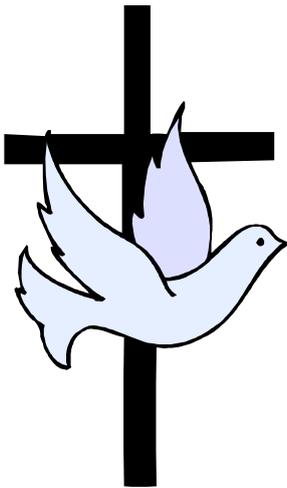


MARCH 2016



Outlook

Beckenham United Reformed Church

www.beckenhamurc.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP – MARCH 2016

6th March Mrs Marion Moore *
13th March Mrs Judy Davies
20th March Mr Mike Tinson
27th March Mrs Marion Bayley - Easter Sunday*

* Service includes Holy Communion

OTHER DIARY EVENTS

Tues 1 st March	8.00 p.m. Elders meeting
Wed 2 nd March	2.30 p.m. Discussion Group
Sat 5 th March	3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. Joint Mission Vision Day at Hayes Free Church
Tues 8 th March	2.30 p.m. Crescent Club
Wed 16 th March	12.30 p.m. Luncheon Club & Songs of Praise
Wed 16 th March	3.00 p.m. Joint Moderator Meeting
Thu 24 th March	8.00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service at Elmers End Free Church
Fri 25 th March	11.00 a.m. Good Friday Walk of Witness at St. Edmunds

OUR VISION

Our vision is to glorify God and to serve God throughout our lives, always open to God working through us. We seek to share the good news of love, forgiveness and grace with all in our local community through our actions and our prayers.



Donors

Arrangers

6th Mch.
13th Mch.
20th Mch.
27th Mch.

Monica Duncan

Muriel Aldcroft
Pat Power
Jane Ball
Monica Duncan

ELDERS LETTER

In 2011 I visited the Holy Land with Marion. I had previously decided not to go, I somehow felt not ready for the experience. Now I felt I was. We visited many beautiful and fascinating places associated with the life of Jesus. Places where he was supposed to have done this or that but in most cases no-one really knows. Does it matter? I came to the conclusion that it probably doesn't. If it was not the actual place where Jesus did something it was no doubt nearby and very similar. We were taken to the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu where Peter is believed to have denied Jesus three times. It is built on the probable site of the Chief Priest's house but close by are a long flight of steps which date back to the time of Jesus and lead from the upper part of Jerusalem to the lower. (See the photo on the back page). It is almost certain that Jesus used these very steps that we were treading on. That really gave us a tingle throughout our bodies.

We were not in the Holy Land for Easter which must be a very moving experience. We did, however, visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which, according to some, includes the site of Jesus' crucifixion. An amazing church, about which I could fill this copy of the Outlook with stories. However, in a courtyard within the confines of the church I found 3 crosses ready for use as you will see in the photo. This somehow brought the whole story of the crucifixion alive to me – seeing these in that place. The sheer horror of this form of death which the Romans perpetrated and which Jesus suffered FOR US. But most



importantly the crosses are empty. Good Friday was followed by Easter Sunday. Jesus rose from the dead and defeated sin and death. Happy Easter to you all

Anthony

Rejoice at
EASTER

A decorative graphic featuring a yellow flower with a green vine and leaves, positioned below the word 'EASTER'.

FROM THE SECRETARY

I have had my first meeting with our Interim Moderator Rev. Dr. Peter Stevenson who feels it would be a good idea to have a Mission Vision Day with Hayes.

Hopefully you have each received a letter inviting you to this on Saturday 5th March at Hayes.. This is for you to express any ideas you may have for the future of the Church. Also in the letter is another date when our Synod Moderator will explain the process to us as to how we get a new Minister. For this meeting Hayes will join us as it is a Wednesday afternoon and will take place after Luncheon Club. I do hope that as many as possible will be able to attend. Decisions will have to be made and your input is important in this next step forward.

Also a reminder that both men and women are invited to the Women's World Day of Prayer service on Friday 4th March at Beckenham Baptist Church at 2pm.

Lucy Broadbent celebrated her 102nd birthday last month. She is an amazing lady with whom I have such great conversations.

For such a small congregation to have 2 members over 100 is quite an achievement!

It has been encouraging to see everybody in Church each Sunday and also to welcome a couple of new people.

May God bless you all.

