

PRENTON NEWS

The Magazine of
Prenton United Reformed Church
Prenton Road West, Birkenhead



JUNE & JULY 2024

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Church & Community Activities during school term time

Monday	Little Movers	10.00 a.m.
	1 st Tranmere Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	5.00 p.m.
Tuesday	Phoenix Dance Group	6.30 p.m.
	Guitar Group	6.30 p.m.
Wednesday	Warm, Welcome Space	
	Coffee	10.00 a.m.
	Lunch	12.15 p.m.

Donations towards the cost of the magazine would be appreciated.

From the Manse

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.

You may know that Heather and I have been on holiday recently and, apart from a couple of days away here and there, it's the first holiday we've had together without family or friends since our honeymoon 44 years ago. We called it our 'Make or break' holiday. I had cue cards ready just in case there were any uncomfortable silences.

I was telling my barber this just before we went, and she told me that she and her husband had done the same after 18 years and found that they quite liked each other. I'm happy to report that I didn't need the cue cards and Heather and I discovered that we quite like each other too.

It got me thinking about Paul's letter to the Ephesians which we've been focussing on over the last few months. The central message is unity and reconciliation made possible through Jesus, which made me wonder how united and reconciled we are as a church family?

Now before you ask, I'm not offering all expenses paid holidays to the Canaries so that we can get to know each other better but there may be ways that we can be more aware of one another as we seek to grow the church in our community.

Praying for one another was also a central message in Paul's letter mentioned no less than 9 times in the 6 short chapters, and this got me wondering how much and how well we pray for one another.

Throughout the summer months, I'd like to trial a suggestion given by one of our members which will help us pray for each other. Each week, as you come into church, you will take, at random, the name of another church member and then commit to pray for that person throughout the coming week. If you really want to, you can speak to them and ask what their needs might be so that you can better focus your prayers for them.

Let's see if this is one way we can build our unity as we continue to seek to grow our fellowship in this part of God's Kingdom.

God Bless.

Jeff

A wall hanging in the Stein Centre waiting room displays these words.

**Wherever there is faith
There is light and strength**

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS

We continue to remember, in our prayers, all the members who are unable to join us regularly on a Sunday morning: **Jeanette Adams, Donna Birks, Harry Bradley, Peter & Joan Carroll, Carys Evans, Iris Hatton, Margaret Higson, Don Howard, Jo Johns, Julie & Tim Jones, Dylis & John Letchford, Nora McGrath, Maureen Makin, Glennie Mortimer and Mary Segar.**

It is good to see our Church Secretary, **Jean Bayley**, back in Church following her thyroid treatment.

Our Church Treasurer, **Pauline Green**, has an appointment with an Orthopaedic Surgeon for possible surgery on her left knee which is causing her considerable pain at the moment.

PIE & PUDDING EVENING

On Friday 24th May, we held our “Pie & Pudding” evening, which was very well attended. There was an extensive selection on offer for both courses and between courses we were entertained by the Guitar Group, “Wirral Wilburys”, who use our premises once a month.

They played and sang a varied programme of familiar songs. We also had a raffle and were kept busy doing quizzes which were set up by Jeff and placed on each table.

We were very grateful to all those who supplied the delicious food and the cooks who worked all morning and afternoon preparing the food; the people who set the tables up in the hall; as well as those who cleared up afterwards and did the washing up. Thank you all.



There was no charge for the meal but we were invited to make a voluntary contribution to Christian Aid.

Philip Roper



SAMARITANS PURSE

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL!

I know that Christmas is 6 months away, but I would be grateful if you would start thinking about it now, it will be on us before we know it!

We still have some things left from last year and so we do have a head start. I would like you to collect things over the next 2 months please and bring them to church, we'll store them there.

During June and July please collect small cuddly toys, games, toys, small dolls, cars, balls (tennis ball size - but not 'pet' balls please) and skipping ropes, playing cards, dominoes and such like, these maybe more available during the summer months.

Thank you for your generosity,
Heather x



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12th to 18th MAY 2024



A big **THANK YOU** to all who supported Christian Aid week this year and especially those of you who supported Heather and Fred's sponsored walk from Leasowe lighthouse to New Brighton lighthouse.

