

March &
April
2015

St John's
United Reformed Church

Record

Somerset & Mowbray Roads, New Barnet, Herts, EN5 1RH

Taking our Stand with Jesus

When Christians claim to identify with Jesus Christ, what is it we are claiming? You will each have your own ideas about what this claim means for you. I wish to share some thoughts about what this claim means for me, prompted by reading the book that some of us are discussing during Lent, *Being Christian* by Rowan Williams. He writes that being a Christian is to take our stand with Jesus in the middle of the "...joy of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; and in the middle of the world of threat, suffering, sin, and pain." (p. 7)

When I read and listen to the Gospels, I am struck by how Jesus regards the things he says and does not as his words and actions alone but as utterances and doings in agreement with God the Father and the Holy Spirit. For example, when some challenged

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From the Minister.... *continued from page 1*

Jesus for healing on the Sabbath because this was 'work', Jesus indicates that he thinks he is doing God's work: "The Son can do nothing by himself, he does only what he sees the Father doing" (John 5:19). When others challenged Jesus about the power by which he freed persons from demonic possession, he replied, "Since it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, be assured that the Kingdom of God has come among you" (Matthew 12:28).

We take our stand with Jesus first of all in baptism, which is the beginning of a life of dying with Jesus to reliance on our own material resources and coming alive with Jesus to the spiritual resources given by God the Father. We take our stand with Jesus in prayer, praying with Jesus to God as "Our Father..." We take our stand with Jesus by reading the Bible, the same Scriptures that Jesus himself read and reinterpreted, the Scriptures that the Holy Spirit helps us to understand and apply.

We also take our stand with Jesus in the middle of 'threat, suffering, sin, and pain'. As a pastor, I am aware that for some people life is an exhausting struggle. Problems with health or work or family are, for some people, overwhelming. Jesus said "Come to me all of you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest...for my yoke is easy and my burden is

light" (Matthew 11:28-30). To take our stand with Jesus means to be yoked with him by faith, and this means that we don't have to struggle on alone because our struggle is shared and is thereby lightened.

Our struggle is shared and lightened not only because of Jesus's strength conveyed to us by the Spirit, but also because of the combined strength of Jesus's corporate Body, the Church. To stand with Jesus means never having to stand alone, "...in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs together" (Romans 12:5). We demonstrate this corporate unity whenever we unite to worship God, which I find to be a great source of strength. Corporate worship is also an opportunity to pray for other members of the Church, especially Christians who are being threatened because of the stand they are taking for Jesus. Let us pray for the Church in Syria, Iraq, Palestine, and Lebanon, standing in solidarity with them and with Jesus. Below is a suggested prayer:

Redeeming God, strengthen your Church in Syria, Iraq, Palestine and Lebanon. As they stand with Jesus, we stand with them, praying that the gospel of reconciliation will bring healing and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Julian Templeton

Margaret and Trevor Barrowcliff would like to thank all their friends at St John's for their prayers, cards and messages in support of the sad death of their son-in-law Franc just before Christmas. The funeral took place on Boxing Day and as is the Spanish custom the family and friends gathered the day before to pay their respects. Since then we have spent most of the time in Barcelona supporting Jacqui and little Max and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Fellowship January Meeting



Dementia by Laura Templeton

Laura gave us a very interesting insight into the various difficulties and types of dementias; the need for understanding and practical help.

She broke the ice by introducing a game of Bingo to discover our various perceptions which included loss of memory, short term memory loss, Alzheimer's disease and the dying of brain cells. In this country there are around 800,000 with various forms of this condition. 'We

need to change our minds about people whose minds have changed', Laura told us.

Laura explained that *Dementia Friends* has been formed by the Alzheimer's Society and invited us to become involved, issuing forms and badges. Action encouraged might range from displaying patience when a shopper is struggling with change in the supermarket checkout queue to perhaps befriending and staying in touch with someone living with dementia. Wearing the badge will identify you to others as a Dementia Friend and perhaps lead to opportunities to talk about your involvement.

The talk ended with a game involving members who were given instruction on how they thought someone with Alzheimer's would react in certain situations. Members had quite different interpretations, but as Laura pointed out, we are all different and unless we knew exactly how their home was adapted, how well normal living could be managed and what amount of help was available we could not predict their behaviour or how they would cope.

Thank you again Laura.

Footnote: Today's news coverage (21 February) included an announcement that the one millionth Dementia Friend had volunteered!

