Amongst the fundraising ideas was a beer festival. The beer barrels were set up in the church nave with tables and chairs in the graveyard. However, a photo was released of a horizontal grave stone unofficially being used as a table, which has caused a discussion with comments about disrespect and encouragement. The Times commented that their in-post was about four to one in support: "Did not monks once brew fine ales. Why not try to bring a community together?". In the Middle Ages churchwardens brewed ale to raise money for charity and church maintenance, normally at Christmas and Whitsun. In the 15th century "church houses" were built with the ground floor for brewing and upstairs for parties, a forerunner of the 20th century social club. Then in the 17th century came the Protestant Reformers and these practices ceased. In Russia and Ireland every year folk gather in spring to tidy up the graves of ancestors and celebrate the departed. In Mexico there is the Day of the Dead where relatives return to celebrate.



A recent survey by Savanta ComRes found that 51% of the 18 to 34-years group said they prayed at least once a month, compared to 24% of those aged 55+ years. Of the same groups, it was found 49% of the younger compared to 16% of the older attended a place of worship every month. The survey covered many faiths and also found that during lockdown that it is possible the pandemic opened up more avenues to prayer to young people through the Internet.

On 3 October 2021, *Songs of Praise* celebrated from Westminster Abbey the start of its 61st year of broadcasting on BBC. Nearly 3,000 episodes have been broadcast, with the first from the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Cardiff. However, since 2017 the show is now produced by Nine Lives Media, Manchester.

At the Chelsea Flower Show, delayed until September 2021, the Bible Society sponsored a garden based on Psalm 23. There were huge granite rocks, some flowing and still waters, plus shady pine and hornbeam trees.

Barry Stelfox

Reasons for Silent Fireworks



Eco Church is not just about recycling but can also be about treating others who share our world with respect. On Bonfire Night, think about the following before igniting noisy fireworks:



Fireworks explode like magnified gunfire to the ears of animals.



Bees become so disorientated they cannot find their way back to their hives.



Birds have panic attacks causing death.



Wild animals raising their young leave their dens in fear.



Fish and other aquatic creatures perish after eating firework debris.



Pets have anxiety and panic attacks.



Humans have PTSD.

Jenny Barnes

Nativity Sets

West Orchard have been very lucky to host the nativity sets exhibition once again. As the owners of this exhibition are relocating, it will be the last chance to see this lovely collection in the Coventry and Warwickshire area.



As usual we will need help from our congregation to steward the exhibition when we open to schools and public. We plan to set up the exhibition on Wednesday 24 November and take down on 10 December; this means we will be looking for volunteers to help with stewarding between 25 November - 9 December when we will be opening for both local schools and the general public.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact either Jenny Barnes or Sue Matthews.

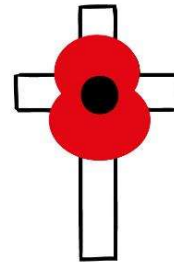
Remember

This prayer is taken from *Say One Again: Prayer Handbook Anthology*, compiled by Graham Spicer

Remember Ypres, the Somme, Mons and Verdun.
Remember the Western Desert, El Alamein, the Normandy beaches.
Remember Dresden, Hiroshima and the Burma Road.
Remember Korea, the Falkland Islands and Northern Ireland.

Remember the courage, the comradeship, the ingenuity,
the spirit of working together for a common cause,
the planning together for a better world that would come with peace.

Remember the call to arms, the patriotic songs, the posters,
the partings which were such sweet sorrow,
the sound of the drum, the skirl of the pipe,
the prayer that God would be on our side.



Remember the carnage;
the colossal, stinking, bloody horror;
the ripped bodies on the wire,
the platoons of which only three out of forty lived.
Remember the widows of sixty years and more,
the old men and women living now who never knew their fathers.
Remember the love that was lost, the wisdom wasted,
the minds that were twisted and the limbs distorted.

Remember the wealth of nations being fired from guns, dropped as bombs:
smashing schools, homes, factories, churches and hospitals;
ruining crops, destroying trees.
Remember the hope of a whole generation
left to evaporate in the sands of a desert
or sink forever in the oceans of the world.

