



ST JOHN'S CHURCH RECORD



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Praise

Have you noticed the 'Olympic/Paralympic Halo Effect?' As people have gathered to watch the Games, complete strangers have talked to one another! Even the normally phlegmatic and dour are walking around with a spring in their step! Some have commented that this may be due to the realisation that "The UK has rediscovered what it feels like to win!" Others have commented that the Games have provided a temporary distraction from our economic and social problems. Both of these comments, no doubt, have elements of truth in them. However, I wish to suggest a further reason for our new found buoyancy: *praise*. Now, that probably sounds like a very strange thing to suggest; surely praise has not been a dominant feature in the Games? And yet, if we broaden our definition of praise, I think that praise has actually been one of the constant factors of the Games. Praise is closely related to worship. One of the roots of the word 'worship' is 'worth-ship'; thus worship is partly about celebrating the *worth* of someone or something. CS Lewis comments that celebration and enjoyment often spontaneously overflow into praise.

The world rings with praise—lovers praising their beloved, readers their favourite poet, walkers praising the countryside, players praise their favourite game—praise of weather, wines, dishes, actors, motors, horses, colleges, countries, historical personages, children, flowers, mountains, rare stamps, rare beetles, even sometimes politicians or scholars. I had not noticed how the humblest, and at the same time most balanced and capacious, minds, praised most; while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praised least. (*Reflections on the Psalms*, p. 80)

Thus, as spectators of the Games, we have celebrated, enjoyed, and, yes, praised the achievements of the athletes: their athleticism, grace, skill, sacrifice, achievement, and victory. We have felt something of their elation and joy; and shared something of their smiles and tears. This experience of praising has, momentarily at least, taken us out of ourselves. This is all well and good for the duration of the games; but what happens when they end? What then?

I see no reason why our rediscovered capacity for praising has to finish. The Church, along with other theistic religions, provides opportunities for praise year-round. The Church claims that the object of its praise is the One who is worthy of praise above all else: the triune God. God, as Creator of the universe, gives strength and speed to the athlete, and, as Sustainer of the universe, holds all life in being. This is the God whom we praise because he is holy, loving, gracious, merciful, just, good, faithful, sovereign, and eternal. We believe this to be true of God because of the revelation of God's character as testified in the Scriptures, and as supremely revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.

However, the paradox is that God does not need our praise. Unlike us, God does not need his ego massaged! God is completely self-sufficient, having all praise and glory within the eternal communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. While God does not need our praise; we need to praise God. Praise releases us from self-preoccupation, takes us out of ourselves, makes us more thankful, and enables us to focus upon God who is worthy of all worship. Right worship (the origin of 'orthodoxy') orientates and aligns us with God's will and character, and enables us to hear and respond to the command to love God and love our neighbour. My observation is that growing churches are also praising churches. Let us be a praising church.

Julian Templeton.

MESSY CHURCH



The Olympics started early at St John's when children arrived with their parents to take part in the Olympic themed activities. They were soon busy making Olympic torches, designing medals, making laurel crowns and icing ring doughnuts. There were also sports activities organised by the Elsdon family which included Olympic rings hoopla. Although only 8 children came, they all enjoyed themselves. Julian led a short time of worship in the church when he explained that in the Ancient Olympic Games the athletes competed for the prize of a crown of laurel leaves which did not last. In the Christian life we are taking part in a race where the prize will be a crown of righteousness, knowing God and being with Him forever. The children had a race around the church and then they all enjoyed some pizza, cakes and ice-cream in the large hall before going home.

Thank you to everyone who helped in different ways to make this a success.

Valerie Mills

ST JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP - JULY

At our July meeting Pat Bagster gave us a very interesting and informative talk about counterfeit banknotes. Pat is very knowledgeable about different aspects of banking having worked for the Bank of England for 36 years. At times she had to appear in court as an expert witness.

Banknotes are a convenient way of transferring money. There has to be confidence in money or it is worthless. One of the aims in the production of banknotes is to make it as difficult as possible to counterfeit them so they have to be of a very high standard. It costs three and a half pence to produce one note and millions of notes are printed each year. The paper is no longer made from wood pulp but cotton waste is used instead. This gives the notes a different and crisper feel. Each £1 had a very short life as it was subjected to a lot of handling. They were withdrawn in 1988. Notes of different values are made in different heights so that blind people can differentiate between them. The ink used is made from vegetable dyes as synthetic inks fade.