Patricia Picken

February Meeting

London Waterways

On 18 February the Fellowship gathered to hear Roger Squires from Rotherhithe talk to us on the above topic.

Roger is a volunteer with the London Canal Museum, Kings Cross and spoke to us about the main waterways which pass through North London, including the Thames, Lee, Stort, and the New River which is neither new nor a river. The talk was illustrated by slides most of which Roger took himself.

Roger started by taking a look at the New River. This marvel of an artificial waterway,

celebrated its 400th Anniversary in 2013. It was the brainchild of **Sir Hugh Myddelton** and building started in 1608. The original water source was Chadwell Springs near Ware. When these springs became unable to supply the requirements, water was abstracted from the River Lee. By following the 100ft contour line, the builders managed to achieve a very gradual descent to Islington, allowing the water to flow from Chadwell Springs to reservoirs at River Head in Islington.

The River Lee has been navigable since the 9th



trade route for timber and coal. As with most canals within London, the towpath is today used mostly by walkers and joggers. The canal passes London Zoo in Regent's Park.

century. It is navigable from Hertford which at one time had a number of grainstores by the river. Ware was a centre of grain collection, and barges took it from there to Bromley by Bow, a centre of milling for London. The Olympic Stadium is nearby. Beyond the Stadium the Lee reaches the Thames via Bow Creek. Limehouse Cut, built in 1770, goes off from Bramley Locks to join the Thames at Limehouse.

The Regent's Canal was opened at Limehouse in 1820. John Nash and the Prince Regent proposed a canal through Regent's Park to the basin at the Barracks which would continue to link with the Limehouse Basin. This was a major



Nash set aside plots in the Park for luxury houses - but these didn't get built until the 1990s!

Roger then went on to briefly describe and show us photos of the Paddington Arm, the Grand Union Canal and the River Thames. Although the use of these waterways for goods transportation has now diminished or disappeared, Roger showed that they are still a valuable asset for London and its inhabitants.

Ray Hopwood

Fellowship Meeting for March

On 18th March Dr Maggie Butt comes to talk to us about Alexandra Palace and its function as a Prisoner of War Camp. The following is an extract from the Wikipedia entry for Dr Butt:-

After completing an English degree, Maggie Butt became a newspaper reporter, moving to BBC TV as a documentary writer, producer and director. She later returned to poetry, completing a PhD in creative writing from Cardiff University.

Ally Pally Prison Camp, published June 2011 by Oversteps Books, charts the use of Alexandra Palace in North London as a 'concentration camp' for civilian enemy aliens during the First World War. It tells the story of the internees through black and white photographs, the paintings of internee George Kenner, extracts from memoirs and letters, and Maggie Butt's own poems.

Maggie Butt is Deputy Dean in the School of Arts and Education at Middlesex University, London.

....Fellowship Meeting for April

On 15th April we have a talk by a charity called "Send a Cow" - a very unlikely name I know, but please come along and hear all about it. It was recommended by one of our members who has heard the talk given elsewhere. I understand

from the speaker that the charity works in several countries in Africa, and that they no longer "Send a Cow" - Did they ever? - Come along and find out!

Ray Hopwood

Concert in aid of Friend in Need given by

The Barnet Band

"With Guest Appearance by Choir Unlimited"

Saturday, 16th May at 7.30



at

St. John's Church
Mowbray Road, New Barnet, Herts EN5 1RH

TICKETS: £10.00

[including interval refreshments]

