



Wyld Green United Reformed Church

Britwell Road Sutton Coldfield
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Making the love of Jesus a reality in the community seven days a week.
Reaching out, welcoming in.

November 2021



idings

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Dear Friends

As there is a chill in the air and the earth is slowly moving to the time of rest. As the nights draw in, we begin the season of remembrance. After the thanksgiving for the abundance of harvest we move to giving thanks for those who we have loved and lost and then finally give thanks for those who have given their lives in conflicts.

We can see it as a gloomy time, but I think that isn't particularly helpful. I prefer to reframe it - I think we should be celebrating the brightness that people have brought into our lives. That brightness is like a candle flame in the dark room. A flame that brings light and comfort and banishes the shadows.

One of the real truisms is that no one in the last stages of their life weep over not working hard enough, not being rich or important enough. Instead they focus on the people they have known and loved and the relationships that have given their life meaning. It's a pity that for some people that this realisation comes so late- that the real treasure we have is our relationships with each other and our faith in God.

So I think this is the season to turn to those we love and let them know how important and lifegiving our bonds are. It is never too early to reach out and affirm and celebrate the relationships we have.

So this month, reach out and celebrate all of those who are important to us in gratitude and love.

Rev Chris

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

EXCITING NEWS!

In 2022, on the second Sunday of each month, we will be hosting a series of afternoon concerts led by students from the Birmingham Conservatoire! With this in mind, I am putting a rota together of people willing to serve refreshments at these events and would value your support. Please contact Bev on 0742 843 0093 or e-mail her on lyne760@btinternet.com.

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FAMILY NEWS

We think especially of **Pam Dicken** and her sons and their families following the death of Pam's husband **Bernard** on 30th September. Our love and sympathy go to all of them at this sad time and they remain in our prayers.

Our best wishes and prayers for a speedy recovery go to **Gundula Campden** and **John Cresswell** who have both undergone operations.

Our love, prayers and sympathy go to **Marjorie and Michael Clarkson** and **Joan and Ivan Cox** following the death of their sister in law **Wendy Platt**. We remember in our prayers Wendy's children **Jeremy, Rebekah, Naomi** and **Hannah** and their families.

From 24th October, **Janet Vaughan** will be moving in with her daughter Frances until their move to Worcester. Janet's contact number is 07929 293679.

Gundula Campden writes: "A huge thank you to my friends and the whole church family at WGURC for your kind wishes, lovely cards and beautiful flowers following my recent operation! I have been touched and reassured by your concern. I am very happy to report that I have been making a remarkable recovery. Whilst I'll have to take things easy for a few weeks, I can't wait to join you again in church and at social events. Thanks again."

~ ~ ~



THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

We particularly pray for **Pam Dicken and her sons, Marjorie and Michael Clarkson, Joan and Ivan Cox, Jeremy, Rebekah, Naomi** and **Hannah**. Special thoughts and prayers are also with **Mary Hughes** and her family.

We continue to pray for **June Lyne, Beryl Haynes, Evelyn Hammett, Audrey Goaley, Sylvia Gray, Su Bailey, Jean & Ray Brierley, Meriel Pardoe, Lloyd & Celia McGuire, Val Dinning, Gundula Campden, John Cresswell, Anne & John Turney, Val White, Betty Howes, Ron & Joan Close** and Hugh Cunningham's daughter, Sue.

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HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

to those who have
their special day in

November

Graham

Abi H

Hugh

Lloyd

Hilary

Sarah W



ECO FESTIVAL 2 OCTOBER 2021



The Lord Mayor of Sutton Coldfield opened the Festival



Rev Chris took orders for smoothies using bicycle power



Some of the children took part in singing



Artwork and photos by Pete Horton,
Henley Wheadon, Ivan Cox and
John Cresswell



Jockey Men Morris dancers



Traidcraft

THE ERA OF INJUSTICE IS OVER

GLOBAL DAY FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

An artistic illustration of a sunset or sunrise with a large, bright sun on the right. Several stylized human figures are shown in various poses, some holding large, umbrella-like structures that resemble coral reefs or sea anemones. The background is a gradient of orange, red, and purple.