Gill Ross

**Copy for the April Outlook
by 20th March please.**

LECTIONARY

6th Mch. Joshua 5 : 9-12 ; Psalm 32 ; 2 Corinthians 5 : 16-21 ;
Luke 15 : 1-3, 11b-32

13th Mch. Isaiah 43 : 16-21 ; Psalm 126 ; Philippians 3 : 4b-14 ;
John 12 : 1-8

20th Mch. Isaiah 50 : 4-9a ; Psalm 31 : 9-16 ; Philippians 2 : 5-11 ;
Luke 22 : 14 – 23 : 56 or Luke 23 : 1-49

27th Mch. Acts 10 : 34-43 or Isaiah 65 : 17-25 ; Psalm 118 : 1-2,14-24 ;
1 Corinthians 15 : 19-26 or Acts 10 : 34-43 ;
John 20 : 1-18 or Luke 24 : 1-12

OFFERINGS

The offerings during January were as follows:-



January 3	£181.50
January 10	£176.50
January 17	£133.50
January 24	£175.25
January 31	£142.00

The after service coffee collections during November were in aid of Demelza House Hospice and totalled £90.30

Anthony Bayley

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year Women's World Day of Prayer has been prepared by the Christian Women of Cuba. The theme is entitled "Receive Children, Receive Me."

The service will be held on Friday 4th March at 2pm at Beckenham Baptist Church. Refreshments will be served after the service.

All are very welcome to attend.

Gill Ross

CRISIS

The following is the text of a letter which is self explanatory.

“Your gift will do wonders. Take my word for it”

Those are the words of Tony, a guest at Crisis at Christmas. He was homeless and sleeping on the streets, having lost his house and his job. He visited one of our Crisis at Christmas centres where, with the help of people like you, his life was changed.

Your kind donation of £517.00 means so much to so many people. Thank you. A few days of happiness, friendship and great food can make all the difference to someone having a tough time.

This Christmas, Crisis opened its doors to homeless people in London, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Birmingham and Coventry. Our guests received more than just warmth, food and companionship. We offered a host of services that they would have struggled to access for the the rest of the year. Our volunteers treated each guest as an individual and aimed to give them the specific help they needed to take their first steps out of homelessness, with advice on finding work and housing.

Our guests had access to a doctor or dentist, had a haircut and got their clothes or bags repaired. But we didn't forget that it was Christmas and there was a huge range of entertainment and activities to inspire guests and create a true Christmas spirit. From being able to enjoy the luxury of a manicure, to karaoke, bands, films and a football tournament – there was something for everyone! Not to mention three hot meals a day.

You can take my word for it too.

Karen Hardy

Supporter Services Manager & Senior Volunteer

A.M.B.

MY PRAYER

Thank you God for looking after me for so many long years, and for always being by my side.

“Be still and know that I am God”

Hilda Beard

COMMITMENT FOR LIFE

The following is an extract from a letter received early this year.

“Thank you so much for your kind donation of £945.75 to Commitment for Life and for the work of your congregation in support of the programme as part of the mission of your church. We very much appreciate your continued generosity.

The close partnership between Christian Aid and Commitment for Life is what makes the programme so effective. Such reliable and generous giving enables Christian to plan, in advance, projects in our partner countries/regions. Funds given to Global Justice Now help their work in campaigning for justice and change.

We pray our resources will enable you to bring your concern for poverty and justice into the life of your church all year round. Our Christian faith calls us to bring good news to the poor and to respond to the needs of the hungry, thirsty, the sick and the prisoners, as if they were Christ himself. This is what Commitment for Life is about.

Every one of your contributions makes a real difference to our partner countries. Thank you for all you do to encourage giving in your church, alongside campaigning and praying for a fairer world.”

A.M.B.

COFFEE

The March coffee money goes to LEPRO

“We are a UK registered international charity focusing on people who find themselves trapped by disease, poverty and prejudice and we help them to improve their health, lives and livelihoods. We work with individuals and communities affected by some of the world’s oldest and most neglected diseases, including leprosy and lymphatic filariasis.

Working on the ground in India, Bangladesh and Mozambique we treat, educate and rehabilitate, and through this give a voice to people living on the margins of society.

We work regardless of caste, religion or race. Our models draw on evidence gained through our 90 years’ experience and our approach to community engagement delivers real change to people’s lives.



CRESCENT CLUB

The February meeting was well attended. It began with Muriel reading the notices, a poem then a prayer. Mary gave the February birthday greetings. There were 3 Birthday Girls including Jo Dunn who has a birthday every 4 years! A leap year girl. Our speaker was Don Doncaster of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Over 10 million were killed in World War One. It was decided that the graveyards would look like country gardens and would be funded by 6 countries. The headstones would all be alike and set in straight rows. They were to have the name and regiment of the fallen and these words by Rudyard Kipling on each headstone of an unnamed soldier "Known unto God". The first family visits were started in 1946 when widows could go on a tour organised by the War Graves Commission at a reduced cost. Don told us he was a standard bearer in the official pilgrimages to the monuments in Ypres, the Somme and Arnhem. He also took tours for families to the shrine of the Menon Gate where they could see the names of their departed family members carved on the huge marble arch. He has been doing these tours for many years and he is keen to come back to tell us more stories of the fallen of both World Wars. The afternoon ended with tea and an Italian chocolate cake from Elma to toast her birthday. The next meeting on March 8th will have Gillian Scales, Welcare Chair of Friends as our guest speaker.

