

## Church Diary for April

### Larks Bible Study

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.15am

### Elders' Meeting

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> 7pm

### Badminton in the Church Hall

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 7.45pm

### Church Walk at Lydiard Park

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April Meet 10.00am in the car park

### Pastorate Elders Meeting

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm Malmesbury URC

### Owls Discussion Evening

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm



**Hive Coffee Club** for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers, meets Thursday mornings, 9:30 till 12.

## Contact details

### Minister

Revd Sarah Simpson 32 Niebull Close Reeds Farm Malmesbury SN16 9TX Tel: 01666 826866

### Church Secretary and Serving Elder

Mrs E. Shaw 01793 855676

### Serving Elder, Preacher Booking, Foodbank Voucher Holder

Fiona Butler 01793 849075

### Hall Booking

Richard Jacob 01793 852689

### Church Treasurer

Richard Jacob 01793 852689

### Pastoral Visitor and Serving Elder

Mrs E. Henly 01793 848712

### Serving Elder

Andrew Crown 01793 330502

**Web-site** [wburc.org.uk](http://wburc.org.uk)  
And Find us on Facebook

**Web-site and newsletter editor** Jenny Stratton 01793 850310

## Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church April 2016 Newsletter



### Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

3<sup>rd</sup>

Revd Tom MacMeekin

10<sup>th</sup>

Revd Sarah Simpson

17<sup>th</sup>

Bernard Crabb

24<sup>th</sup>

Bryan Elkington



John 21.1-19 is a reading for April 10<sup>th</sup>.

“After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, ‘Children, you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.”

At our March discussion evening we read a Reform article on “Creative Church” in which Helen Stephenson says “As churches have fished on one side of the boat for many years and caught little, how might we haul in our nets and cast them out on the other side?” How should **we** be more creative in what we do as a church?

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### On Good Friday

we joined with other RWB churches for the walk of witness from the Sacred Heart Church to the Town Hall where there was a short service. Thank you to the Methodist Church for coffee and hot cross buns afterwards.

**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday** on 1<sup>st</sup> April to Bob Adams and an ordinary Happy Birthday to Joy Mattis



### Christian Aid Week 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> May

This is the week we love every neighbour

Jesus calls us to love our neighbour as ourselves, and not just the ones next door or at the end of the street.

Christian Aid Week unites over 20,000 churches to put this love in to action. Together we'll hold church collections, host Big Brekkie fund-raising breakfasts, and collect house-to-house. Please let Jenny know if you can collect in a road near you.

**Plant sale** Saturday 21st May  
Plant your seeds and cuttings soon to sell!

### Rotas for April

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Readings	Tea
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Angela	Jack	Jenny	Jack, Nicky	Elizabeth, Andrew
10 <sup>th</sup>	Doreen	Elizabeth	Jack	Fiona, Richard	Ron, Margaret
17 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret	Eileen	Fiona	Ron, Margaret	Jack, Isobel
24 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth	Richard	Bob	Jenny, Andrew	Joy, Jenny

### Murmurings from the Manse

“Of course I trust in God”, I said, with equal amounts of incredulity and indignation, stung by the very idea I would do otherwise.

The person who asked me that question has long since died, but over the last few months I have learnt anew what it means, that it is not enough to simply state the words, but to believe them.

From April 1<sup>st</sup> our three church pastorate becomes a two church pastorate, Malmesbury URC and Royal Wootton Bassett URC, no longer ‘North West Wiltshire’ now simply two churches who enjoy coming together when possible but who are trying to build up God’s kingdom in their communities trusting in God’s grace to bring that about; filled with the Spirit and following the example of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

In the post –Easter period we are acutely aware of the challenge to be *Easter People* and it is a challenge, one of many we are currently facing, but alongside the challenge we have HOPE; hope in that what we do will be blessed by God, what we do will bring glory to God, what we do is not for our own comfort and security and because it is familiar but because we believe it is what God is calling us to do at this time.

I know the coming two years will not be easy; but I have the faith and trust to know that we are not alone; God is with us in everything that we do, whatever lies ahead and with God’s blessing and encouragement we can, each one of us, achieve great things.

So we continue to pray, we continue to hope, and we continue to trust: for with God, nothing is impossible.

*Sarah*