From Marion Hopwood, Email: r.hopwood.01@gmail.com

Tel: 020 8440 6404

Or

From FIN Office
East Barnet Baptist Church

Tel: 020 8449 8225



Registered Charity No. 1090701

Calendar

March 2015

Sunday 1st	11:00am	Worship with Holy Communion Led by Revd Julian Templeton
Monday 2nd	2:30pm	Lent Group 2 of 4
Wednesday 4th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
Thursday 5th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Friday 6th	2:30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer
	8:00pm	Lent Group 2 of 4 [Repeat]
Sunday 8th	11:00am	Worship- led by Andrew and Valerie Mills
Monday 9th	2:30pm	Lent Group 3 of 4
Tuesday 10th	8:00pm	Elders Meeting
Wednesday 11th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
Thursday 12th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Friday 13th	8:00pm	Lent Group 3 of 4 [Repeat]
Saturday 14th	10:30am	Spring Coffee Morning - Large Hall
Sunday 15th		Mothering Sunday
	11:00am	Worship - Led by Revd Julian Templeton [Brownie Parade Service]
Monday 16th	2:30pm	Lent Group 4 of 4
Wednesday 18th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
	8:00pm	Fellowship - Talk on "Alexander Palace - a Prisoner of War Camp" by Maggie Butt
Thursday 19th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Sunday 22nd	11:00am	Worship - Led by Helen Snider and Andrew Summers
	12:30pm	Shared Lunch in Large Hall
	2:00pm	Church Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 24th	8:00pm	Justice & Peace Group
Wednesday 25th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
Thursday 26th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
	8:00pm	Men's Group - Curry Evening at Railway Bell
Sunday 29th	11:00am	Palm Sunday Worship - Led by Richard Harvey and Brenda Sandford
	3:00pm	Causeway
Monday 30th	10:30am	Messy Church
Tuesday 31st	8:00pm	Prayer and Discussion Group at 37 Greenhill Park

Calendar

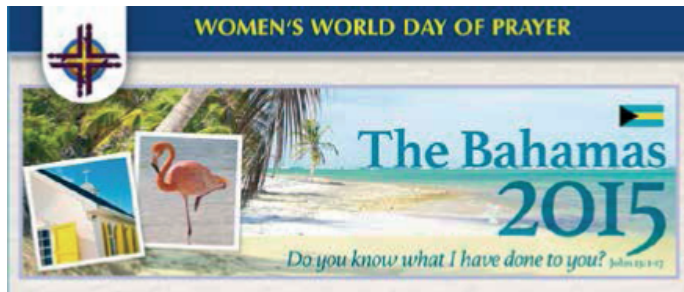
April - May 2015

April

Wednesday 1st	8:00pm	Guild Players at St. John's
Thursday 2nd	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion - Led by Revd Ros Lyle, URC, Wood Street, EN5 4BW
Friday 3rd	2:00pm	Good Friday Worship - Led by Revd Julian Templeton
Sunday 5th	11:00am	Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd Julian Templeton
Sunday 12th	11:0am	Worship - led by Paul Elsdon and Meg Hardie
Monday 13th	3:30pm	Pastoral Group in Vestry
Tuesday 14th	8:00pm	Elders Meeting
Wednesday 15th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
	8:00pm	Fellowship. Talk on SEND A COW! By Ann Rattue
Thursday 16th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Sunday 19th	10:30am	Messy Church
	11:00am	Worship - Led by Revd Julian Templeton
Wednesday 22nd	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
Thursday 23rd	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Friday 24th		Copy Deadline for next edition of Church Record
Sunday 26th		Church Anniversary
	11:00am	Worship - Led by Roz Douglas and David Paul
	3:00pm	Causway
Monday 27th	8:00pm	Men's Group at The Black Horse, Wood St, Barnet
Tuesday 28th	8:00pm	Justice & Peace Group
Wednesday 29th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Group
Thursday 30th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry

May

Sunday 3rd	11:00am	Worship with Holy Communion - Led by Revd Julian Templeton
Wednesday 6th	4:00pm	Weds 4 Kids Club
Thursday 7th	12:00pm	Prayer at Noon - Vestry
Sunday 10th		Christian Aid Week
	11:00am	Worship - Led by Sarah Beaumont



Service organised by
Christian women of Bahamas based on text:

*Jesus said to them:
Do you know what I have done to you?*
(John 13.1-17).

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2015 ANNUAL SERVICE

FRIDAY 6th MARCH at 2.30pm

at East Barnet Baptist Church

(corner of East Barnet Rd & Crescent Rd, East Barnet, Herts. EN4)

ALL are welcome (including men) to the service and also to socialise afterwards when there will be refreshments. Hope to see you there.

Marjorie O'Connor and Gwen Williams (*Your WWDP Reps.*)

Junior Church News....

MESSY CHURCH



AT

ST. JOHN'S



The next Messy Church event
takes place on Monday 30th March
at 10:30am

St. John's Church Coffee Morning



You are invited to a Coffee Morning at St. John's Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet, on 14th March between 10:30 & 12 noon. There will be no admission charge but a donation plate for the North London Hospice and church funds will be left by the entrance. Table stalls around the hall will give the opportunity to purchase small gifts and cards to support both national and local charities.