Patricia Power

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Gracious God,

We thank you for mothers – our own and mothers everywhere.

for all they do, or once did; all they give or once gave;

all they mean and will always mean.

Grant to all entrusted with the responsibility of motherhood

your wisdom, your guidance, your support.

We ask you to be with all mothers who are struggling –

unable to cope with the pressure; unable to find food or clean water,
unable to provide shelter or care for their children;
unable to protect their children from abuse or violence.

We call you our Father but equally you are Our Mother.
We thank you that you love us as a mother loves her child –
passionately, fiercely, devotedly, wholeheartedly –
and that, as a mother, you watch over us every moment of every day,
seeking our welfare; concerned about our progress;
equipping us for the journey of life.
You are always there when we need you,
ready to comfort, encourage and reassure,
slow to punish and swift to bless.
Lord of love, help us to know you as Mother and rejoice in your love.
Amen

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Almighty God

Just as the people of Jerusalem did on the first Palm Sunday,
we welcome and praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

We lift up our voices in glad hosannas.

We joyfully acknowledge Jesus as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

However, we know in our hearts, even as we greet him,
that our worship and commitment is sometimes as weak and shallow
as that which greeted him as he entered Jerusalem long ago.

We are reminded of how easy it is to welcome him as King
but how hard to follow the Way of the Cross.

Loving Lord Jesus

Just as you invited your friends to share one final meal with you,
so you invite your friends now to gather round your table to
celebrate

your Last Supper.

So we come on Maundy Thursday in fellowship with you,
with one another and with all your people in every time and place.

We come to remember you sharing bread and wine

with your disciples in the upper room:
a simple expression of fellowship with one who would soon betray
you;

one who would deny you and others who would abandon you.
We come to remember your anguish in Gethsemane
as you faced the awful, awesome cost of your calling alone.

We come to remember your arrest and brutal interrogation,
your sorrow and humiliation.

We come to remember your suffering and agony on the cross
on the first Good Friday:

the whipping and crown of thorns; the mocking of the soldiers;
the shouts of the crowd.

We come to remember your quiet acceptance
of human evil and hatred directed against you –
you who had done no evil and knew no hate.

We come to remember your great love,
and we marvel at how much you were willing to bear for our sakes!!
We come to praise and thank and worship you with our whole being.

Almighty God,

With joy and praise; with awe and worship;
with gladness and celebration, we bring our Easter worship.

We lift up our hearts and our thoughts
we lift up our voices and our souls.

We rejoice in the message of Easter Day:

the Good News at the heart of our faith –
light after darkness, joy after sorrow,
good after evil, life after death!!

Speak to us again through all we read,
all we hear, all we sing, all we do.

May the truth of the Resurrection inspire us with new hope.

May the victory of Jesus Christ fill us with new joy.

May the reality of his presence fill us with new faith.

And so may we serve you with new vigour to the glory of your name.

Amen



BECKENHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Oakhill Road (off Crescent Road)

Secretary	Mrs G Ross	020 8650 2959
Treasurer	Mr. A. Bayley	020 8402 2563
Outlook Editor	Mr J Ball	020 8659 5337
Asst. Editor	Mr A Bayley	020 8402 2563

Church organisations

Crescent Club	Mrs. M Aldcroft	020 8650 9518
Luncheon Club	Mrs M Duncan	020 8658 3309
Brownies	Miss L Minett	3rdbeckbrownies@ gmail.com
Rainbows	Mrs M Sloper	020 8658 2834
Pilates	Monday	19.30 – 20.45
	Tuesday	09.30 – 13.15
	Thursday	09.30 – 12.00
U3A Arts Class	Monday	14.00 – 16.00
Janie Harris Ballet School	Monday	14.00 – 19.30
	Tuesday	16.00 – 21.00
	Friday	16.45 – 19.15
	Saturday	08.00 – 17.00
Montessori	Mon - Fri	08.30 – 12.30
Jazz Dance	Monday	17.00 – 19.15
	Thursday	16.00 – 20.15
	Saturday	10.15 – 13.15
Tai Chi Chuan	Monday	20.00 – 22.00
Spanish Dancing	Tuesday	20.00 – 22.00
	Saturday	14.30 – 16.30
U3A Guitars(2 nd & 4 th)	Wednesday	14.00 – 16.30
Brownies	Wednesday	18.30 – 20.00
Rainbows	Wednesday	17.00 – 18.00

For lettings apply to Mr. Anthony Bayley 020 8402 2563



ANCIENT STAIRWAY IN JERUSALEM IN FOREGROUND



ISRAEL'S INFAMOUS WALL

Photographs © Anthony Bayley