In order to combat counterfeiting several special features have been incorporated. There is a picture of the monarch on the front and one of a famous historical figure on the reverse. Water marks, raised printing and holograms have also been added. Another addition is a metal thread at one end which looks like a dotted line but when it is held up to the light a continuous line is revealed. In spite of these measures it is estimated that 1% of notes in circulation are fake. Always be suspicious if someone tenders a £50 for a very small article and remember that it is an offence to try to pass a forged note.

Ann Bannerman



ST JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP - AUGUST

The Work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institute

The talk was given by Mrs Jean McCann, chair of the St Albans branch of RNLI fundraisers. Though not a happy sea traveller, she had become involved with the RNLI about twenty-five years ago, quite by chance.

She emphasised that all, from collectors and fundraisers to engineers and lifeboat crewmen, are volunteers. They receive only their outfits and their expenses in getting to and from the 'shout'; and a Lifeboat Pension and other help when there is need. As a safeguard, only one member of any family will be out in any one boat.

Mrs McCann also reminded us of precautions to take when at the beach, such as only swimming between the red and yellow flags and being cautious on slippery rocks when fishing in pools left by the receding tide. And above all, to remember that the sea is so unpredictable.

She informed us that it was thanks to William Hillary, who lived on the north-east coast, that the first substantial lifeboat was built. It is thanks to the fundraising of RNLI branches that the service can continue. Jean's friend and fellow committee member brought along souvenir gifts and a wonderful selection of newly-arrived Christmas cards to sell. Doubtless they will be available at our November Coffee Morning!

Patricia Picken

Future Fellowship Meetings

Meetings are held in the small hall at 8pm on the third Wednesday of each month. All are welcome.

19 September – *The Magic of Peru* by Margaret Rogers

17 October – *The Bird Watching Bug* by Richard Pople

Presentation of *Reforming Worship*

Sunday 21 October

After worship on Sunday 21st October, you are invited to bring food for a shared lunch, and following this I will give a short presentation about the book I have co-edited. Signed copies of the book will be available to buy at the reduced price of £10.

Julian Templeton

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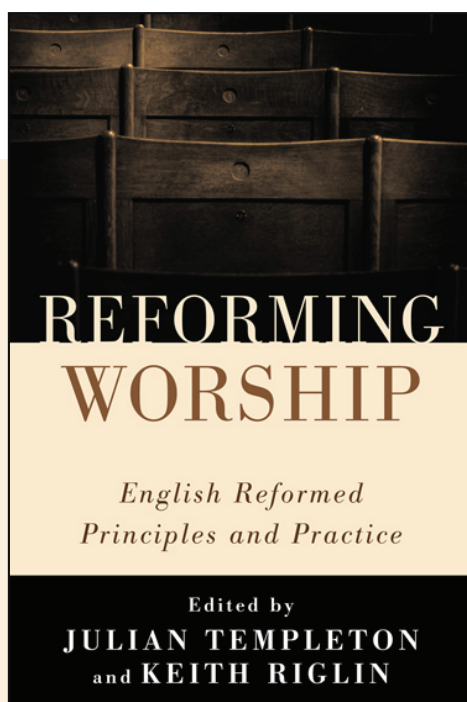
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WORSHIP*English Reformed Principles and Practice*

edited by

JULIAN TEMPLETON
and KEITH RIGLIN

The Reformed tradition of worship in England has given the English-speaking world the Westminster *Directory for the Public Worship of God*, and the hymns of Isaac Watts. In this collection of essays, scholars and ministers who are inheritors of this tradition reflect on the continuities, innovations, and tensions in Reformed worship and their lived expression in contemporary church life. Among the tensions explored is that between order and freedom in worship, and the bold contention is made that “ordered freedom” is the scriptural mark of the church’s worship and the character of all good liturgy, for “order is love in regulative operation” (*Anglican–Reformed International Commission*). This collection of essays on the theology, history, and practice of Reformed worship also includes examples of psalmody, liturgy, and a sermon.

978-1-61097-320-5 / \$23 / 196 pp. / paper

“The revival of our worship depends on a rediscovery of the mystery at the heart of life, and that will only grow from a profound and disciplined attentiveness to the sources of faith in Scripture and in the on-going tradition of faith in the Christian community. This collection of writings is evidence of such attentiveness.”

—from the Foreword by ANGELA TILBY

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CATERHAM SCHOOL'S BICENTENARY 1811-2011

'VERITAS SINE TIMORE'

A report on the celebrations
from an Old Boy of the school



On Remembrance Sunday last year, the Revd. Derek Lindfield took the Service at St. Johns and during his sermon mentioned that he had been the Chaplain for about 13 years at Caterham School in Surrey before his retirement.