David Paul

THE  ORGAN CLUB

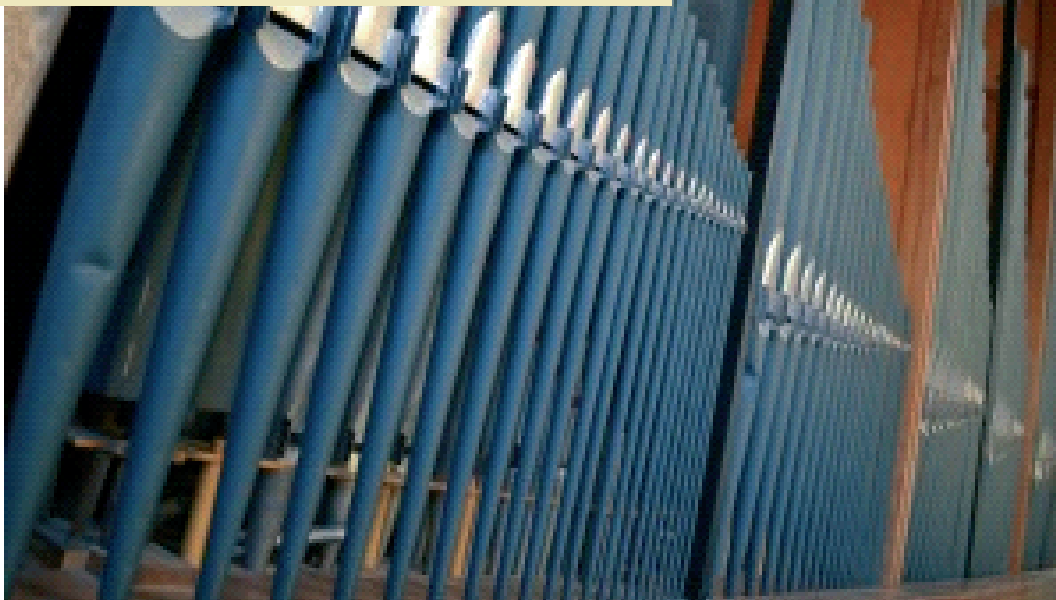
On Saturday morning, 17th January about 40 members of the Organ Club visited our church to listen to and play the organ installed there by Peter Collins in 1971.

The Royal Festival Hall organ (installed in 1950-54) had given rise

to a whole new school of organ building, known as the English Organ Reform Movement, influencing in the UK alone the cathedral organs of Coventry and Blackburn. For an organ, following these design principles, to be installed in a local church was quite unusual at the time and the opening recital drew a quite a crowd from the organ world.

On the snowy morning of 17th January I talked to the assembled organists briefly about the history of the organ at St John's Church and then played a twenty minute recital on the organ to show off its various tonal colours.

My programme included pieces from the sixteenth century French composer, Clerambault's *Suite du premier ton*, the twentieth century Belgian composer, Flor Peeter's *Variations on 'Come, Holy Ghost'*, two short pieces by Pe-



ter Hurford - organist at St Alban's Cathedral and founder of the organ festival there - and some choral preludes by JS Bach.

Following this, various members of the club had five to ten minutes each playing the organ themselves.

Ours was the first church in Barnet they were visiting that day. They continued on to St Mary's, East Barnet and then to the Parish Church in Chipping Barnet.

They were very appreciative of their welcome, admiring the architecture of the church and they left a donation for church funds.

Richard Harvey

The following is taken from their brochure and website:-

The Organ Club exists to promote awareness and appreciation of the art and science of the organ, its players and its music. Membership is open to all who are interested in the organ and organ music and both players and non-players are equally welcome.

The Club was founded in 1926, and the first President was Henry Willis III. The Club continues to thrive and meet the aspirations of its members in promoting knowledge about organs, organ music and organ performance. Monthly visits to interesting instruments, annual tours to areas of the UK and abroad, masterclasses, a bi-monthly newsletter and a tri-annual journal are the immediate benefits of membership along with sharing an interest with like-minded people.

www.organclub.org

The Guild Players
Finchley's Amateur Drama Group
present...

SIMON OF CYRENE

Aftermath

A SHORT PLAY
FOR HOLY WEEK
BY MIKE SPARKS

FREE HOUSE

www.guildplayers.org.uk

Wednesday 1st April 2015
at 8 pm

St John's URC
Mowbray Road, New Barnet, EN5 1RH

Minister to appear in "The Big Sleep"

No, Julian is not going to star in the remake of Raymond Chandler's 1939 novel of the same name. In fact, Julian will be taking part in The Big Barnet Sleep - Out at Barnet Football Club. This is an event to raise money and awareness of the issues of all types of homelessness.

