

WHEATLEY URC NEWSLETTER



October 2021

Covering Thoughts

Few of us have been able to enjoy foreign travel recently. I was reflecting on our last trip which was to Switzerland. At Heidelberg we broke the journey and I remember how hot and tired we were as we left the train. It was impossible to raise the energy to explore further than a bench in the shade where we slept through the afternoon. At last, the heat lessened, and we walked to the bridge over the Rhine. As we turned to look back at the city, the setting sun illuminated the marvellous schloss high above us and took our breath away. As I wanted to paint a cityscape it was a wonderful opportunity to recall that visit, not just the sights, but all the senses, feelings, and the emotions from that time.

To journey is deep in the human psyche. It was the Dalai Lama who said that once a year one should go somewhere completely new, and Marcus Aurelius said “Your days are numbered. Use them to throw open the windows of your soul to the sun. If you do not the sun will soon set, and you with it”.

We live life to the full, embracing the new and while as the years pass by our freedom to travel may be limited, we carry inside us the wonders we have seen. We can share our experiences, tell anecdotes, and show the photos. T S Eliot’s familiar quote: “the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started, and to know the place for the first time”, is a reminder of the treasure of the present moment. However much we relish the memories and recall the experiences their real purpose is to enrich the here and now.

Christine



Pastoral Letter

~*~

Prayers

Please remember in your prayers the members in Tom Goss' pastoral group; Colin Thompson, Herthe xxxx, Catherine & Robert Harding, John Kidd, Keith & Debi Kidd, Jean Boxall, and Elaine & Mike Matejschuk.

Also remember members of the Pastoral Care Ministry Team; Ann Bettess, Jean Boxall, Angela Holdaway, Barbara Joiner, Pauline Main and Frances Simpson.

~*~

Blended Service Rotas for October 2021

Dates	Worships Leaders	Readers	Intercessors
2 nd Oct	Colin's Anniversary Service		
3 rd Oct	Pauline Main	Catherine Harding	Robert Harding
10 th Oct	Richard Bainbridge	Mike Matejschuk	Barbara Joiner
17 th Oct	Colin Thompson	Charles Bennett	Richard Wood
24 th Oct	Laurence Devlin	Ann Gajda	Ann Bettess
31 st Oct	David Catchpole	Barbara Joiner	Tom Goss

~*~

Deadline

14th October 2021 is the deadline for the November Newsletter. Please send copy to: newsletter@wheatleyurc.org.uk Paper copy can be given to Debi Kidd.

Disclaimer

The Editors welcome letters, articles and announcements from individuals and organisations, but reserve the right to publish or not.

~*~

International Bible Reading Association

Fresh from The Word 2022

Fresh from The Word 2022 brings you daily thoughts and meditations from theologians, scholars, creative writers, church leaders, and activists from around the world.

Each writer brings their own experience of God and His Word, refined through the reality of their world view, to shed new light on familiar circumstances.

Our 2022 Themes include:

- Facing despair and fear
- Being Church
- Living with pain whilst sustained by hope
- How we regard the stranger
- How we love our neighbour

If you would like to order a copy for next year, the cost is £11, please contact Ann Hardiman. Tel: 01865 873485 or email: hardiman817@btinternet.com

Common Lectionary Readings October

Note: leaders may choose to use other readings

Date	3 rd Oct	10 th Oct	17 th Oct	24 th Oct	31 st Oct
First Reading	Genesis 2: 18-24	Amos 5: 6-7 and 10-15	Isaiah 53: 4-12	Jeremiah 31: 7-9	Deuteronomy 6: 1-9
Psalm	Psalm 8	Psalm 90: 13-27	Psalm 91: 9-16	Psalm 126	Psalm 119: 1-8
New Testament	Hebrews 1: 1-4 and 2: 5-12	Hebrews 4: 12-16	Hebrews 5: 1-10	Hebrews 7: 23-28	Hebrews 9: 11-14
Gospel	Mark 10: 2-16	Mark 10: 17-31	Mark 10: 35-45	Mark 10: 46-52	Mark 12: 28-34

October 3rd: Artists seem to be always as if they had just come into the world and were going over this remarkable find in a delectable state of wonderment and amazement. [C.E. Montague]

October 10th: A family who had a disabled son sold their home and raised money to establish a house in which he and a handful of other disabled people and careers could live securely.

October 17th: Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love. [Mother Teresa]

October 24th: How often do we assume that what we see is all there is to someone?