Remember this day the children who will die while the world spends its wealth on
arms;
the young who have no work while others in their generation are trained to fight;
the ambulances that will not come while we argue about how many troop carriers we
need;
the research into disease left neglected while brilliant minds are used to study more
effective destruction.

Remember the one who asked us to remember him. Amen

Submitted by Revd Yvonne Stone

Gift Sundays: Christmas Gifts for Families in Need

28 November at Warwick Road

5 December at West Orchard



Sarah White, CCM's Giving Tree Co-ordinator, writes:

Thank you for being part of our Giving Tree project last year - the most challenging year we have faced yet. Despite lockdown and Tier 3, we were able to give Christmas presents safely to a record number of children – 1,127! We were so grateful for God's provision through people like you.

As a reminder, the Giving Tree project provides gifts for those disadvantaged children in Coventry who otherwise wouldn't receive them. We are keen to support as many families as we can. The Covid situation has left more in need than ever and toys are predicted to be in short supply and more expensive this Christmas. For us, this project is not just about providing gifts for the children, it is about meeting with families and impacting their lives with the love of God.

Different ways you can help:

- ❖ **Bring a gift to church on Gift Sunday.** Please note:
We aim to give each child a gift worth **about £15**. Why not club together with a friend?
The toys must be new and unwrapped.
Some suggestions from CCM for popular gifts: Baby toys, Duplo, Lego and Lego friends, dolls, (including action figures, Disney princess dolls & Barbie style dolls), Star Wars toys, Shopkins, remote-controlled cars, skateboards or scooters, footballs.
CCM **cannot** give books, clothing, soft toys, CDs, DVDs, electronics or video games.
- ❖ **Buy a designated present from the Giving Tree request list on Amazon**
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1F08E4G2IOTWO?ref_=wl_share.
Choose Coventry City Mission as delivery address (not shown in full). If you can't decide, one of the options is an Amazon gift card to a value of your choice. Please ensure gifts are scheduled for delivery **by the end of November**.
- ❖ **A 'One for All' gift voucher to the value of £10:** available in post offices, many supermarkets and high street shops (especially useful for teenagers, given along with a small present).
- ❖ **Make a donation of money:** this will be used to cover any shortage of presents. Bring cash in an envelope to Gift Sunday or cheque made out to 'Coventry City Mission'.
If giving by bank transfer: A/c details: Coventry City Mission, 40-52-40, 00018702 Please use the reference GT2021.

- ❖ **Pray** that we can support those most in need across the city despite the challenges. Pray that we will receive the donations of presents and money required to fund the project.
- ❖ **Pray** that any further lockdown restrictions don't stop us safely giving out presents and pray for health of all of the staff and volunteers working to make the project happen.

Any queries to: sarah@covcitymission.org.uk or to Margaret O'Kane at West Orchard URC c/o westorchardoffice@gmail.com, subject: 'Giving Tree'.

Margaret O'Kane

MORE NEWS IN BRIEF FROM BEYOND THE UK



The Eastern Orthodox Church split from the Vatican in the Great Schism in 1054 and the Church of England broke from Rome's control in 1534, during the reign of Henry VIII. Now the three heads of these sectors comprising two billion Christians have issued their first joint statement warning of climate change as an "urgent matter of survival". "This is the first time that the three of us feel compelled to address together the urgency of environmental sustainability, its impact on persistent poverty and the importance of global co-operation. Together, on behalf of our communities, we appeal to the heart and mind of every Christian, every believer and every person of good will".

During the summer in Rome the Pope's chief almsgiver Cardinal Konrad Krajewski visited two jails delivering 15,000 ice creams. Also, the Pope offered free Covid-19 tests and vaccinations for the poor of Rome especially the homeless, plus free showers and a barber shop within the Vatican.

The US State of Colorado in September has legalised the trend of human body composting. This process allows the body to break down into soil over a period of months in a controlled environment, using an insulated wooden box lined with waterproof roofing material and packed with woodchips and straw. After a period of at least six months the box will have produced a temperature of 55°C which is enough to kill bacteria and pathogens. The residue (body, wood chips and straw) can be spread on gardens but it cannot be sold or used to grow food. In favour of this method are those who disapprove of the amount of fossil fuels burnt during cremation plus traditional burial space size, maintenance including grass cutting and watering. Against this method are those who say it is undignified, violates religious laws and might even contaminate soil. The cost is approximately \$7,900 or £5,777 for this new service. Several American States are considering allowing this practice as more Americans are open to alternative or "green" burials.