Heather made good use of her new hips, thanks to the NHS and both she and Fred were joined on the walk by a good group, nine in all, from both churches and some

friends.

The weather held out though a cool mist kept rolling in from the sea which gave some relief now and then from the sun.

Hips, knees and feet held out for everyone, and it was an enjoyable couple of hours and a pleasant way to raise some funds for a much-deserved organisation.

So far, in excess of £400 has been raised across both churches but we know there is more to come in and be counted.

Once again, **THANK YOU.**

Here at Prenton we have raised over £500 this year for Christian Aid. An excellent result.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 15th June

Church Garden Working Party starting at 9.30 a.m. to tidy up the gardens before Sue & Dougie's wedding on the 22nd June.



Sunday 7th July



Cream.

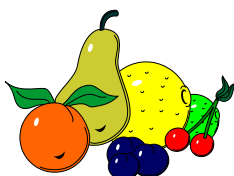
Our Annual Picnic. This year it will be in the Church garden after our Morning Service and will include Strawberries &

Saturday 7th September

Barbeque at the Manse from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. which is for both Prenton and Wallasey Village.



Sunday 6th October



Harvest Lunch after the Morning Service.



Thursday 28th November

Thanksgiving Fish & Chip Supper at 6 p.m.



Friday 20th December

Christmas Lunch at 1 p.m. We have issued an invitation to Wallasey Village to join us.



A reservation has been made at The Masonic Temple in Clifton Road, Birkenhead. Everyone is welcome and you can invite family and friends to join us. The cost of the 3 course meal with tea or coffee is £25.00 per person and this will need to be paid upfront.

For those of you who came to my 80th Birthday Lunch there, will remember the excellent meal that we had and this Christmas Lunch will be a choice of two starters, two main courses one of which will be salmon, and three desserts, one of which will be cheese and biscuits.

If you require a vegetarian main course this can also be arranged.

Obviously as it is a private venue and we will be the only people there, everyone will have to decide their choices prior to the date so that the chef can cater accordingly. I will be putting out the menu nearer the date.

So do come along and have a relaxing lunch in good company and be waited upon and not worry about having to do the washing up!!

Margaret



A SUNDAY PRAYER

Another week beginning, Lord,
Who knows what it will bring,
Will there be light and laughter,
And days when hope takes wing?

Or will there be a sadness, Lord,
For things we left behind,
A path that's rough and often steep
And sometimes hard to find?

No matter what the week may hold
Whatever comes along,
Please wrap us always in Your love
And keep us safe and strong.



Hesselden

Iris

May the raindrops fall lightly on your brow.
May the soft winds freshen your spirit.
May the sunshine brighten your heart.
May the burdens of the day rest lightly upon you.
And may God enfold you in the Mantle of His love

The Wirral Talking Newspapers, which was started by several members of our church, is celebrating its 40th Birthday at the beginning of June. There are still members of our congregation who are helping with its production and distribution. Well done!

DIARY FOR JUNE 2024

JUNE			
Sunday	2nd	11.00 a.m.	Communion. Mrs Shelby Ambrose
Tuesday	4th	9.30 a.m. 1.30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting at the Manse Conversations with God
Wednesday	5th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. 6.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch Meal at the Manse House Group at the Manse "Christianity Explored"
Friday	7th	1.00 p.m.	Masonic Ladies
Sunday	9th	11.00 a.m.	Mrs Pam Lawrence
Wednesday	12th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. 6.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch Meal at the Manse House Group at the Manse "Christianity Explored"
Friday	14th	1.00 p.m.	Masonic Ladies
Saturday	15th	9.30 a.m.	Church Garden Working Party
Father's Day Sunday	16th	11.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Rev Jeff Hughes Church Meeting
Wednesday	19th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m. 6.00 p.m. 7.00 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch Meal at the Manse House Group at the Manse "Christianity Explored"
Saturday	22nd	3.00 p.m.	Wedding of Sue Jones & Dougie Kite
Sunday	23rd	11.00 a.m.	Mr Ron Taylor

DIARY FOR JUNE & JULY 2024

JUNE			
Wednesday	26th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch
Sunday	30th	11.00 a.m.	Dr Philip Roper
JULY			
Tuesday	2nd	1.30 p.m.	Conversations with God
Wednesday	3rd	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch
Sunday	7th	11.00 a.m. 1.00 p.m.	Communion. Mrs Marian Davies Church Picnic & Strawberry Tea
Wednesday	10th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch
Sunday	14th	11.00 a.m.	Mr Bernie Frost
Wednesday	17th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch
Sunday	21st	11.00 a.m.	Rev Jeff Hughes Items for the August & September 2024 Magazine
Wednesday	24th	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch
Sunday	28th	11.00 a.m.	Mr Ron Taylor
Wednesday	31st	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Warm Welcome Space Coffee Morning Lunch

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded.