After the Service I approached him and introduced myself and told him that I was educated at Caterham from 1940 to 1948 as a boarder and had photographs of the School Prefects for both 1947 and 48 when I was in the 6th Form studying Physics, Chemistry and Pure and Applied Maths.

He asked if I was in the Old Caterhamians Association and at this point I had to come clean and admit that I had neither joined the Association, nor visited the School since leaving 64 years ago!

To cut a long story short, he put me in touch with the Secretary of the O.C.A. and as from the start of 2012, I am now a fully paid up member. Now you may say, "So what."

All those years ago the School was founded to provide a good education for the sons of Congregational Ministers, and although it still does for sons of United Reformed Church Ministers, this is not exclusive. In fact the School became Co-educational in 1995 when it merged with the local Eothen Girls School, and now accepts both boy and girl Boarder and Day pupils.

The Eothen School motto was "Veritas Sine Timore" or Truth Without Fear and this is now been adopted as the Caterham School motto.

Being a Celebration year, there have been a number of special events, notably a Service of Thanksgiving in Westminster Abbey last October, when not only the Union Flag but also the Caterham School flag was raised on the Abbey roof.

In March the School orchestra and augmented choir gave a concert at St John's, Smith Square, including music by Bach and Purcell, and ending with John Rutter's Magnificat which the composer, in the programme notes, thought particularly appropriate for celebrating the School's Bicentenary.

The last special event, spread over the School year, was on Sunday, 1st July when a Boarders' Reunion Service of Thanksgiving was held in the Wilberforce Hall at the School, with Revd Lindfield and a number of both past and present boarders giving their reflections of School life as a Boarder. This was followed with tea and coffee- just like St Johns- and then an excellent BBQ, partly in and partly out of the Refectory, thanks to the English Summer!

As you can see I, and Dorothy, had at last returned to my old School after 64 years, which I found very interesting, but rather emotional. Contact was made with the School Archivist and I have been able to provide him with a number of documents to add to his collection, so my journey was not in vain.

Michael Peryer



WINTER SHELTER NEWS

My thoughts are still of summer things and I'm struggling to get to grips with the planning that is required for the winter months ahead, but one of the projects we need to plan for is the next Winter Shelter.

The Shelter

This winter the Shelter will run from October 2012 – April 2013. St John's, together with St. Peter's will host guests from mid January til the end of April 2013. This is slightly longer than last year, but we don't start so soon after the New Year.

I do hope that those who volunteered last year will feel like getting involved again this coming winter and of course we would be delighted to welcome new recruits. More information will follow over the coming weeks.

The committee that co-ordinate the Winter Shelter, "Together in Barnet", is also considering two other projects to assist homeless people.

Mentoring

To take on a personal relationship with a person moving out of homelessness into single accommodation. Contracting to meet with them, usually in a public place, on a weekly basis over a period of, say, six months, you would together set up and review some fixed objectives (getting a job, learning a skill,

moving into permanent accommodation, etc), and discuss events or changes in the past week which have affected them. This requires an initial training of one or more sessions.

Community House

Because of the present lack of accommodation, Together in Barnet are considering opening a house where people from the night shelter or directly from HAB can live with individual or shared facilities. Regardless of the professional support they receive they will require individual support from volunteers either in the form of mentoring and/or communal befriending in some form.

If you are at all interested in getting involved with either of these new projects then "Together in Barnet" would be glad of your help, so please do let me know and I will put you in touch with the organisers.

Lesley Calder
lesleycalder@googlemail.com

DOOR STEWARDS 2013

To save Hugo worrying about the Door Stewards Rota, while he is undergoing treatment, I have been asked to produce a Rota for 2013.

Thanks to all who have indicated that they are willing to remain on the list, and many thanks to Peggy Crockett for her help over the years, but she has now decided to retire. Heather and Meg have said that they are willing to be on the Rota, and if anyone else feels able to join us please let me know.

There is a reserve list for any one who is unable to commit to a regular spot, but could help out in emergencies, so you could be added to that.

Thank you in anticipation of any help you can give.

Dorothy Peryer
0208 368 6859

From one of last year's volunteers:-

A year ago we were talking about the proposed Winter Shelter. I knew it was something the church should be involved in, but I did feel a little uneasy about volunteering...

