

WORSHIP AND MIDWEEK GROUPS 14th - 28th Nov 2021

We would love you to join us for worship in church each week at 11am or streamed on Zoom (Meeting ID: 407 593 4256 Passcode: 123456). We round up our autumn study of Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount, moving into the season of Advent on Sun 28th November.

Sunday 14th November 10:30 am Matthew 7:1-12. How do I avoid judging others? Worship for Remembrance Sunday led by Philip Nye, Pete Fawcett and Rev Julia Bartholomew.

Tuesday 16th Nov 1pm in church Service of thanksgiving for the life of Howard Clayton, followed by refreshments at the cricket club.

Thursday 18th Nov - 12 noon Zoom and Soul Matthew 7:13-20

Sunday 21st Nov 11am Matthew 7:13-20 How to sniff out the lies. The service is led by Mark Richards, Carolyn Ridding and Julia Bartholomew

Thursday 25th November

12 noon Soup and Soul in Church. Please book in with Pete or Julia. 7pm Prayer meeting with a focus on environmental issues.

Saturday 27th November 10am-12 noon. Church decorating for Christmas with Coffee and mince pies. All helpers very welcome.

Advent Sunday

Sun 28th Nov 11am Matthew 7:21-29 The encounter of a lifetime! Led by Rev Julia Bartholomew and Julia, Pete Fawcett. Followed by church Christmas lunch at the cricket club. See page 7.

6pm on Zoom Worship re-focusses our hearts with Juanita, Ellis, Julia and Pete.

Thur 2nd Dec 7:30pm Meditation 1 in our special Advent series

Finding direction: John 1:1-18 (See page 7 for fuller details)

Want a chat? Contact Rev Julia Bartholomew

Contacts:

Minister: Rev Julia Bartholomew, 07852 281006, juliawave@icloud.com

Administrator: Pete Fawcett, churchrhos@gmail.com

Secretary: Keith Harrison 01492 338817, keithnpam@talktalk.net



Dear Friends,

When someone known to us dies, our grief can emerge in a whole range of emotions. We can feel sorrow at their absence; anger at the injustice represented by their death; guilt that we were unable to prevent it and blame for those we feel could have done more to help. In time, having ricocheted through these feelings we come to realise a sense of acceptance. There is nothing we can do to reverse what has happened but we can harness these emotions for good.

Let's resolve not to miss an opportunity to share a word of praise or encouragement to let others know how much we value them. Let's be open and share our own struggles and concerns, listening to the advice of those who care. And let's make time to ask others how they are really listening to their response. That way they will know that we are there when they need us.

Paul tells the churches in Rome:

"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another." (Romans 12:15)

Let us draw together in our shared grief at this time and cherish the special relationships within our fellowship that God has given us.

With every blessing, Julia

Community Events well under way now in the church

If you fancy a sing...in Rhos URC why not try one of the three choirs!

- **Funtime Choir** meeting on Monday evenings from 7.30-9pm.
- **Tenovus Choir** starts again in church on Tuesday evenings. Contact tenovuscancercare.org.uk to find out more.
- **Rock Choir** will be on Wednesday nights at 7:30pm. Book in on-line. More information at rockchoir.com

Groups offering exercise and more:

- **Tai Chi** at 12.00noon, with Carolyn on Mondays. Book in advance with China Bridge Centre instructor Carolyn Ridding on 07425 157360
- **“Move it or Lose it”** is gentle exercise for over 60’s. Sessions are 9:30-10:30 am and 11-12 noon. Book in with Matt Freeman on 07542 882769 matt.freeman@moveitorloseit.co.uk and find your mobility improving.
- **“Versus Arthritis”** offers exercise, activities and friendship on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3:30pm. Pop along, email walessupport@versusarthritis.org or telephone 0800 756 3970 for more information or to book in.



And of course on Friday mornings we have the **Country Market** from 10.00am-12 noon. Come along and buy a cake, some homemade chutney, supper for one or some Christmas treats. Light refreshments are being served again so you can also catch up with friends for a natter.