His cousin was amazed that he knew the answer so quickly.

"How do you know that?"

"Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the Bishop said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

FROM THE PEWS

The Sunday school teacher was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the bull in pieces and laid it upon the altar. And then Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels of water and pour it over the altar. He then had them do this four times.

“Now,” said the teacher, “can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the bull on the altar?”

A little girl in the back of the room raised her hand with great enthusiasm, “to make the gravy,” came her enthusiastic reply.

What follows are biblical bloopers from Sunday School students studying in their religious classes

In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, The Lord got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam & Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

Noah built the ark, which the animals came on in pears.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

Sampson slated the Philistines with the axe of apostles.

Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients.

Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments.

The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

The Fifth Commandment is humour thy mother and father.

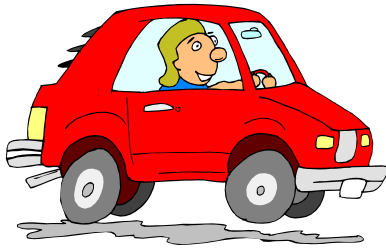
The Seventh Commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.

Moses died before he ever reached the UK. Then, Joshua led the Hebrews in the Battle of Geritol.

The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him

David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in the biblical times.

Solomon, one of David's sons, has 300 wives and 700 porcupines.



Cameron was excited about his newly acquired driver's licence. However, as a young and inexperienced driver, he had a lot to learn, as he was soon to find out.

After a mishap with his mother's car, he considered fudging the facts when she asked for an explanation about a dent in the front passenger door.

Sensing her son's hesitation, his mother said gently, "Never forget that a lie can circle the globe before truth can lace up its shoes."

THE GARDENER'S HYMN

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.

All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable, the Lord God made them all.

The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses, He also gave us these.

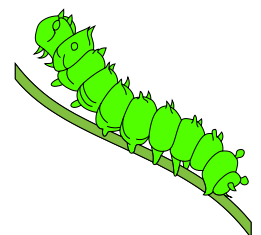
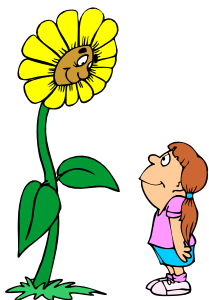
The fungus on the goose-gogs, the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.

The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds.

The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums,
How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his thumb.

But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours, will somehow bypass ours.



When did your postman last deliver you a handwritten letter from a friend?

In today's world of mobile phones, e-mails and the internet, we can communicate almost instantly with friends and relatives across the globe.

However, none of these will ever be the same as receiving a handwritten letter, which you can keep, perhaps treasure, and re-read as often as you wish. There is something about the feel of a sheet of writing paper and matching envelope, or an illustrated notelet, with a friend's personal writing style, that electronic communication can never compete with.



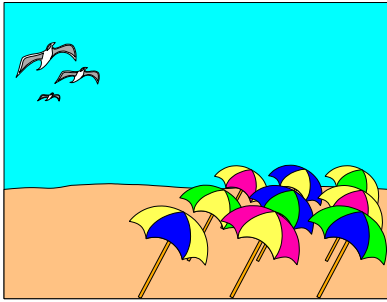
So, instead of picking up the phone or logging on to your computer, take a few minutes to write a letter with that fountain pen hiding at the back of your bureau. The trouble you have taken and your thoughtfulness will be greatly appreciated. And you can enjoy a walk in the fresh air to the post box!