I am so glad I did join in! It was so worthwhile and not at all scary. It was great to be working with people from both churches, and no one had to do everything – each person had a useful role but others to support them. The guests clearly appreciated the effort made, and it felt so right that this witness was being made, in our community.

If you hesitated last year, do join us this year. Maybe you can spend an evening with the guests? Sleep overnight? Wash the towels? Drive the bedding to the next location? Cook a meal? Make a dessert? I'm sure Lesley would be very happy to explain any of the tasks involved, or ask someone who did it last year.

Suggested List of items for Harvest Offering for foodbank

- ☐ Milk (UHT or powdered)
- ☐ Sugar (500g)
- ☐ Fruit Juice (carton)
- ☐ Soup
- ☐ Pasta Sauces
- ☐ Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- ☐ Tomatoes (Tinned)
- ☐ Cereals
- ☐ Rice Pudding (Tinned)
- ☐ Tea Bags/inst coffee
- ☐ Instant Mash Potato
- ☐ Rice/Pasta



The Chipping Barnet foodbank, a wholly voluntary initiative, will open on Saturday 10th November at the storage and distribution centre: Salvation Army Barnet Corps, Albert Road, EN4 9SH. It will provide an emergency package of food (to last 3 days) to a family or individual, upon presentation of a numbered voucher, the voucher having been allocated by a professional to the family or individual in crisis. Churches in the EN4/EN5 area are experiencing increasing demands for emergency food. The foodbank is a way of coordinating their efforts, and also enlisting the help of schoolchildren, supermarket shoppers, and business giving. The foodbank distribution centre, as well as giving food to voucher-holders, will provide a structured and supportive environment to listen to those experiencing a crisis, with the possibility of directing them to information and services that can prevent a similar crisis in the future.

You are invited to an ecumenical centenary service, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Roman Catholic Parish of Mary Immaculate and St Peter, at which the Chipping Barnet foodbank will be launched. This will take place on **Thursday, October 25, 7:30 pm**, at Mary Immaculate and St Peter's Church, 63 Somerset Road, EN5 1RF.

Our Harvest offering this year will go to the Chipping Barnet foodbank. Please bring tinned and packeted food only, as specified above, **with the "use by" date well after 10th November**. We will soon be instituting a permanent Foodbank Collection Box to which you are welcome to contribute food as and when able.

We will need to designate a foodbank Contact Person for St John's, who will facilitate the donation and collection of food, and who will recruit volunteers to assist with running the foodbank. Please pray that God will use this initiative to help those in desperate need, and to sow the seeds of his Kingdom.

Extracts from the Synod Moderators' Report, General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, 6–9 July 2012, Scarborough

I attended the General Assembly in Scarborough—regrettably, without Laura, who was not well enough to attend—and discovered that many other congregations are facing challenges similar to ours. I thought the Synod Moderators made the best contribution about the attitudes and principles that can help us to face these challenges.

Julian Templeton

Living as disciples

We are all disciples of the one whom history knows as Jesus of Nazareth, each of us called to live as citizens of the kingdom of God now. The defining narrative of *decline* in the United Reformed Church needs to change, and quickly. The most important issue that is presenting itself to the Church at the moment is not same sex marriage, or the Zero Intolerance (ZI) campaign, or the Westminster College Appeal, or Vision2020, or how we fund Ministry & Mission (M&M), or buildings or finance, or any one of the myriad concerns that crowd our agendas. What matters is our vocation to be disciples of Jesus. What is critical to that is how we experience the presence of God and give expression to that experience in the way that we live our lives, as individuals and as church communities. What is it that says to the world: 'This is what the kingdom of God looks like'? We can have the most brilliant and successful 'campaign of radical welcome' but unless we know what we are welcoming people to, then the lasting effect will be minimal. We have allowed our church agendas to become crowded by the things that matter to us and failed to give attention to the things that matter to people beyond the Church, those to whom we are called to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God.