Barry Stelfox



Synod Report for October 2021

On 16 October 2021, I had the privilege of representing our churches at the West Midlands URC Synod held at Wylde Green URC, near Sutton Coldfield.

The meeting opened with a presentation given by the minister and elders of Wylde Green URC, which gave a brief insight into the church's history, present situation and hope for the future. Following this was a short worship led by our Synod Moderator, the Reverend Steve Faber.

There then followed information on who had left to take up posts in other parts of the country or had retired; we also remembered ministers celebrating significant anniversaries. Synod expressed its gratitude for the work of retired Synod Clerk Margaret Marshall and welcomed the new Synod Clerk Rachel Wakeman. Also, a number of church closures were announced.

There was a video Zoom conference call with Professor David Reynolds who is the convenor of the Legacies of the Slave Trade Task Group. He gave the background to the history of slavery and the involvement of Christians within the dissenting traditions, and the work of the Task Group, as well as discussing injustices and racism still in our society today. The Group has made three recommendations regarding apology and reparations. It will make proposals to General Assembly in July 2022. The video is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrZaswCeXoU>.

The Moderator spoke about the Environmental Policy adopted by Synod in October 2020 which includes a Mission Pledge to “do further work on carbon-offsetting programmes to compensate for our actual carbon emissions and bring proposals to Synod meeting before the end of 2022”. After some discussion, Synod agreed a resolution that it “will continue to strive to cut our carbon emissions on Synod business, affirms its call to all local churches to calculate their carbon footprint and strive to reduce its year-on-year, and we shall offset the Synod carbon footprint through Climate Stewards.”

Steve Powell, Synod Treasurer, then gave a presentation regarding the ministers' pension scheme. After much discussion the preferred option was to review the balance sheet where we had £7.8m in the Manse Fund. It was agreed to provide additional funding of the pension fund via a gradual transfer of fund from the Manse Fund over the next five years.

The Synod Treasurer then gave a presentation about the creation of a new Major Development Fund of around £1m. After discussion, Synod approved the creation of the Fund, to be financed initially from the net proceeds of the sale of St Columba's and Dudley URCs plus 80% of net proceeds of subsequent disposals of closed churches and 15% of proceeds of disposals from continuing congregations.

Donna Gordon, Synod Safeguarding Officer, was welcomed to her first in-person Synod. Donna highlighted online, self-led foundation training and recommended it in advance of intermediate training. The first online Safeguarding Co-ordinators Forum will be held soon.

Following lunch, a short video was shown about planned celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the URC in 2022 – see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3crc-4C0i8k>. The Moderator asked for feedback about a Saturday in June as a Synod Day or for other ideas of how the West Midlands Synod might celebrate. A resource pack is being sent to the churches and is also available on the Synod and URC websites.

Richard Knott, Synod's Children's Youth Development Officer, then gave a presentation regarding children and youth work in Synod and the wider church, with lots of examples of the different events going on across the Church.

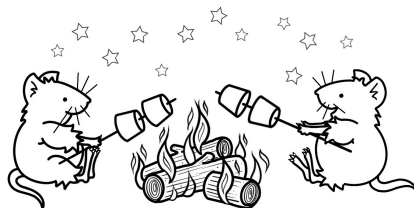
The next item on the agenda was the deployment of stipendiary Ministers of Word and Sacraments. General Assembly sets the policy for how many we can deploy, based on finances. The national total for January 2022 is 280, of which the West Midlands has been allocated a target share of 25. Synod then agreed a number of resolutions regarding deployment.

Following this, Steve Powell gave a presentation regarding the finances of the Synod. On the much-loved subject of M&M, Synod heard from the Treasurer about the need to carry on meeting the cost of ministry; however, the overall pledge for 2022 was reduced by 2% to £1.568m. A number of resolutions regarding financial matters were presented to Synod, all being agreed.

