

## NEWS & CHAT Thursday 23 September 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.**

Please remember that: Face coverings are no longer mandatory for worship (except when singing), but are **strongly recommended**

**Sunday 26 Sept. 10.30am** – The Faith in Action Group will lead worship at CC  
The Minister at BDC

**A REMINDER** that 3 October is Harvest and there will be **HARVEST LUNCH** after worship at 12:15pm Shepherd's Pie or Vegetarian Lasagne, Fruit Pie desserts. Put your name down on the list at the back of the church or contact Janine on 01702 511861

### TWAM

Also for Harvest - Tools with a Mission (TWAM) is our focus this year. Please start collecting any tools that you no longer need. They must not be broken but it is OK if they need cleaning/sharpening etc. Sewing machines of all types are also needed. You can also donate money which is needed to pay for transporting the tools overseas in containers. Envelopes will be in church for this purpose. **Please leave items at the church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> (10<sup>th</sup> preferred if you are there that day) for collection on 12 October**, I am happy to pick up any tools beforehand between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. Please call me on 01268 777901 or 07902 600158. Many thanks. Wendy Norris.

Donations of harvest produce, tinned or packaged goods would also be appreciated, for distribution to our three charities, the Storehouse, Hopeworx and HARP.



**Tools or produce can also be brought to the Church on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> between 10.00am and noon.**

**We hope to hold an Art and Crafts fair** (raising money for the building project) in the run-up to Christmas, so probably in November. So please be making and collecting things! We may combine this with a 're-use' sale (aka jumble!) so please be collecting items for that too!

**Lost item** - if anyone has found a small pale green towel with secateurs and florists scissors inside at Christ Church, could you please contact Penny 01268 750324

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with and came to the **More Tea Vicar** event on 18<sup>th</sup> September. It was lovely to have some social time chatting over tea and cake. Some of our friends from Bridgwater Drive came and a few non-church people – one of whom then came to Sunday Worship the next day, which is wonderful. And we made £40 in donations for the refreshments.

The poster displays on the walls will stay up for some time (probably until Advent) so anyone coming to the church can see what we get up to. The table at the back of the church has a lot of 'freebies' from the URC – pencils, keyrings, seeds to plant, back issues of *Reform* – please do help yourselves – I don't really want to have to pack them all up again!

### CC Church Meeting (19<sup>th</sup> Sept.)

The Meeting agreed that we would move to appoint a Quantity Surveyor so that we can get an idea of cost, to hopefully be presented to the November Church Meeting. Cliff will provide the Elders with quotes for the survey and costing work. Overall, the people present at the meeting were pleased with the ideas presented. A few people spoke of the importance of using the worship area much more during the week. For those of you who were not able to attend, there is a longer summary of the meeting in the upcoming October Church Magazine, and of course the minutes will be circulated in due course.

## TIPS & IDEAS

This Friday 24th September is the National Day of Arts in Care Homes!

Arts In Care Homes is a project run by National Activity Providers Association and with a National Day every year they celebrate the wealth of arts activities taking place in Care Homes across England and the positive impact this has on the wellbeing and motivation of residents.

**Think about how you are feeling right now. Can you think of a colour that represents that emotion?**

**Once you have decided on your colour, pick four different things that you associate with it.** They could be objects, places, food, animals - or you could look around the room and see what you can find in your chosen colour.

**Capture your chosen objects in any way you like.** You might be inspired to write a short poem, create a drawing or a photograph. Perhaps the way that you capture your objects tells a story.



**RESOURCES** A new reflection from St Paul's Cathedral, by Brian Draper - a speaker, retreat guide, labyrinth curator and creative consultant, seeking to help people of all faiths and none to see the world from a creative and engaging spiritual perspective.

<https://mailchi.mp/601479bcac35/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-8251076?e=e30a1f608a>

## 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 the recently bereaved, and ministers attending the Easter Synod Minister's gathering at Westminster College, Cambridge.

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Changing the world.** Please continue to pray fervently, in praise, repentance and urgent petition to the Lord for our world, as its leaders gather to decide the course of either destruction or healing for our planet. Pray for courage for them, global economies have to change if there is to be a better future. There is no hope in mere words without actions, never has been.

### Particular prayer requests this week:

Brian, Jenny C's brother	Len and Pam U.
Bill & Beth	Sheila S
Grace & Phil, and Kerry	Della
Georgie, Anna and Richard's niece	Frank



We would like to say a big thank you for the flowers that Jean brought round from the church and all the cards and congratulations we received on our Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 16th September, Thank you once again Pam and Len.

## HOUSE GROUPS

**The six-week course will start TODAY, on 23 September, so as to finish just before the Climate Conference COP26 starts on 31 October.**

We will meet from **2.30pm, at Christ Church**, on the following **Thursday** afternoons:

23 September – Introduction, led by Naomi  
30 Sept.- 1. 'Desire' (Genesis 8 and Psalm 24.) led by Robert  
7 Oct. – 2. 'Greed' (Luke 12:15) – **a volunteer to lead please!**  
14 Oct. – 3. 'Righteousness' (Psalm 1 vs 6.), led by Naomi  
21 Oct. – 4. 'Justice' (Micah 6 vs 8), led by Naomi  
28 Oct. – Summary, led by Naomi

The House Groups are open to ALL from both churches – we would love to see some new faces. Join, any week – it doesn't matter if you have missed the introduction! More information on posters at the church.



**A COFFEE MORNING**

**AT CHRIST CHURCH U.R.C.**

**RAYLEIGH**

**COFFEE/TEA/BISCUITS**

**ON FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

**10.30 – 12.00PM**

**PLEASE DO TRY AND JOIN US**

**IN AID OF**

**RAYLEIGH COMBINED CHURCHES REFUGEE GROUP**

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, BUT FEEL ABLE TO GIVE A SMALL DONATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT**

**PENNY GENDALL**

**01268 750324**

**[phg7782@gmail.com](mailto:phg7782@gmail.com)**

**or post to 7 Chase Close, Benfleet, SS7 3BU**

**(cheques payable to Rayleigh Combined Churches Refugee Group)**