

Church Diary for October

A Musical in a day! Come along and take part in a musical!
Saturday 7 October 2017 United Church, Cricklade 10am
See September newsletter for details

Harvest Service

Sunday 15th

It is suggested that suitable donations are sent to the Foodbank run by Malmesbury URC, which is catching up from the summer holiday support for children not getting school meals.

Quiz night in aid of Christian Aid

Friday 20th 7pm

Names to Joy, Please

Re-decoration of lounge during half term. Hive families to have outing.
23rd-29th September

Church Meeting

Thursday 26th 7.30pm

For your November diary

Elders Meeting

Thursday Nov 9th 7pm



Hive Toddler Group for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers,
meets Thursday mornings, 9.30-11.30

Contact details

Minister

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

Church Secretary and Serving Elder

Joy Mattis 01793 848328

Serving Elder, Preacher Booking, Foodbank Voucher Issue

Fiona Butler 01793 849075

Church Treasurer and Serving Elder

Richard Jacob
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Mrs E. Shaw 01793 855676

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Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church October 2017 Newsletter



Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

1 st	Bernard Crabb including Holy Communion
8 th	Bryan Elkington
15 th	Harvest Service led by Revd Sarah Simpson
22 nd	Terry Riches
29 th	Revd Sarah Simpson

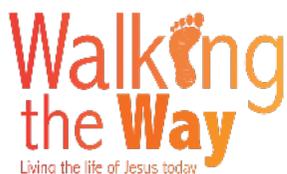
Shout and sing for joy!

You visit the earth, watering it, enriching it,
So we thank you for abundant water,
Praying ... for those who live with drought,
... for those overwhelmed by flood
... for those who bring help;
May creation shout and sing for joy.

You crown the year with fruitfulness
So we thank you for abundant crops,
Praying ... for those who transport food from fields
... for those who distribute it to shops
... for those who set the price and those who bear the cost;
May creation shout and sing for joy.

You cover meadows with flocks and fields with grain,
So we thank you for all farmers,
Praying ... for farmers, dependant on soil and sea,
... for fair treatment of all your creatures;
... for future generations who take up this work.
May creation shout and sing for joy.
Amen.

Trevor Jamison From Feasts and Festivals, URC Prayer Handbook 2017



'Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today' is the name of a renewed emphasis in the URC on lifelong Christian discipleship and mission.

There is an article on p. 23 of October's Reform and the website www.urch.org.uk/wtw contains details and resources.

There is also a reference to the book Holy Habits by Rev Andrew Roberts. We are invited by RWB Methodist Church to a day with him ...



'A call to Christian discipleship is a call to adventure. Holy Habits explores this adventure through a rich mix of biblical material and inspiring stories. The life-giving transforming role of ten habits seen in Acts Chapter 2 are re-imagined for personal and community life today. The Revd Andrew Roberts will be leading a day's seminar to give you an overview of the Holy Habits programme, with suggestions for further reflection and action that can be used individually and by smaller or larger churches in our circuit.'

Saturday, 21st October 10am-4pm at RWB Methodist Church
Leaflet with further info in church or from Joy.

Happy Birthday in October to
Jenny Stratton, Chloe Bell and Hannah Butler

Rotas for October

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Notices	Readings	Communion	Tea
1 st	Eileen	Richard	Fiona	Joy	Jack, Fiona	Elizabeth, Fiona	Ron, Margaret
8 th	Isobel	Eileen	Andrew	Joy	Ron, Margaret		Eileen, Joy
15 th	Jenny	Joy	Jenny	Jenny	Jenny, Elizabeth		Fiona, Andrew
22 nd	Angela	Jack	Elizabeth	Jenny	Joy, Richard		Jack, Isobel
29 th	Doreen	Richard	Jack	Jenny	Nicky, David		Jenny, Elizabeth

Murmurings from the Manse

During our recent visit to Lord's (the cricket ground that is), David and I were fortunate to meet and chat to Geoffrey Boycott, one of David's cricketing heroes. We spent some considerable time with him and in so doing attracted quite a large crowd who were no doubt wondering as to our connection with the man himself and what it was that kept us talking for so long.

All through this I couldn't help but think of the old adage "never meet your heroes" and how, in this case, how wrong that warning turned out to be.

Many people travelled to meet Jesus, having heard about him and the things he was saying; many people invested all their hope in a man they had never met and yet who, by reputation, seemed to be able to offer them the future they dreamed of. Of that number some were convinced by Jesus' words, others less so and some were disappointed; but I would suggest that everyone, before meeting Jesus, had already formed a picture in their minds, worked out their list of expectations on which Jesus would be judged and therefore left very little room for re-evaluation when finally they met.

Do we ascribe Jesus 'hero' status in the way the world understands a hero to be?

Are we able to separate humanity and divinity, myth and reality, story and fact or do they all merge together?

Are we able, through prayer, to have open dialogue with him or do we begin by holding fast to our expectations which we expect him to fulfil?

Regardless of the content of our conversation, the photos taken and the obvious interest of those around, what mattered to both David and I was the fact that Geoffrey Boycott gave us his time and did so without hesitation. In so doing he created and left us with a memory we cherish.

Giving someone time makes a big difference, making someone feel they matter, that they are special, has an importance that cannot be overstated.

And it doesn't need a hero or a celebrity
or a sporting great to do that ...

Yours in Christ

Sarah