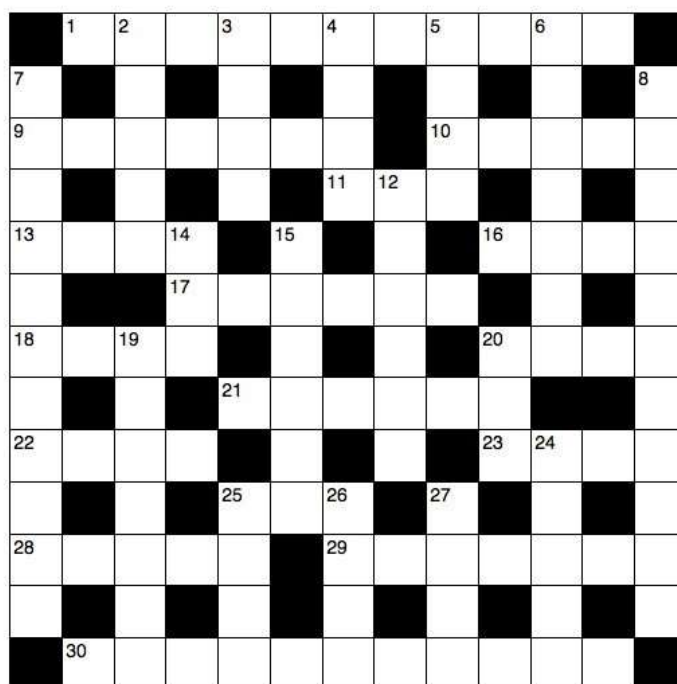
Other business presented included the Synod Mission Council report, which highlighted the request for volunteers to help support Matthew McDade, Synod Property Officer, in developing the work on PV solar panels for manses and potentially related eco-initiatives.

The next Synod is to be held on 19 March 2022.

Revd Peter Kimberley, Mission, Outreach and Worship Leader



Puzzle Pages



Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
 13 Taverns (4)
 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
 18 / 27D Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
 27 See 18A

SUDOKU (EASY)

		8			6		1	
		5						
6		7			1	8	4	5
7		9	8			1		
3	8	2		5		6	9	4
		1			9	5		7
5	9	6	7			2		1
						4		
	1		9			7		

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

SUDOKU (MEDIUM)

				1				2
8		1	5					
	3			8			6	
			2			1		6
	6						7	
5		4			1			
	9			7			2	
					6	7		4
6				9				

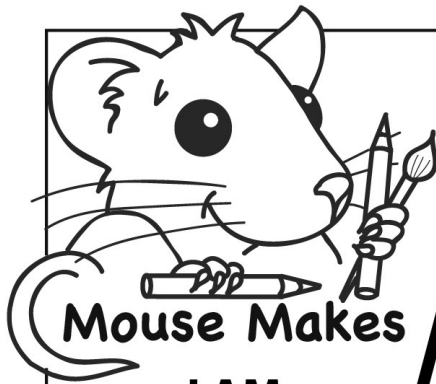
© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Solutions on page 19

WORDSEARCH

It was 100 years ago this month, on 11 November 1921, that Remembrance poppies were sold for the first time in British and Commonwealth countries to commemorate military personnel who died in war. Amid the mud, blood and carnage of trench warfare in World War 1, tens of thousands of bright red poppies had grown, marking the graves of the fallen. This led John McCrae, a Canadian army physician who had lost a colleague, to write the poem "In Flanders Fields". This inspired the adoption of a red poppy as the symbol of all soldiers who had died in conflict. In the UK they are sold by the Royal British Legion to raise funds for current and former members of the British Armed Forces. Around 30 million poppies are sold each year.

REMEMBRANCE	TRENCH	<div><div>A I P O P P I E S F I N R</div><div>Y P O E R C S T S L D M R</div><div>R E M E M B R A N C E O E</div><div>A R C O U N T R I E S B B</div><div>T S D N A S U O H T E L A</div><div>I O E E B A R M R C R E P</div><div>L N Y G R A V E S A A M L</div><div>I N E S I Y N M D R F F E</div><div>M E O E G C U M D N R I N</div><div>N L D S H D B O A A A E N</div><div>D L G L T B O C C G W L S</div><div>L A O A E L M L T E U D F</div><div>O F I M B T L O B M Y S D</div></div>
POPPIES	WARFARE	
SOLD	THOUSANDS	
COUNTRIES	BRIGHT	
COMMEMORATE	RED	
MILITARY	GRAVES	
PERSONNEL	FALLEN	
MUD	FLANDERS	
BLOOD	FIELDS	
CARNAGE	SYMBOL	



