



Cheltenham United Reformed Church

www.urch.org.uk

Bulletin 6th June 2021

The Pulpit at Prestbury

All Sunday Services begin at 10.30am on ZOOM

<https://zoom.us/j/94776218942?pwd=MENyLzNaNTdTYlhxOVNMBGFjX2FqUT09>

Meeting ID: 947 7621 8942

Passcode: 009380

6th June

Rev Dee Brierley-Jones

On Sunday 13th June at 2.30pm there will be an Extraordinary Church Meeting at the Church to discuss the way ahead.

The Pulpit at St Andrew's

All Sunday Services are 11.00am, broadcast on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0qso0uzwPJq-Onhf6fN2TA>

6th June

Mr Geoff Tizzard-King (Communion)

13th June

Mr Bob Alger

20th June

Rev Iain McLaren

27th June

Rev Steve Faber/Rev Iain McLaren

- If you wish to attend St Andrew's services please reserve your seat with Janet before noon on Saturday.
- St Andrew's Charity/Retiring Collections for May and June will be for Christian Aid.

The Pulpit at The Church in Warden Hill

Details of all Services can be found in 'Lantern', and 'Grapevine' both available at

<http://www.tciwh.org.uk>

13th June

Rev Iain McLaren (URC Communion)

27th June will be the United Pastorate Service and CURC AGM 10.30am at St Andrew's.

The service will include celebrations for the 30th Anniversary of CURC, the Re-Induction of Elders. and will be led by Rev Iain. Rev Steve Faber, Moderator of West Midlands Synod will be preaching. Neither Prestbury nor Warden Hill/St Christopher's will have morning services. Government restrictions permitting, a Buffet lunch will be held after the service with the AGM between courses. Final details nearer the time.

If you wish to attend. Please let Janet, Fiona or Brian know as appropriate.

10th July will be a ‘**Welcome Garden Party**’ for Rev Iain, 3.00- 6.00pm at St Andrew’s
Government restrictions permitting. Please let Fiona, Janet or Brian, know if you are coming.

Rev Iain is on study leave this week

Our pastoral letter comes from **Mrs Fiona Hall, Church Secretary Prestbury URC**

“Lord for the Years”

Two weeks ago Prestbury celebrated not only Iain’s first service there, but also our 155th Anniversary. Happily, we were able to serve tea and birthday cake after the service, but sadly we could not invite any visitors.

Two events brought about the building of the new chapel - the ‘seeding’ initiative from Highbury Chapel and the arrival of a new vicar at Prestbury Parish Church who was an advocate of the Oxford Movement. Many in the village wanted to worship in a more overtly Protestant way. Rather cheekily, the chapel was built right opposite the vicarage.

It was a quick build, with the foundation stone being laid in November 1865 and the chapel opening for worship in May 1866. It was hard being a Victorian non-conformist, with strict rules governing attendance and behaviour, but over the years the church prospered and was extended twice.

Church Meeting Minutes show a rich life over the years of 3 services a week, lantern lectures, socials, film shows, outings, women’s and children’s groups, and bible study. There is also a reflection of the prevailing social conditions with donations to charities during both World Wars and the Depression. At times, the church was in difficulties; in the early 1900’s, after several months of the treasurer paying the minister’s salary from his own pocket, the church had to let the minister go as they could no longer afford to pay him.

In WWII the Chapel did its bit forming teams to fire watch during raids and the schoolroom was designated as a gas attack treatment area.

In 1991, the 125th Anniversary saw the making of our seat cushions. This was a mammoth project making over 100 cushions. It acquired a life of its own with many village people and businesses offering to stitch or to sponsor.

So where are we today? – still battling with the damp as from day one! As we commemorate our 155 years we face uncertain times, but we know that we will always celebrate the spirit of those who, of any era, have worshipped here at Prestbury.

Fiona Hall

Lectionary Readings

Genesis 3 v8-15

Psalm 130

Mark 3 v20-35

2 Corinthians 4 v13- 5 v1

Prayer Requests this week:

Donna Sutherland and Family, Brenda Manser

Rev Iain and his family: Diana, Gift, Kimberley and Keke



What's on this week?