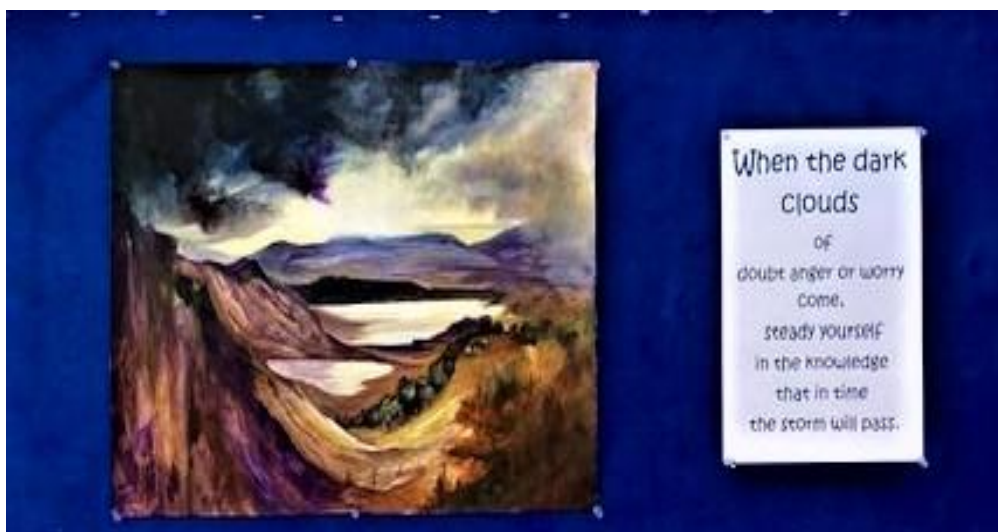
October 31st: There are lots of people who tackle the mountains and deserts of urban life. And beyond survival they offer a stellar example of life lived in joyful appreciation. [Joyce Hollyday]

Richard Bainbridge

Our Current Noticeboard

Wayside Pulpit

Here is the latest edition of our outdoor Church Noticeboard from Christine. Through her contribution, often including some of her own original artwork, we hope to reach out to those passing by with art, poems and inspirational thoughts which often come from members of our community.



Oxford Historic Churches Trust

RIDE & STRIDE RESULTS 2021

Saturday September 11th turned out to be a perfect day for riding and striding, being dry, partially sunny but not too hot and with a cooling breeze in the afternoon.

STRIDERS: A group of seven URC walkers set out at 10.30 am from **Waterperry** carpark to complete a circuit of over seven miles, to include the beautiful historic churches of **Worminghall**, **Ickford** (with delightful harvest decorations), **Shabbinigton** (for our picnic lunch in the churchyard), **Waterstock** and returning to **Waterperry** by 3.45 pm (for tea). Most of the walk was on level field paths with extensive views over the countryside to distant hills beyond and included some interesting footpath entries into the lesser known and prettier parts of the villages. Donations and sponsorship from those taking part and others has amounted to an excellent **£180**, half of which, plus gift aid, will be shared with our own church for maintenance purposes. See and a photo of



The walking party outside Worminghall Church
(less our photographer, Pauline S).

RIDERS: Gordon and Jill Ewbank from Wheatley Community Church were cycling, also under the banner of Wheatley URC and visited a remarkable 24 churches (route map herewith), between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm, concluding their tour at Wheatley URC and St Mary's. They hope to have raised about **£300** in sponsorship plus gift aid, to be shared equally between OHCT and Wheatley URC.





WELCOMERS: Our grateful thanks also to those URC members (**Frances, Moira, Elaine, Mike, Wendy, Ann G, Ann H, Sybil, Allison and Cynthia**) who offered to sit in a draughty porch at the church, for an hour or so, to welcome riders and striders from other Oxfordshire churches.

Tony Barry

~*~*~

“Hope” is the thing with feathers

By Emily Dickinson

“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I’ve heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.



This lovely poem was included by Richard Bainbridge in his service in September. However, because of a couple of technical issues, it couldn't be appreciated properly so it was suggested that it be printed here for everyone to enjoy.



High Street, Wheatley, OX33 1UE

CHURCH CONTACTS

*Minister: Revd. Pauline Main 01865 513581
email: minister@wheatleyurc.org.uk*

*Non-Stipendiary Minister: Revd. Cara Heafey
Email: caraheafey@hotmail.com*

*Church Secretary: Phyllis Williams
email: secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk*

Church website: www.wheatleyurc.org.uk