Looking at things differently

When we sense that things are not working as we would like them to, the human response is either to work harder or find someone to blame. Synod moderators see examples of both in the life of the United Reformed Church. As moderators we are sceptical of grand schemes that

ignore the reality of local church life. One size does not fit all and for congregations it is often easier to blame the failings of the scheme than to accept the responsibility of wrestling out the nature of discipleship in their own setting. The sense of isolation and vulnerability that marks many of our congregations shapes the life of those congregations. This needs to change and to be replaced with the hope that underpins all Christian life and witness. When disciples are uncertain of the future then we trust God the more, not less. When the reality of the wilderness presses in on us, we do not ignore the reality of our situation but we look for new ways of living out the promise that the kingdom of God is among us: a kingdom made up of right relationships and established on principles of justice that bend towards shalom (wellbeing). As synod moderators we would encourage congregations to find ways of asking questions of each other that build upon the positive aspects of their shared life. It is by asking questions that we all change and when those questions involve stories about strength, success, values, hopes and dreams, then transformation follows. Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is an approach to congregational life that is based on the assumption that the questions that are asked will tend to focus our attention in a particular direction. Appreciative Inquiry starts with the belief that every organisation, and every person in that organisation, has positive aspects that can be built upon. It asks questions like "What's working?" "What's good about what you are currently doing?" The approach argues that when all members of an organization are motivated to understand and value the most favourable features of its culture, it can make rapid improvements. The purpose is to dwell on the positive and not the negative.

The experience of God in our life

The kingdom of God is about how disciples live now as opposed to how we might live in some utopian future.

This requires that we set aside the negative, put an end to criticism that simply absolves us of responsibility and begin to look for signs of the presence of God among us. The culture in which we are called to live the kingdom is not interested in our internal struggles, but with the right invitation might be attracted by the prospect of experiencing the presence of God. Where do we, let alone the stranger, experience God in our life together? How do we allow that experience to shape our decision-making and our structures? How does our experience of God give us the confidence and trust to be the Church that God is calling us to be? These are the urgent questions that cannot be deferred and which must shape the narrative of the whole United Reformed Church in these wilderness years. The story of the United Reformed Church is changing; the imperative of organic Church union is not what it was at our beginning. In 1972 and at subsequent unions we knew our part in a wider story that looked to the day when the Church was one in fact and not only in word. The story is changing, and that is disturbing, but it is not ending. As we listen with greater intensity to where God is calling us we, the whole people of God, minister, elder, member, adult, child must know our part in the story that is unfolding. It is as together we write the story of what the United Reformed Church is that we will claim the future with confidence. We are a diverse family; but that is our strength and not our weakness. We were courageous when we left behind the familiarity of our separate histories; we can be so again. The future does not require us to abandon the past, nor to craft a story that we do not know, but to live out the story of who we are with integrity and in depth. It is not enough to say we are followers of Jesus, rather it must be seen in our life. We are part of God's story and that should put purpose in our planning, joy in our gathering and fill us with enthusiasm for the future.

Harvest Festival Worship and Shared Lunch

Sunday 16th September

Our worship will celebrate God's goodness in providing both the conditions and the means by which our food can be harvested and distributed. We will be pleased again to welcome Choir Unlimited to contribute to our worship. Please bring food for the shared lunch to follow. Please also bring items for our Harvest Offering, which, this year, will go to the Chipping Barnet foodbank (see page 7).

Area Forum

What can we learn from the World Church?

11 October at 7:30pm, Union Church, Northiam, Totteridge, N12 7ET

You are invited to attend the Area Forum (at twice-yearly meeting of URC congregations in the Central and North London Area of the Thames North Synod) for fellowship, worship, and listen to the Reverend Naison Hove, originally from Zimbabwe; and Mr Ratna Pradhan, originally from Nepal; who will share their experiences and thoughts about what we can learn from Christians from other parts of the world. If you require transport, please contact Tony Alderman, Tel. 020 8441 4807.

Open Choir Rehearsal

12 October at 8:00pm in the Small Hall

You are invited to come along to a choir practice on this date. We will be rehearsing hymns for the coming Sunday as well as some new ones and one or two simple choir pieces. No experience is necessary and there is no obligation to join the choir. If you like singing this is for you!

Email Directory

There are some occasions, say, when we need to communicate with many people quickly, when it would be very useful to use email for church communications. In addition, due to the substantial price-hike in postage, email is a much more cost-effective option for communicating information. If you have an email address that you use regularly or periodically, and would not mind occasional communications, please let Alison Cousins have your email address: acousins.sjnb@hotmail.co.uk

Stamps for charities

As most of you know, for many years I have collected used UK and foreign postage stamps to be sold to aid the work of Save the Children Fund. Now, 43 years after it was formed, the local Branch of SCF is closing down (and Grace Kirby will recover her front room!) So this outlet for stamps is no longer available. We do not know how much has been raised by the sale of these stamps, but it must be a considerable sum as during the past 4 years alone over £200 was raised in this way, and Grace and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed, and in particular Colin Beath, who dealt with the foreign stamps and raised significant amounts by selling them to his contacts.