Birmingham

FAITHS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Faith Block, March for the Climate
12 noon Millennium Point

All are welcome to join the Faith Block on the Birmingham March for the Climate. As the COP26 climate talks begin in Glasgow, people will be standing up for climate justice around the UK.

Interfaith Blessing & Open Mic
3pm Priory Rooms

hello@footstepsbcf.org.uk

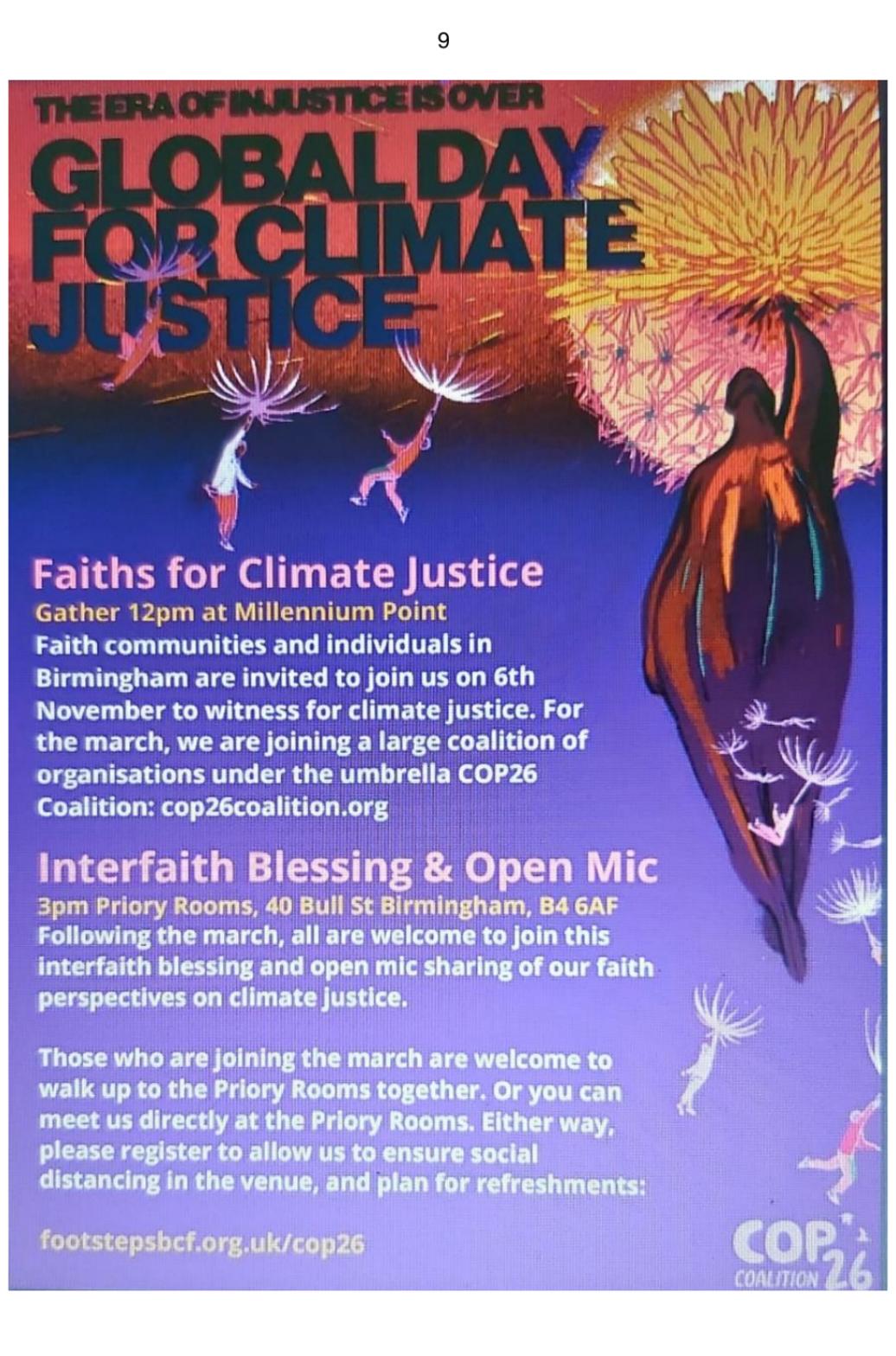
@FootstepsBCF

NOT FOR FLY POSTING

COP26
COALITION

THE ERA OF INJUSTICE IS OVER

GLOBAL DAY FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE



Faiths for Climate Justice

Gather 12pm at Millennium Point

Faith communities and individuals in Birmingham are invited to join us on 6th November to witness for climate justice. For the march, we are joining a large coalition of organisations under the umbrella COP26 Coalition: cop26coalition.org

