St Johns Church Newsletter May 2023



May your day begin with a smile on your face, love in your heart, and peace in your soul.

Graham Powell

Sue and family would like to thank all members and friends for the sympathy and support shown to them in words, cards, and prayers on the illness and passing of Graham. He will be sadly missed by all the family.

Trying to reset password on computer.

I am sure this has happened to most people! Windows: Please enter your new password

User: cabbage

Windows: sorry the password must be more

than 8 characters. User: boiled cabbage

Windows: Sorry the password must contain 1

numerical character. User: 1 boiled cabbage

Windows: sorry the password cannot have

blank spaces

User: 50damnboiledcabbages

Windows: sorry the password must contain at

least one upper case character User: 50DAMNboiledcabbages

Windows: sorry the password cannot use more than one upper case consecutively

User:

50damnBoiledCabbagesgivemeaccessnow! Windows: sorry the password cannot contain

punctuation

User: Reallyfedup50DamnBoiledCabbages

give me access now

Windows: Sorry, that password is already in

use.

Jigsaws

On a table in the church hall, there is always a jigsaw on the go, with visitors at the coffee morning sitting concentrating on it, and a little bit added here and there by other people at other times.

After Church Refreshments



Members are wonderful.... They all help with the washing up; they chat to visitors to the church and bring things to eat. We have had Easter cake, Anzac Biscuits, Drop Scones, and Raisin Bread.

Recipe for a Gargle from the Household Handy Book 1880.

½ a glass of vinegar, a wineglass full of port wine, 4 wineglasses of blackcurrant leaf tea hot. Or pour boiling vinegar into a small earthenware teapot, and add a few sage leaves. Inhale the steam through the spout. Be careful of it being too hot and burning the throat!

News of members

Mike Brew, husband of Judy, has been in hospital, but is home again and recovering slowly.

Sharon Lusher's husband is also in hospital. Ann Embrey is doing fine in her nursing home in Romsleysays her daughter Ruth. Shirley's granddaughter Zoe has had a baby boy Osian, making Shirley a "great" for the 2nd time.

Ron Hurlow is home again.

Jessica had her 13th birthday, and was presented in church with flowers and chocolates, and Happy Birthday was sung to her and Dilys whose birthday was on the same day.

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St Johns at Easter

On Easter Sunday Rev John Hayton took the service including Communion, and for the first hymn we went outside the front by the cross and whilst we were all singing, Laura and Ann put a huge bouquet of flowers on to decorate the cross. After the service everyone went to the hall and had refreshments including Easter Cake.

Mother Teresa says...

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with love.

Did you know?

That Hampton Court had "en suite" rooms in 1515? In Base Court, the Gatehouse had 40 guest lodgings ranged around a cobbled courtyard, each lodging with an outer room, and an inner room with a garderobe (lavatory)!

Maundy Thursday before Easter

King Charles presented his first Maundy money purses, following his mother's tradition.

This day was when Jesus washed his disciples' feet in preparation for the Last Supper. The name comes from the Latin word "mandatum" (mandate or command) in the phrase "a new commandment I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you" John 13:34

Calling all Mannequins

Templeton United Reformed Church are hosting a Wedding Dress Festival in August, but are short of display models/stands. If you could lend them a model, please let Stella know.

I opened a book by Julia Donaldson I opened a book and in I strode Now nobody can find me.

I've left my chair, my house, my road, my town and my world behind me. I'm wearing the cloak.

I've slipped on the ring.

I've swallowed the magic potion.

I've fought with a dragon, dined with a King, and dived in a bottomless ocean.

I opened a book and made some friends.

I shared their tears and laughter and followed their road with its bumps and bends

To the happily ever after.

I finished my book and out I came.

The cloak can no longer hide me.

My chair and my house are just the same But I have a book inside me.

Friends

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. Aesop

True friends don't judge, they adjust. Friendship is all about finding people who are your kind of crazy.

A good friend knows all your best stories. A best friend has lived them with you.

Kindness is free. Sprinkle it everywhere.

Craft Club

Carol B-T has put paintings on the Hall wall, asking for anyone to name them! The Craft Club had a lot of fun "painting" one Monday, and some of them are very abstract!!



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Nettles

Pick in Spring the young growth, just the top 3-4 inches of the first growth. Pick more than you want as they cook down to nothing. Wash them (if you must). Boil for a few minutes in 1 inch of salted water. Serve them loosely chopped with knob of butter and a dusting of pepper and nutmeg.

Nettle Soup

Cook them with a cube of meat extract, then liquidise, adding cream and lemon juice to taste just before serving. This freezes well.

