

Christ Church, Rayleigh (CC) and the Bridgwater Drive Church (BDC)

NEWS & CHAT Thursday 26 August 2021

Welcome to the joint weekly newsletter of Christ Church and the Bridgwater Drive Church.

The online service will remain 'joint' while each church has its own service as pre-pandemic. For the foreseeable future, the online service will be live-streamed from the church where the minister is leading, but always on the Christ Church Facebook page.

I think I no longer need to include all the post-19 July Covid advice. Please remember that:

Face coverings are no longer mandatory (except when singing), but are **strongly recommended**

Sunday 29 Aug 11 AM !: the Minister at Christ Church, **Climate Sunday**, café-style followed by lunch
Margaret at Bridgwater Drive

This coming Sunday is Climate Sunday and a 5th Sunday – so the hope was to have a joint service. However, only 3-4 people at BDC were interested in attending and for various practical reasons are unable to come, so Margaret will lead worship at BDC at 10.30am. Anyone from BDC who can get to Rayleigh is still very welcome.

It is hoped that in the future, once Covid restrictions allow us to sit closer together, we could have occasional joint services at Bridgwater Drive. The **next 5th Sunday, is 31 Oct. at Christ Church and will be All Age, Café-Style, led jointly by Naomi and Sandy.** It is hoped that with a bit of planning, some folk from BDC could join us for that.



The **written text** of Sunday's service will be circulated with this week's News & Chat as usual. However, we will be watching two short videos, for which I don't have the text. We will also be listening to special music – the words are included for you to read, and if you have the internet there are links to the videos and all the songs. **If you are coming to the service, please do not read the service before you come!**

I don't want to depress you, but if you didn't see this documentary, and you are able to – it is an excellent programme about how the way our climate has already changed is causing the extreme weather we have seen in the last few years: <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/summer-of-wild-weather-is-worse-to-come?>

Sunday 5 Sept. 10.30am (first Sunday of the trial of 10.30am) – the Minister at Christ Church
Robert at BDC

Sunday 5 Sept. 3pm Service of Thanksgiving for CC church members who have died during 2020 and 2021 The service will be followed by refreshments (tea & cake). No need to book a place, though if you plan to attend please let Jean know for catering purposes.

This service will **not** be live-streamed, but will be filmed for a video for anyone who wanted to attend but who is unable to (DVD available on request). Also, the written service will not be sent to everyone, but will be available on request for anyone who would like it. Please speak to Jean or Naomi if you would like the video and/or written service.

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Sunday 12 Sept. - Auction of Promises There will be a bring-and-share lunch after worship, followed by the auction with Jim Noakes as auctioneer. You still have until this Sunday to make a promise, so **Please contact Janine on 01702 511861, 07719892728, or janinedanes@talktalk.net with your promises. The cut-off date is Sunday 29th August to give time for the catalogue to be compiled**

Space for Prayer meet next Thursday, 2 September at 10.30am

Needles and Natter meet next on Thursday 9th September.

Saturday 18 September:

- Sat 18 Sept. 1st new Children's Club, 10am – 12pm
- Sat 18 Sept – 'More Tea Vicar' – open day event 1-5pm and Sunday

'More Tea Vicar' is just a more interesting name for an Open Day! There will be displays in the church and corridor of all the things we do and are involved in, for church members to remind themselves, and the public to find out more about us. Refreshments will be available 1-5pm. If you can make anything (cake, biscuits, flapjacks etc) – please contact Janine. Any leftovers will be available on Sunday morning to help us make it through worship and the Church Meeting!

The **September CC Church Meeting will take place after worship on Sunday 19 September** (the 1st Sunday already had a clash) and will mostly be a presentation of the plans for the building project with the architect Cliff Pattern. **Please try to keep this date free for this important meeting.** Although it will be a communion service, I will keep it short, so that we can start promptly at 11.30am and aim to finish by 1pm.

News from the Bridgwater Drive Church Meeting:

- Jan, Celia, Cherry and Val were re-elected as serving Elders
- Thanks to Margaret for her service as Church Secretary. Cherry Winder was elected Secretary for 3 years (her term as a serving Elder).
- It was agreed to not re-start the quarterly Church Magazine at the moment, but to review that again in 6 months' time.
- It was agreed to continue with the weekly News & Chat and the written service (please let Margaret know if you would like to receive the service – to save copying and paper, it will only go to people who request it, not to everyone)
- Tuesday Church – will resume in September, once a month from 14 September, and thereafter on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (19 Oct, 16 Nov.) at 10.30am for a short Bible Study/Devotion and time of fellowship, usually led by the Minister

TIPS & IDEAS

This week's idea from #64MillionArtists is a writing challenge, rather than an art one:



Choose five different key moments in your life. They can be as big or small as you like. Now, choose five words that capture those different moments - one word per memory or experience.

Your challenge is to create a short story or poem that uses all of your words. Perhaps it gives them new meaning or a new timeline - or perhaps you could use your words as inspiration for a new character perspective.

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This week the eighth item from the **9 things you can do about climate change** –

8. **Cut consumption and waste** – hopefully, most of us are doing this one already!

Everything we use as consumers has a carbon footprint.

- Avoid single-use items and fast fashion, and try not to buy more than you need
- Shop around for quality items that last a long time
- Put your purchasing power to good use by choosing brands that align with your green aspirations.
- Try to minimise waste.
- Repair and reuse
- Give unwanted items a new life by donating them to charity
- Avoid wasting food
- Let brands know if you think they are using too much packaging - some will take customer feedback seriously



PRAYER CORNER

I invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. This week we pray especially for those taking action to prevent further climate change and for the situation in Afghanistan.

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Climate Sunday**. Our world, our planet, this earth, is critically sick. If each of us do not have and keep God as Lord in our lives, our world, our planet, this earth will die ...and all of us with it. It is not up to the next generation, it is up to us, you and me. Please keep seeking the Lord for the ways, however small or large, God has for you to do your part to save our home world.

Particular prayer requests this week:

Audrey

Brian, Jenny C's brother

Irene C.

Bill & Beth

Grace & Phil

Peter C

Gill M.

Sheila S

Della



As you know, Della is now living at Brooklands. She has a mobile phone and would enjoy a chat.

Tel. (07440) 225466. She plans to have it switched on from 9 - 10 a.m. and from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Della would also be pleased to see anyone who could visit.

Please book this with a member of staff Tel. (01702) 525375

Brooklands, 25, Lambeth Road, Eastwood, SS9 5XR



HARP'S JUNE AT A GLANCE

WE SUPPORTED 406 PEOPLE IN JUNE 2021

33 PEOPLE CAME TO HARP FOR THE FIRST TIME

21 PEOPLE MOVED INTO HARP ACCOMMODATION

10 PEOPLE MOVED ON TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

WE GAVE OUT 29 EMERGENCY FOOD PACKS

5,060 MEALS SERVED



More tea Vicar?

SATURDAY 18 SEPT. 2021

1pm – 5pm

**Come and learn more about us
OPEN DAY - Pop in for a chat,
FREE CAKE,
learn about the activities and organisations we
support**

DID YOU KNOW WE ARE:

- **an ECO Church**
- **Inclusive, and registered for same-sex marriages**
- **Sight-Loss Friendly**

WE SUPPORT:

- *Hopeworx * HARP**
- *Christian Aid *ACT\$435**
- *Rayleigh Refugee Group**