DID YOU KNOW



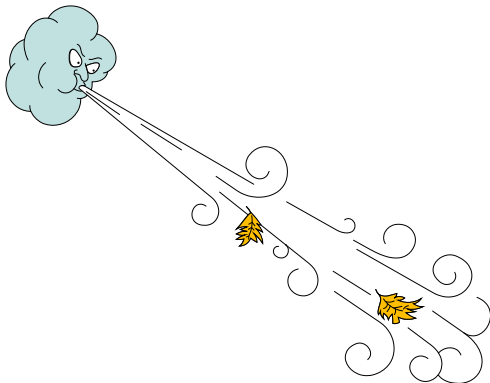
The Liver Bird symbol of Liverpool, since the 14th century, which perches on top of the Royal Liver Building on Liverpool's waterfront, clasps in its beak a piece of liver weed. The liver weed is a kind of seaweed which is found locally and from which Liverpool derives its name.

Summer Suns are glowing



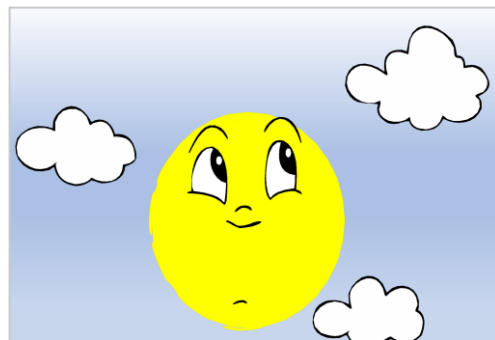
Over land and sea
Happy light is flowing
Bountiful and free;
Everything rejoices
In the mellow rays;
All earth's thousand voices
Swell the psalm of praise.

God's free mercy streameth
Over all the world,
And His banner gleameth
Everywhere unfurled;
Broad and deep and glorious
As the heaven above,
Shines in might victorious
His eternal love.



Lord, upon our blindness
Thy pure radiance pour;
For Thy loving kindness
Make us love Thee more;
And when clouds are drifting
Dark across our sky,
Then, the veil uplifting,
Father, be Thou nigh.

We will never doubt Thee,
Though Thou veil Thy light;
Life is dark without Thee;
Death with Thee is bright.
Light of Light, shine o'er us
On our pilgrim way;
Go Thou still before us
To the endless day.



William Walsham How (1832-97)

ROTAS FOR JUNE 2024

Duty Elder

June 2nd Fred Foulkes
 9th Sue Jones
 16th Elaine Parkin
 23rd Pauline Green
 30th Jean Bayley

Communion Elders

June 2nd Jean Bayley & Elaine Parkin

Door Duty

June 2nd Sue Jones, Glyn Roper, Philip Roper
 9th Jean & Les Bayley, Joan Bradley
 16th Pauline Green, Margaret Higson, Heather Hughes
 23rd Barbara Jones, Glyn Roper, Philip Roper
 30th Margaret Higson, Barry Lawrence, Elaine Parkin

Readers

June 2nd Joyce Holland & Heather Hughes
 9th Fred Foulkes & Shelby Ambrose
 16th Barry Lawrence & Jean Bayley
 23rd Joan Bradley & Pam Lawrence
 30th Glyn Roper

Prayers of Intercession

June 2nd Barry Lawrence
 9th Claire Thomas
 16th Sue Jones
 23rd Jean Bayley
 30th Pauline Green

Sound System

Marian Davies
Elaine Parkin
Marian Davies
Marian Davies
Marian Davies

Church Flowers

June 2nd
 9th Sue Jones
 16th Margaret Meade
 23rd Joan Lawrence
 30th

ROTAS FOR JULY 2024

Duty Elder

July 7th Shelby Ambrose
 14th Fred Foulkes
 21st Marian Davies
 28th Sue Kite

Communion Elders

July 7th Shelby Ambrose & Fred Foulkes

Door Duty

July 7th Jean & Les Bayley, Barbara Jones
 14th Elaine Parkin, Glyn Roper, Philip Roper
 21st Barbara Jones, Sue Kite, Barry Lawrence
 28th Pauline Green, Glyn Roper, Philip Roper

Readers

July 7th Joyce Holland & Philip Roper
 14th Pam Lawrence & Marian Davies
 21st Fred Foulkes & Glyn Roper
 28th Barry Lawrence & Shelby Ambrose

Prayers of Intercession

July 7th Claire Thomas
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 28th Sue Kite

Sound System

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Church Flowers

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