Prayer Time on Tuesdays

St Andrew's will be open for Prayer on Tuesday from 11.00 till 12.00

WE WELCOME ALL

Teatime on Tuesday

Come and join us for an hour of excellent conversation, 3pm on Zoom.

Bring your own cup of tea and join the party.

<https://zoom.us/j/95570544462?pwd=QOVHQVVuWHB1QmpBd2ZDcEZJNlIXUT09>

ID 955 7054 4462,

Passcode 686988

Zoom Host: June



Study discussions on Wednesday's

We have embarked on a series of discussions based on the Emmaus Course. 8pm on zoom.

Topic: 'Belonging to the Church'

EVERYONE WELCOME

<https://zoom.us/j/96204565714?pwd=Rm1iZ01ZWkpYNmVvbXZScFJlSWgyUT09>

Meeting ID: 962 0456 5714

Passcode: 108557

Zoom Host: Alison

Repair Café

Is it broken? We can help you fix it.

Repair Café volunteers have a go at repairing electrical and electronic items, textiles, small household items and do knife sharpening

First Saturday of every Month

Reopening 5th June 2021

St Andrew's 10.00am—2.00pm

No charge but donations welcomed.

Coming soon

Footsloggers aim to restart in July – contact Jenny Evans for details nearer the time.

Qi Gong aims to reopen at St Andrew's on 15th July

Advert from June edition of 'Reform

Do you have a good photo of your church building? Or do you have a keen photographer in your congregation?

The URC is publishing a calendar of church buildings for 2022 to give a flavour of the length and breadth of the denomination in its anniversary year.

From Victorian churches, post-war pre-fabs, to churches opened in the last couple of years - all exterior photos of buildings are welcome.

Landscape for preference, but square and portrait images are also invited, by the end of July. JPG or PNG file format. Please include the name of the church and the photographer.

No bigger than 3600 pixels wide (which should be around 3Mb) please.

Please email them to andy.jackson@urc.org.uk.

If photos are sent, the photographer is granting the URC permission to use the photographs in print and digitally.

ECO News

Litter pick – Anne Gimmingham and I will be doing a litter pick around the church on Saturday 12 June. If you'd like to join us, we'll meet at 11 am outside St Andrew's. Please bring along protective gloves and a bin bag. I hope to have a couple of spare litter pickers available but if you have one you can bring, that would be great. We will need to ensure we abide by the current covid hygiene and social distancing measures in carrying out our litter pick - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>



Jenny Evans has completed our first **wildlife survey** of the year. The survey covered 5 main areas: **Trees** **Plants** **Birds** **Animals** **Insects**

The survey was done during the week of the National Plant Life Survey, so evidence was collected to submit results. The results were graded A-G based on the bees fed per square metre. Our nectar score was an F so room for improvement. You can find more information on Plantlife here- <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk>. Thanks to Jenny for carrying out the survey and collating the information. The full results will be available on the Eco Church noticeboard at St Andrew's.

June 5th is **World Environment Day** which marks the importance of nature and the environment. The theme this year is 'Ecosystem Restoration' and Pakistan will be the global host.

June 8th is **World Oceans Day** which aims to remind us of the importance of the oceans and the impact of human actions on them. The theme this year is The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods. For more information see <https://unworldoceansday.org>.

Carol Drummond

Reminders:

Marcus still has these crosses and fish made out of the teak of the old doors at St Andrew's. If you would like to order one please contact Marcus Dann: marcusdann9@gmail.com
Donations for the Spire Appeal.



Creative Cards

There is a wide range of high quality photo cards always on sale at all three churches

If anyone is unable to get out to buy cards, then contact Ann Standing:

email :- annstanding44@icloud.com

Or by phone. :- 07779473445

Or even by post :- 64 Furlong Lane, Bishops Cleeve, GL52 8NL

The sale of cards goes towards helping all three of our churches.