I AM
THE



Read John 10:11 and 14



I AM
THE

Read John 15:1 and 35



I AM
THE

OF

Read John 6: 35,51



AND THE

Read John 11:25

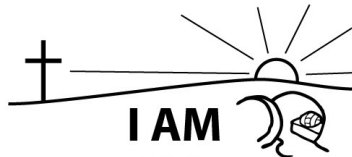


OF THE

Read John 18:12

I AM

Seven times in John's Gospel
Jesus calls Himself "I AM"
- the same name that God
calls Himself when He speaks
to Moses in Exodus 3:14.
Jesus is telling us who He really is.



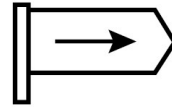
I AM
THE

I AM
THE

AND THE

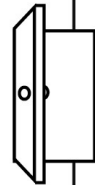
AND THE

Read John 14:6



I AM
THE

Read John 10:9



I AM
THE



B R A N C H E S L I F E T B
S H E P H E R D F A T H E R
L O J G A T E R W O R L D E
I V E D D I A M O A U I N A
F I S E O B L I G H T F O D
E N U G O O D W A Y H E H E
R E S U R R E C T I O N B L

Look up the Bible references, fill in the missing words then look for them in the word search

Open Doors Café Menu for November

	Mains	Desserts
Tuesday 2 November	Faggots, mashed potatoes & mushy peas	Treacle sponge and custard
Friday 5 November	Shepherd's pie and vegetables	Lemon sponge and custard
Tuesday 9 November	Chicken Chasseur, potatoes and vegetables	Bakewell tart and custard
Friday 12 November	Liver & onions, creamed potatoes and vegetables	Fruit crumble and custard
Tuesday 16 November	Mince beef & onion pie, potatoes and vegetables	Jam roly-poly and custard
Friday 19 November	Pork in leek & stilton sauce, potatoes and vegetables	Bread pudding and custard
Tuesday 23 November	Smoked haddock, creamed potatoes, peas and parsley sauce	Dutch apple pie and custard
Friday 26 November	Chicken & vegetable cobbler and potatoes	Creamy rice pudding



Christian Aid Soup Lunch

West Orchard URC (Church Hall)

Saturday 6 November 2021

12.00 – 1.30 pm

Everybody welcome!

Come and enjoy good company with
home-made soup

Retirement – Thank you!

Thank you all for the many lovely gifts and cards you gave me and the very generous cheque. I've already put it towards some things for the boat, including a 12-volt TV (smart TV naturally) and I also intend to buy a mechanics toolkit so that I can do my own engine servicing.

I was very touched by my leaving presentation – some very humorous comments. Sorry I spoilt Pauline Blanchard's poem by naming my narrow boat 'Slow Motion' rather than the original idea of 'Wide Berth'; however, I wasn't too sure about one of the beer bottles from Barry and Brenda, named Larger Keith. I've been on a diet, don't you know. And as for the bottle of non-alcoholic wine ...

My stay at WR URC as a customer, volunteer, assistant chef and finally office manager was relatively brief, but an amazing experience all the same. Contacting many of you each week when taking orders for meals during lockdown was a real highlight. In practice it hasn't quite ended yet, as I'm back to being a volunteer and customer (really enjoying Clare's cooking and helping out a bit). I guess my legacy is the electronic till and payment machine – the bane of all who work in the café.

I will very much be keeping in touch with happenings at the church. For sure, the merger will be a great success. Not the right solution for everybody and many challenges to face, but on balance, I feel it's the best solution for the future of both churches. Life at the Warwick Road Church Centre is recovering under Trevor's watchful eye and I've already witnessed great co-operation with Kevin and the team at West Orchard.

As for me, my boatbuilder did wonder if the name 'Slow Motion' was meant as a dig at him for the time taken to complete the build; not at all, but it did make me laugh. Still no completion date, though the end of November is the current target. I might be on board for Christmas.