Thursday evening candlelit Advent meditations in church

Don't miss the opportunity to take some time out for yourself this Advent. 45 minutes of reflection, prayer, music and song led by members of our worship team. A chance to connect with God and know his support and guidance.

Thur 2nd Dec 7:30pm Finding direction: John 1:1-18

Thur 9th Dec 7:30pm Finding hope: Zechariah's song Luke 1:67-80

Thurs 16th Dec 7:30pm Finding purpose: Mary's song Luke 1:46-56

Thurs 23rd 7:30pm Finding satisfaction: Simeon's song Luke 2:21-35

Second Class Stamps

In order to reduce postage costs, we hand out copies of Connected to folk each fortnight as they arrive in church. All remaining copies are posted. Please feel free to grab the named copy for your neighbour or someone living in a house that you regularly pass. On Sunday 1st Nov, following the distribution of Connected 5 a large sheet of 2nd Class stamps went missing. Please contact Julia, Pete or Delyth if you are able to track them down. Many thanks.

Christmas Lunch Sunday 28th Nov 12:30 pm

We are looking forward to our church Christmas lunch at the Cricket Club on Advent Sunday 28th Nov.

The menu is roast turkey with trimmings or poached salmon followed by either Christmas Pudding or Trifle. The cost will be £18 per person.



Food allergies can be catered for. We will collect our food from a buffet table and assistance can be given to anyone with mobility issues. Please book in with Sue Williams or Delyth Beecroft by giving them a sealed envelope containing the correct money with your name(s) and menu choices on the front.

Name:	
Contact number:	
Menu Choice:	Roast Turkey or Salmon Christmas Pudding or Trifle
Payment included	£18

When do we rest?

I have been reading excerpts from two books lately. The first was the biography of CH Dodd, based on his journal entries. Dodd was a member and Deacon of Pen Y Bryn Chapel, which became Salisbury Park Congregational Church, my sending church. I was fascinated to read about the differences in attitudes of the Victorian Independents to that of the Episcopal churches and how Dodd and his family would spend the Sabbath. Looking at the flowers in the garden was acceptable but pulling up a weed wasn't. The only walk allowed was to and from church and if Christmas fell on a Sunday, then the presents were opened but put away immediately until the next day. The Sabbath was for God, the Word of God and prayer.

These also feature in the second book I've been reading, Working the Angles by Eugene Peterson. It is primarily about helping church leaders to pastor/minister/and lead through prayer, scripture, and spiritual direction. We were reading it in preparation for the Faith Fuelled Leaders retreat at Gladstone Library. Much of the time was given up to the importance of having a Sabbath, which Peterson writes about in his book. Perhaps you are like me and just glad of the change in routine, or perhaps Sabbath means something else to you? Someone recently said to me that Sunday was the day her sister looked forward to the most as she got to see people in church. Perhaps you feel the same?

What separated Peterson's idea of Sabbath and the Dodd family was the idea of leisure. Everything else was exactly the same, given up to the glory of God in prayer and scripture. On the retreat we talked about the leisure pursuits that invigorated us, leading to examples of Journaling, Craft, Photography and Hymn Singing. We even got to have a go ourselves, which was lovely. But the retreat itself was just as relaxing and energising. It included us reading Mark 1:29-39, seeing how Jesus would rest. With most of our lives being seven days a week, the importance of Sabbath can get lost, but if God felt it important to rest on the seventh day and make it holy, I'm sure we can too, with a little tweak here and there in our lives.

As a fan of Dodd and a fan of leisure, I'm torn between a Puritan Sabbath and the one Peterson writes about. Where do you stand? I might try both and see how I feel. Perhaps you can also make space for a Sabbath and see where the Spirit leads you. But you might need to work at it! Yours in Christ, Mark Richards

Five Good Reasons for Us to Shop Locally

1). Boosting the Local Economy

UK statistics show that for every pound we spend in a small or medium--sized business, 63p stays in our local economy, compared to just 40p in a larger business. Small businesses are leading employers internationally – they tend to hire people living nearby which again keeps the money within our community. Local companies are, more likely to collaborate with other local entrepreneurs – therefore even more growth for our local economy.