So far as the future is concerned, I find that the local Branches of the RSPB and of Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, both of which charities have links with St. Johns, collect UK and foreign stamps, so in future I propose to pass on to them any stamps which members are good enough to collect for me.

Hugh Martin

From the magazine of St Georges in Newcastle

A solicitor, doctor and minister went hunting red deer together in the Highlands. When a deer ran past them, they all fired at the exact same moment, and the deer dropped. However, when they went to look, there was only one bullet in the hole. They didn't know which of them shot it, and asked one of the stalkers what they should do.

The stalker said: "Let me look at the deer. Sometimes I can figure it out." He asked a few questions, examined the deer carefully, and declared, "The minister shot this buck!" Amazed, they all asked how he knew. Stooping down, he pointed out the wound. "See here. It went in one ear and out the other."

September		
4	8:00 pm	Junior Church Leaders' Meeting, 37 Greenhill Park
5	7:00 pm	Nosh and Natter, 10 Leicester Road
7	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
9	11:00 am	Worship led by Sarah Beaumont and Roz Douglas
	8:00 pm	Soul Food
10	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
11	8:00 pm	Elders Meeting
14	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
16	11:00 am	Harvest Festival Worship led by Julian Templeton
	12:30 pm	Shared lunch in Hall
17	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
	3:30 pm	Pastoral Team Meeting, Vestry
19	8:00 pm	St John's Fellowship, Margaret Rogers, The Magic of Peru
21	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
23	11:00 am	Worship led by Richard Harvey and Brenda Sandford
24	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
	8:30 pm	Men's Group, The Railway Bell, East Barnet Road
25	8:00 pm	Prayer and Discussion Group, 37 Greenhill Park
28	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
30	11:00 am	Worship led by Helen Snider and Andrew Summers
October		
1	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
3	7:00 pm	Nosh and Natter, 10 Leicester Road
5	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
7	11:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion led by Julian Templeton
	6:30 pm	United Reformed Church 40th Anniversary Service, Christ Church, Oakleigh Park North, Whetstone, N20 9AR

8	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
9	8:00 pm	Elders Meeting
11	7:30 pm	Area Forum, What can we learn from the world church? Union Church, Northiam, Totteridge, N12 7ET
12	8:00 pm	Choir Open Rehearsal
14	11:00 am	Worship led by Andrew and Valerie Mills
	8:00 pm	Soul Food
15	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
17	8:00 pm	St John's Fellowship, Richard Pople, The Bird Watching Bug
19	8:00 pm	Choir Practice
21	11:00 am	Worship led by Julian Templeton
	12:30 pm	Shared lunch followed by Presentation of Reforming Worship
22	1:30 pm	Little John's Toddler Group
24	8:30 pm	Men's Group, The Railway Bell, East Barnet Road
25	7:30 pm	Foodbank Launch at St Peter's Anniversary Service, 63 Somerset Road
28	11:00 am	Worship led by Sally Bateman
	3:00 pm	Causeway
30	8:00 pm	Prayer and Discussion Group, 37 Greenhill Park
November		
4	11:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion led by Julian Templeton

Advance Notice:

The next Church Meeting will be on Sunday 18th November.

Please note that the Church Meeting for 16th September has been cancelled.

If you have any concerns please speak to your Elder, Julian or myself.

Tony Alderman

Minister:	Julian Templeton	julian@templeton.me.uk	020 8444 5076
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Just one year from starting and the choir has gone from strength to strength. Who would have thought a year ago that we would be performing for Sir Cliff Richard? We have made several local performances and are starting to become more well known around Barnet. The choir members have worked hard at rehearsals and formed friendships that are a joy to witness. We are always on the lookout for new members and would really like to have a few more male voices to make the sound of the choir more rounded. It would also be great not to always have to use backing tracks so any musicians wanting a chance to rehearse and perform with us would be welcomed. Choir members have input into the choice of songs and no previous experience or particular talent is necessary, it is the overall sound of different voices that make a choir unique. On behalf of the choir I would like to thank everyone at the church for their support over the last year, it couldn't have happened without you, you are part of something very special. The spark of an idea last summer has become a reality and an inclusive community choir where everyone is equal and can express themselves however they choose is up and running, right here, right now. We always look forward to our performances here at the church and hope that you enjoy our songs.

Steve Shepherd. **Choir Co-ordinator.**



Shared Lunch with the Kellers

