

# BEULAH CHRONICLE

The newsletter of:

## Beulah Community Church

In association with the Baptist Union of Great Britain  
and the United Reformed Church

[www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.beulahcommunitychurch.co.uk)

October/November 2021 – No 82

### Calendar

**Sunday 10th Oct** Service with John Prior- HARVEST.  
Gifts for Oldham Foodbank. Invite others

**Sunday 17th Oct** Service with Derek Sykes

**Sunday 24th Oct** Service with Rev Sheila Coop

**Sunday 31st Oct** Service with Dorothy Kendrick

**Sunday 7th Nov** Service with Charles Johnson followed  
by Communion

**Sunday 14th Nov** Service led by the Leaders – 'Caring  
for Creation'

**Sunday 21st Nov** Service with Craig Mairs

**Sunday 28th Nov** Service with Rev Sheila Coop



**Among our fellowship:** Please pray especially for Vera. She has had a fall whilst at Butler Green so had to get checked out at Hospital. She is now back in Butler Green but will have to move from there to a dementia care home in the coming weeks.

Pray also for Ian as he continues his quest to find out what is causing his pain.

We remember others in or around our fellowship with health issues or worries: Wynne; Millie; Bob

We pray for those looking for a job- especially Azeena and Faith. Help them to have the resilience and determination to see them through.



### Prayers:

Phil Jump and John Weaver have produced a book entitled: "Love:Work- Reflections and Prayers for a World at Work." Here is a prayer from their book:

"Ever present God, We reach out to you, not to escape the troubles and tragedies of this world, but to make sense of those we can and to find strength to bear those we can't.

We struggle at times to comprehend the harm that we seem capable of doing to one another.

And we struggle no less to understand why at times, tragedies that are of no-one's fault inflict the pain they do. Today we pray for all those who bear the brunt of that pain.

Those caught up in the stories that we all know about and those whose troubles are unseen but no less a challenge to bear. And we pray for ourselves for we are not untouched by the realities of this world.

And yet we thank you too that amidst the struggles that we face are glimpses of your goodness and grace, moments of immeasurable joy and signs of hope.

May we never be defined by the circumstances that surround us but in who we are in you, the hope that is contained in the Gospel that we share and the promise that is ours for eternity.

Through Christ our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

## Reflection from John Piper from the URC Missional Partnership:

### AUTUMN – A SEASON FOR THANKSGIVING AND ALSO FOR RESPONSIBILITY

Keats described autumn as the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.

We certainly get plenty of mist in our part of the world. But the idea of autumn as the season of fruitfulness may not be so obvious when we can buy virtually any food that we fancy at any time of the year.

Perhaps the driver shortages and empty shelves will make us think.

We are all completely dependent on the fruitfulness of the earth and, if we don't grow our own food, we are also totally dependent on the people who sow and tend and harvest our food and get it to us. Our harvest thanksgiving rightly focuses on the abundant and unconditional generosity of God, but we should also be enormously thankful to those who devote their lives to putting food on our tables.

Farmers have, whether knowingly or not, responded to God's call to humanity to be responsible stewards of creation. But God's call is to all of us and we are becoming increasingly aware that the call is about all our behaviour in relation to creation - not only farming. We cannot be genuinely thankful without accepting our share of the responsibility.

This autumn, the United Nations climate change conference meets in Glasgow. It is the 26 th such conference, and yet the crisis continues to get worse as humans continue to pump millions of tons of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

We all need to pray for radical decisions in Glasgow that will bring rapid and significant change, and that will look after the poorest and the weakest who are the ones at most risk of harm. But we also all need to think about what we can do to help - as individuals and as communities of God's people. And we can all do something. If we choose to buy more locally produced food, or to use less petrol, or to cut down on our use of single use plastics, or to buy fewer new clothes, or to go on fewer foreign holidays, or to give a bit more to Christian Aid, or any of the other ways of living more lightly on the earth, then we are helping.

Jesus calls his disciples to be fruitful (John 15:5). And I think we are all growing in our understanding that the responsible care of creation is a core part of what it means to be fruitful disciples of Jesus.

Happy fruitfulness.

#### Congratulations to:

-Iain Wi and Julie D, both celebrating "big" birthdays in the next couple of weeks and to Amy Wi on her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday on Nov 1st.

-Mike and Agata on the birth of a daughter Arianna de Angelis Cheetham!



#### Messages from the Leaders:

We have met with Lawrence Moore, our URC Partnership Mission Mentor, who has given us useful advice about how to make our services accessible online to those who can't come for whatever reason. We will have a "dummy run" with a "mock service" over the next couple of weeks in the hope that we can begin this in November. We will also be discussing how to ventilate the building without freezing in the process! Thanks to Ian for his usual work in liaising with contractors. The heating system has been one recent issue he has dealt with, as well as the start of the work to install a fire alarm system.

#### Challenge!

Can you list the fruits of the Spirit in order? (without looking at the beginning of this newsletter!) How can you show the fruits of the Spirit?