2). Shaping the Local Identity

Our local entrepreneurs breathe life into our community; their welcoming and positive attitude towards strangers and local shoppers alike, attracts visitors.

3). Preserving the Environment

Local shops tend to employ local people who don't need to travel great distances in cars or public transport to get to work, thus decreasing carbon emissions.

4). Better Shopping Experience

The staff at our local shops are more likely to get to know us personally. They know how to connect with customers at a personal level. There are no crowds and our presence is always welcome.

5). Making Dreams Come True

Small business owners are not multi-millionaires, board members or disconnected shareholders who have no idea what our needs are. They are ordinary people whose livelihoods are at stake; putting food on the table, paying the mortgage etc, etc. They have a greater incentive to get things right. (JIA)



Memories of Howard

'Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.' Rev 2:10

We have the very sad news to share that, following several weeks of illness, Howard Clayton, husband of Angela and son-in law of Freda suffered a severe heart attack in the early hours of 2nd November. Despite the best efforts of ambulance and hospital crew he died peacefully at Glan Clywd with Angela and Julia present. Howard was our much loved church Caretaker and chef and his warm, humble presence at the heart of our church will be sorely missed. Angela looks forward to welcoming you at the service of thanksgiving for Howard's life at 1pm on Tuesday 16th November at Rhos United Reformed Church followed by refreshments at the cricket club.

A fund has been set up by our treasurer Delyth to enable us to show our appreciation of Howard by contributing to the funeral reception and associated costs. Donations can be made by Bank Transfer
Bank: HSBC. Account name: Rhos-on-Sea URC, Account number: 01052489.
Sort code: 40-38-16. Or they can be made by cheque payable to Rhos-on-Sea URC. Please mark any donations with 'Howard Fund'.



I just want to say a big heartfelt thank for all the lovely cards and kind words on the passing of my husband Howard Clayton and on behalf of his family also. He certainly has left a massive hole in our lives. But he never realised how well liked he was. I really and truly can't repay all those who have been there for me. A big thank you to Delyth for being there the night he took ill, to the Rev Julia Bartholomew for being at the hospital with me when Howard passed away and for all she has done for me, to Carolyn Ridding for her help and being there for us. A big thank you to you all. I will treasure all the cards and the memories

Howard and I shared. I will be back in church soon but at the moment I need some space to grieve for Howard. Once again thank you every one. May God's richest blessings be upon you all. With love from Angela, Freda, Norman, Martyn, Deborah, David and Jayne

My friendship with Howard has been over a number of years, sharing fellowship through Soup and Soul and working in the kitchen. It has been a pleasure to help with coffee mornings, Olive Branch lunch club and special events. Howard was always helpful, patient and happy in his work. It was a joy to know him and lend a helping hand. I shall miss his quietness, his experience and his loyalty to his church. God bless you Howard, Kate Lane

The Power of Communication

Many of you will know that Keith and I lived in Bradford, West Yorkshire until we moved to Rhos in 2004. Incidentally, we used to live in Wrose, a village about 2 miles from the city centre.

Every year we used to take part in a Faith Walk. This was for all people of faith, not just Christians and it was a very enjoyable happy occasion. We began at the Anglican Cathedral and were blessed and sent on our way by the Bishop. We then walked to one of the Hindu temples, the German church, and had lunch at the main Sikh Gurdwara where the food was very good. It was then on to the synagogue which was very much like a church without the worship of Jesus. And then there was tea and sweet meats at the main mosque. For several years this huge mosque was still under construction, but there was always a warm welcome. We took our shoes off and knelt down with foreheads resting on the floor. We had prayers there and gave thanks at all these places. It was a very happy day and I'm sure it helped us to feel much more comfortable living in such a multicultural society. Pam Harrison

Thoughts from Derek Hall.

- We are perfect. *For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.* (Hebrews 10:14) In Christ; his blood flowing in, through, and around us; cleansing, healing and purifying us, we are able to grow in his likeness. We are made Holy.
- Paul says over 140 times in his letters that believers are 'in Christ'. If people look through me and my actions, will they see Jesus?