Interfaith Blessing & Open Mic

3pm Priory Rooms, 40 Bull St Birmingham, B4 6AF

Following the march, all are welcome to join this interfaith blessing and open mic sharing of our faith perspectives on climate justice.

Those who are joining the march are welcome to walk up to the Priory Rooms together. Or you can meet us directly at the Priory Rooms. Either way, please register to allow us to ensure social distancing in the venue, and plan for refreshments:

footstepsbcf.org.uk/cop26

COP²⁶
COALITION 26

POST BOX TOPPER



To support 'The Great Big Wylder & Greener Eco Festival' and the Harvest period, we produced a scene to top the post box outside church. There were lovely comments posted on The Boldmere Community Facebook page, bringing a smile to faces of passers by. Many thanks to our team of knitters: Helen Rowe, Sue Hughes, Joan Winterbottom,

Barbara Eccleston & Beth Fletcher-Jones as well as a friend of mine, also called Heather. If you enjoy knitting or crochet and would like to join us on another post box project, do let me know: hehall9@blueyonder.co.uk or 07866 425808. Many thanks.

Heather Hall

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AFGHANISTAN APPEAL

Thank you all so much for your generosity in supporting the people of Afghanistan. Initially, we raised a wonderful £300 for Christian Aid to assist their team in Afghanistan to give aid where possible to the people left behind under Taliban rule. We then decided to continue our fundraising; this time for the British Red Cross which is involved in the care of Afghan refugees recently arrived in this country. We believe that there are around 80 Afghan refugees here in Birmingham.

British Red Cross writes: "We're asking the British public to help us meet people's basic needs. Your money can provide food, medical supplies, shelter and water, and will help us to support hundreds of families recently arrived in the UK from Afghanistan".

We were successful in raising £225 from donations and the lunches we sold at the Synod meeting on Saturday 16th October, and at the Harvest supper on Friday 27th October we raised a further £218, from donations and for the sale of bangers, mash and homemade baked beans, followed by delicious fruit crumble! So a total of £443, a wonderful effort! Huge thanks to all who worked so hard to make this possible. On behalf of the people of Afghanistan, I send love and gratitude for your kindness and generosity.

Joan Cox

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LET US CONSIDER OUR CLOTHING...

The fashion industry accounts for 10% of our global carbon emissions – by comparison, aviation counts for about 2%.

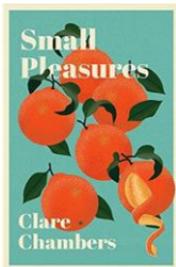
Tips to reduce our impact:

- Choose better cotton - look for the BCI label (Better Cotton Initiative). This means that the retailer has committed to sourcing better cotton. Organic and fairtrade cotton are held to higher standards.
- Washing jeans every 10 wears could reduce their lifetime's energy and water by 75%.
- Repair, Re-use, Recycle. Don't be tempted to buy new.
- Buy fewer clothes, buy second hand and keep for longer.

Five ways to keep your clothes undamaged recommended by "Which" Magazine

1. Use powder for white clothes and liquid for dark and coloured clothing. This is because powders contain mild bleaching agents.
2. Over or Under washing:

Underwear = 1 wear	Swimwear = 1 wear
Bras = 2-3 wears	Dresses = 1-3 wears
T shirts and shirts = 1-2 wears	Skirts = 5-7 wears
Jeans = 10 wears	
3. Temperature of Wash:
40 degrees centigrade is often recommended but washing at 30 degrees centigrade uses 38% less energy, and washing at 20 degrees centigrade cuts it by 62%.
4. It is more economical to wash more clothes on a longer wash than a few clothes on a daily 'quick' wash.
5. Clothes will wash more efficiently if you keep your washing machine clean. You can do this by running a hot wash with the machine empty. It is also recommended that you clean the rubber seal and wash the detergent drawer and lint filter.

BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the Book Group will be on Tuesday 9th November. The book is 'Small Pleasures' by Clare Chambers. Meet in the church lounge at 7.45pm for tea and coffee.

We will also be discussing 'Away with the Penguins' as last month's meeting was cancelled due to COVID!!

Ruth Loutit

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The dates for the next set of music exams are 15th-18th November, 22nd-25th November and 29th-30th November. They are all full days from 8.30am to 6.00pm.

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**ENIGMA CONCERT**

SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

7.00-9.00pm

Entrance fee £5

"My Favourite Things"

Since we have been in lockdown and having not been able to rehearse together, we have now returned and have been playing through some of our own personal favourite pieces. It is these we will put together to perform in concert on 28th November.

Bernard Moses

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TRAIIDCRAFT COFFEE AND MINCE PIES

Come and join us!

*We have an exciting range
of Christmas gifts, cards and
goodies to select from*

**SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER
10AM - 12NOON**





BITE SIZE ECO

Small actions to make a huge difference!

**Reduce
Plastics...**

Use a Refill Shop

Say No! to single
use plastics!

Check your energy
provider uses green
renewable energy. If
not, consider
swapping...



Promote
biodiversity by
rewilding part of
your garden or
green space.



Get
involved
in a
tree planting scheme.

Check out
The Wildlife Trust

When booking a taxi,
check how
environmentally friendly
it is. Use electric vehicles
where possible.



If you come
across rubber
bands in the
street, pop
them into a
local post box.
The Post Office
will reuse them!



SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

- 7th 11.00am Family service led by Sue Jones
 Bible: Mark Miles
 Door: Joan Cox, Andrew Hughes
 Flowers: Ralph Taylor
- 14th Remembrance Sunday
10.45am All age service with Parade led by Rev Chris Dowd
 Bible: Sue Miles
 Door: Tony Hughes
 Flowers: Eveline Hammet & Joan Deeks
- 3.00pm Service led by Rev Chris Dowd followed by afternoon tea
 Bible: Heather Hall
 Door: Mark Miles, Alastair Frew
- 21st 11.00am Family service led by Rev Chris Dowd with Communion
 Bible: Alex Wheadon
 Door: Alastair Frew, Sue Jones
 Flowers: Lyn Hardaker
- 28th First Sunday in Advent
 11.00am Family service led by Rev Chris Dowd
 Bible: Kathryn Willis
 Door: Jason Gardner, Pat Lister
 Flowers: Trudi Bevington
- 4.00pm Messy church

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SERVICE IN DECEMBER

- 5th Gift Service
 11.00am Family service led by Mark Miles
 Bible: Phil Barker
 Door: Jacqui Goring, Ed Lyne

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There is a phone-in service at 5.30pm every Sunday with Rev Chris Dowd

EVENTS AT WYLDE GREEN IN NOVEMBER

Wednesday	3rd	12.30pm	Prayer lunch
Tuesday	9th	2.00pm	Film
		7.45pm	Book group (church lounge, page 12)
Wednesday	10th	12.30pm	Prayer lunch
Saturday	13th		CAMEO lunch
Monday	15th	7.00pm	Curry night
Tuesday	16th	8.15pm	Elders' meeting
Wednesday	17th	12.30pm	Prayer lunch
Friday	19th-21st		Synod Youth weekend
Sunday	21st	5.30pm	Centre Stage play

Articles for December Tidings to the editor by Sunday 21 November, please

Saturday	27th		Study day, Bible 101
		10.00am	Traidcraft coffee and mince pies (page 13)
Sunday	28th	12.30pm	<u>CHURCH MEETING</u>
		7.00pm	Enigma Brass concert (page 12)

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Rev Chris will be unavailable in the first week of November and on a course from 22nd-25th November. For any pastoral matters in his absence, please contact Alex Wheadon.

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WYLDE GREEN EVENTS ON ZOOM

Morning prayers

9.00am Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

Evening prayers

8.00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

Bible study

9.30am Thursdays

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