Keith Greenall (ex-Church Centre Manager)



St Andrew's House
19 St Andrew's Road, Earlsdon
Coventry CV5 6FP
Residential, respite or short stay care
in a Christian home.
St Andrew's can help!
Telephone Lesley 02476 673745
www.standrewshouse.org.uk

SOLUTION - SUDUKO (EASY)

9	4	8	5	7	6	3	1	2
1	2	5	4	8	3	9	7	6
6	3	7	2	9	1	8	4	5
7	5	9	8	6	4	1	2	3
3	8	2	1	5	7	6	9	4
4	6	1	3	2	9	5	8	7
5	9	6	7	4	8	2	3	1
8	7	3	6	1	2	4	5	9
2	1	4	9	3	5	7	6	8

SOLUTION - SUDUKO (MEDIUM)

7	5	6	3	1	9	8	4	2
8	4	1	5	6	2	9	3	7
2	3	9	7	8	4	5	6	1
9	8	3	2	4	7	1	5	6
1	6	2	9	5	8	4	7	3
5	7	4	6	3	1	2	8	9
4	9	8	1	7	3	6	2	5
3	1	5	8	2	6	7	9	4
6	2	7	4	9	5	3	1	8

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS

1 Charioteers. 9 Immoral. 10 Cairo. 11 SAE. 13 Inns. 16 Firm. 17 Accuse. 18/27D East Star. 20 Ogam. 21 Judith. 22 Seba. 23 Msgr. 25 Den. 28 Inane 29 Entreat. 30 Chrysoprase.

DOWN

2 Human. 3 Rare. 4 Oils. 5 Ecce. 6 Raising. 7 Citizenship. 8 Commemorate. 12 Assail. 14 Sat. 15 Scouse. 19 Sabbath. 20 Ohm. 24 Seeds. 25 Deny. 26 Nero.

Connections – December 2021/January 2022 issue deadline

News, articles and other items to be included in the December 2021/January 2022 issue of **Connections** should be sent by email to the editor, Claire Booth (clairehbooth@hotmail.com) no later than **Wednesday, 17 November 2021**.

Connections is published in digital format and emailed to subscribers. You are also be able to view it on the church websites www.warwickroadurc.org.uk and www.westorchardurc.org.uk.

If you want it emailed to you, please contact the Warwick Road Church Office: office@wrurc.co.uk or Kevin Bodsworth at West Orchard: westorchardoffice@gmail.com.

Thanks,
Claire

**The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily
the views of the URC or its congregation**

Worship at Warwick Road & West Orchard – November 2021

Services - West Orchard (WO) 10.30; Warwick Road (WR) 11.00

Date	Church	Preacher	Organist	
7 Nov	WO	Revd Yvonne Stone		Holy Communion
14 Nov	WR 10.50	Revd Yvonne Stone		Remembrance Sunday
21 Nov	WO 10.30	Revd Peter Kimberley	Wilf Hawes	Church Parade
	WO 6pm	Revd Yvonne Stone		Remembering Service
28 Nov	WR 10.30	Revd Yvonne Stone		Advent Sunday Gifts

Church Contacts

 <p>Minister: Reverend Yvonne Stone tel: 024 7669 0457 mobile: 07500 876604 email: westorchardminister@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Mission, Outreach and Worship Leader: Reverend Peter Kimberley tel: 07581 710348 email: westorchardoutreach@gmail.com</p>
Warwick Road	West Orchard
<p>Church Secretary: Post currently vacant</p> <p>Church Treasurer: Richard Blanchard email: richardblanchard29244@gmail.com</p> <p>Church Office: 10 Warwick Row, Coventry, CV1 1EX tel: 024 7622 0299 website: www.warwickroadurc.org.uk email: office@wrurc.co.uk</p>	<p>Church Secretary: Pauline Luckett email: westorchardsecretary@gmail.com</p> <p>Church Treasurer: Margaret Costigan email: westorchardtreasurer@gmail.com</p> <p>Office: tel. 024 7641 9927 website: www.westorchardurc.org.uk</p> <p>Church Administrator: Kevin Bodsworth email: westorchardoffice@gmail.com</p> <p>Room Bookings Secretary: Hugh Maccallum: email: westorchardurcroombooking@gmail.com</p>