More details on back page.

So, either join Julian or sponsored him!

Church Record

The deadline for the May/June edition of the Church Record is Friday 24th April

Contributions to Alison Cousins

(contact details on front page)



Barnet United Reformed Church

Wood Street, Barnet EN5 4BW

You are invited to join us for a short reflective service of Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday, prepared and led by Revd Ros Lyle, assisted by elders and members.

Thursday 2nd April at 7.30



Christian Aid Week 10 - 16 May

There will be more about this in the next magazine but please make a note of the dates in your diary. Christian Aid Week is the single biggest act of Christian witness in Britain and Ireland. For thousands of people throughout the country, it's a way of answering Jesus's

call to help people in need, and showing the community just how much good the church is doing in the world. So watch this space to see how you can be involved.....

Alison Bond



Day of Climate Action Wednesday 17 June 2015

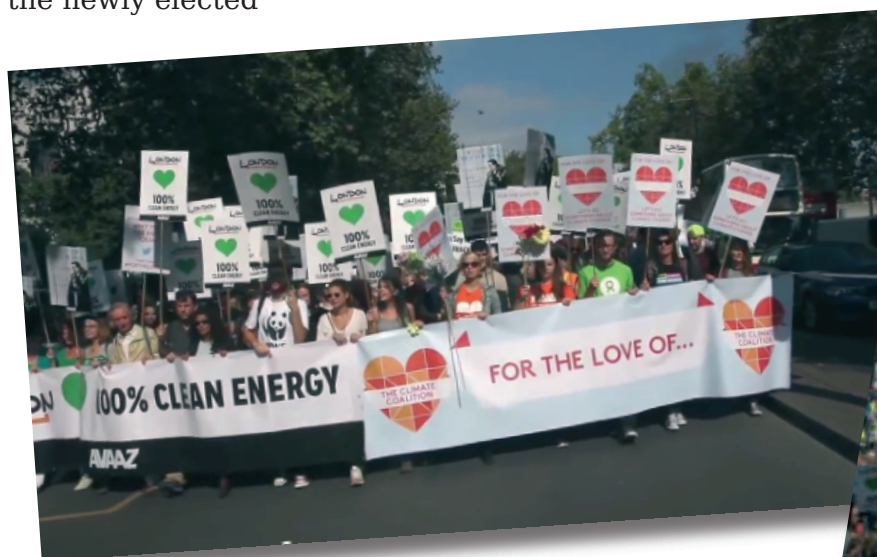


'It's time to regain a sense that our relationship with the Earth is about communion, not consumption'

(Dr Rowan Williams, Chair of Christian Aid)

It's time to protect the people and things threatened by climate change - and create a brighter future. This day is being organised by The Climate Coalition - the steering group consists of Friends of the Earth, Oxfam, Greenpeace, WWF-UK, Christian Aid, RSPB, Tearfund, CAFOD, and UK Youth Climate Coalition. This year we'll be coming together to tell the newly elected

Government to do the right thing, stand up to vested interests and make climate change their number one priority.



- **When:** Wednesday 17 June 2015
- **Where:** Central London
- **What:** Day of climate action

Come and tell your MP and the Government that the time for climate action is NOW. It will be a day filled with music, debate and worship. It will be a day of friendship, solidarity and hope.

The Big Barnet Sleep-Out at Barnet Football Club

on

Saturday 18 April 2015

8pm-8am

Homeless Action in Barnet & Together in Barnet provide invaluable support to many of the borough's homeless. The purpose of the Sleep-Out is to raise money and awareness of the issues of all types of homelessness. It is not intended to try to match the sense of danger, hunger and despair which many people face every day.



Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to make a difference.

The Big Barnet Sleep-Out is not just about sleeping! There will be plenty of entertainment to keep our spirits high, as well as warm drinks in the evening and breakfast before you go home.

We are looking for at least 200 people, from all backgrounds and of all ages, to sleep out with us at The Hive. Every sleep-outer must pledge to raise a minimum of £100 for their efforts and a non-refundable deposit of £20 is required to take part. **Why not join us? Register at:**
www.habcentre.org/sleepout or by email to: janine@habcentre.org



TiB