

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

NEWS & CHAT 21 JULY 2022

The online service is live-streamed every week from Christ Church, on the Christ Church Facebook page.

SUNDAY 24 July 10am, Robert Dart at Christ Church
10.30am, The Minister at BDC, followed by AGM

If you would like a quiet prayer said for you, after church worship, there is someone who can be by your side in the 'Quiet Space' behind the servery.

NEXT Tuesday, 26 July at 11am, Andy Jackson, Head of Communications for the URC, will come and lead a session for us on publicity and how to better promote our events and activities.

All are welcome, including those who don't 'do' social media. The other churches in our Area Partnership have been invited. **There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church.**

REMEMBER that our **Wednesday morning café** is happening every **Wednesday, 10.30 - 12** in the worship area. **Do come along and bring a friend!**

TIPS & IDEAS

This week's creative idea from #64MillionArtists invites us to capture the sound of a still scene. Choose an image of a scene, it could be a cutting from a magazine, a picture in a photo album, or a postcard. Now transport yourself into that scene. What sounds and vibrations can you hear or feel? Could it be elements of nature, snippets of conversations or the beat of music?

Capture the sounds and vibrations you imagine! Can you re-create them with materials you have around you? Or write about what you hear or feel?

And if anyone is interested in images and how we are constantly bombarded by them, there is an excellent documentary series (4 parts) on iPlayer - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m000fzmc/age-of-the-image>

FUTURE DIARY DATES:

MEMORY WORSHIP starts on **Tuesday 6 September**, at 2pm at Rayleigh Methodist.

CONGREGATIONAL 'AWAY DAY' Sunday 25 September, afternoon, exact times tbc.

On the afternoon of Sunday 25 September, we will hold an 'away afternoon' at home – in the church. This will be led by Lindsey Brown, the Synod Mission and Training Officer and will combine Bible Study with small group discussion to focus our minds on the vision for our building project and how to embed ourselves more in the surrounding community. **Please hold the date and make a special effort to attend – this will be a chance to discuss the building project more informally and ask any questions you still have.**

SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER will be Harvest followed by lunch, and a special service to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the formation of the United Reformed Church.

ORGAN RECITAL AT CHRIST CHURCH – SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER at 3.00pm.

Please put this date in your diary. Our 3 organist friends are kindly giving their services to entertain us again, as they did in 2017. There will be cake!

COMMITMENT FOR LIFE

Commitment for Life no longer support work in Central America, which was the region we were supporting. Our new region is Israel/Palestine. If you would like to learn more – the URC is hosting an online session:

'Holy Land? Learning about Israel and Palestine'

Commitment for Life

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

If you want a good introduction to why there is an ongoing conflict in the Holy Land, come and hear both sides with a focus on solutions including a Q&A with members of the Parent Circle organisation supported by Commitment for Life.

25 July from 5.30pm to 9.00pm including discussion time and dinner break.

Email urcinterfaith@urc.org.uk to receive the Zoom link.

News from Budiriro:

While we are sweltering in record breaking heat, it is winter in Zimbabwe:

“Winter is now at the peak. We are also having some showers which is unusual. Our winters are not this cold except for Eastern highlands (Nyanga), and Gweru city which is central of Zimbabwe.

We had a Fellowship of Women Rededication Day 2 weeks ago, under the General Assembly Fellowship of women executive, Isaiah 41:10.”



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 recovering from surgery, those about to have surgery, and all those finding the extreme heat unbearable.

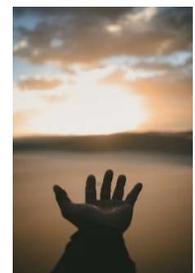
This week’s prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Concord.** Father God, thank You for so many deep and lasting friendships made and kept within Concord. We ask Lord that You will continue to bless this ministry, where newcomers become friends, and all find shelter and loving companionship.

Particular prayer requests this week:

Jeff & Gwyneth
Doreen
Audrey
Doug & Margaret B. living in Bath
Phil & Grace
Lionel and Elizabeth P.

BDC:

Barbara
Cherry
Margaret & Ted J.
Gerry
Barry
Jan & Clive



We give thanks:

Congratulations to John and Elizabeth Amos on their Golden Wedding anniversary on 22 July.

Funeral arrangements for Frank Bodey:

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Frank Bodey will be held at Christ Church on **Friday 29th July at 12 noon**, following a very short committal service at Basildon Crematorium at 11am. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Caley Hall, to which all are invited. At the request of the family, the service will be live-streamed on the Christ Church Facebook page. Family flowers only. Details of charities for donations tbc.

**Can you please send Naomi (revnaomi@yahoo.com) as soon as possible:
a. The Bible verse you first think of in relation to Christ Church, AND/OR
b. your personal favourite Bible verse, and why it's your favourite
Thank you!
THIS IS FOR SUNDAY 31 JULY**

And, as I write this on Tuesday – afternoon temperatures expected to hit 40 – thank you to Penny for this very appropriate photo:



PLEASE NOTE:

During the month of August there will be NO News & Chat. We will have a weekly 'What's On' similar to what we had pre-pandemic, prepared by Phil Gendall.

If you have any announcements you want included,
please send them to Phil: phil.gendall@talktalk.net

At the Church Meeting on 4 September, we will decide if we want to continue with News & Chat, or What's On, or some sort of hybrid of the two.

If you have something you want included in NEXT week's N&C, or a future diary date for September, **please send it to Naomi – revnaomi@yahoo.com**

**by 5pm on Monday 25 July, please
THANK YOU!**