Magpies

1 for sorrow, 2 for mirth, 3 for a wedding, 4 for a birth, 5 for heaven, 6 for hell, but seven's the devil's own self.



Or 1 for sorrow, 2 for mirth, 3 for a wedding, 4 for a birth, 5 for silver,

6 for gold, 7 for a secret never to be told. And there is another one: One for sorrow, Two for joy, Three for a girl, Four for a boy, Five for silver, Six for gold, Seven for a secret never to be told. What was the one you first knew?

Recycling

Use an old toilet roll as a bird feeder! Cover it in peanut butter, roll in birdseed, unsalted nuts and/or raisins. Freeze for an hour then place in hedges. Biodegradable and the birds love them.

Grass

Did you know that every time an insect bites into a blade of grass, the grass emits a cocktail of oxygenated volatile hydrocarbons warning

all nearby plants of the attack. It rises in the air and birds, bats and other insectivores all learn this smell means a good meal and rush to the source. Grass enlists the help of animals when it is under attack.

Next time you mow your lawn and breathe in the sweet aroma, notice how quickly, after you put the mower away, your garden fills with blackbirds, starlings, robins and others responding to the grass's distress call!

King's Coronation

On Sunday 7th May there is a Bring Your Own Picnic in the Edible Community Garden at Pembroke from 12 noon, everyone is welcome.

On Monday 8th May 2023 St Johns is having a late coronation party - afternoon tea with drinks/cakes at 3pm, outside if weather is playing ball. Everybody is welcome. Bring your friends. Extra cakes welcome. There may be a few surprises too.

Contributions to the Newsletter

These are always welcome, please send them shirleybdraper@gmail.com or put in the box at the back of the church.

The June Newsletter cut off date is Friday 26th May. Stories about Church families, holidays, or anything would be lovely to give our news to everybody.

Preachers in May (11am unless shown otherwise)

7th May Civic service at St Mary's, 10.30am

14th May Worship Group

21st May Mrs Kate Wolsey

28th May Revd John Hayton and Mrs Kate

Wolsey communion service welcoming Sharman into membership – plus lunch after!

4th June Revd Stella Hayton

Over next few months we are going to share a document called the whole people of God it was produced by the Synod Training Officer designed to help churches explore how best we can be church today and tomorrow. Please send any reflections and responses to <u>Jason.askew.urcwales@urc.org.uk</u>

Members

hen people talk about 'the church'

that is you.

When you read "the United Reformed

ou are a human being, made in God's image, amazing life, and gifts and talents to live it to the full. You are reconciled to God through Jesus. with the breath of God giving you this You are a child of God.

hen folk talk of the need for ministry in the God given gifts, your talents, the part which you Jesus effect, that reconciliation with God, to bear church, they are asking about you, your play in the life of the church, in bringing that in your community. s you read on, consider that image of God within you; A feel the presence of the Holy Spirit within you.

What gifts do you have? What gifts would you like?

and help to bring others to know that Jesus has filled that 'God shaped' hole in their lives? How can your experience of God help to strengthen the faith of fellow Christians

How can we, you and I together, glorify and enjoy God for ever?

Time to Reflect

part to play, as part of the body of Christ. Let us reflect on our part in God's church. Let us take journey of faith, your local church's journey together and our shared life as a Synod within this. time together to read what is below, to answer the questions and consider the next step on your Called and equipped by God, to be ambassadors of love, agents of grace and envoys of peace, together we bring God's Kingdom to bear in our world. We each have a ministry, a service, a

Building up the body (Ephesians 4:11-16)

The Whole People of God, Called and Committed to God's Service

faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of saints for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the So Christ gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by one who is the head, that is, Christ. From Christ the whole body, joined and held together by every every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of the supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Discuss the following questions:

National Synod of Wales" or just simply

Whenever it says somewhere "The

Church," that is you.

refers to your local church by name, that

"the Synod" that is you. If someone

What does it mean for the church to be 'the body of Christ'? Look also at ICor 12:12-31;

& Rom 12:1-13

Paul writes: "as each part does its work." What part can you play in building up the body?



When a person is received into membership of a local church there is a prayer which tells of ministry in the church: 'God of grace, you call us to be your servant people, Confirm us all in the power of your covenant to work with us in serving your kingdom. to live in your Spirit, to love each other and gather us into the body of Christ. We thank you for sending us N and to share the mind

of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." Amen!

Time to Respond

The whole people of God called to be a servant people, for the building up of the body of Christ Every member ministry is not a new idea, its basis is in our foundational scriptures, the Bible.

- Discuss the ways you and others have served the church over the years
- What is important to you about your faith?
- How can you encourage each other to grow in, and to live out, your faith?