

FEBRUARY 2011

RUSH HILL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

FROME ROAD, BATH

MINISTERS:

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ACTIVITIES

SUNDAYS

10.30 am Morning Worship

HOLY COMMUNION

Every 2nd Sunday morning

TUESDAYS

5.00 pm Rainbows

6.00 pm Brownies

THURSDAYS

9.30 am Ramblers

7.00 pm Guides

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

- 6th 10.30am Morning Worship
led by Mr Peter Rouse
- 13th 10.30am Morning Worship
and Holy Communion led by
led by Rev Helen Pattie
- 16th 10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev Helen Pattie
- 20th 10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev David Pattie
- 27th 10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev Dr Kirstie Thorpe
- March**
- 6th 10.30am Morning Worship
led by Rev Alyn Owens
- 13th 10.30am Morning Worship
and Holy Communion led by
Rev David Pattie

Dear Friends

Sitting at breakfast today I was looking at my fridge. Or rather, I was looking at the extensive collection of magnets which adorn the said fridge. The magnets have been given to us over the years by my mother and represent some the destinations she has travelled to over that time.

They are very varied – Holland; Chester; Prague, Florence, and even Bath – are just some of these ‘magnetic memories’. As I digested three of my government approved ‘5 A Day’ I considered the magnets & the month.

February, when you will be reading this, is, to me, a ‘dark and dreary month’. It is in this month that I dream of taking a holiday and travelling anywhere – anywhere where there is sun that is! So, as you will have guessed by now, my mind, that breakfast time, turned towards travel.

We do not really know where we will be travelling throughout this year. We will have some plans – perhaps holiday dates sketched out. Some time carved out for our families and friends. Some vague hopes and aspirations for the days ahead. But we do not really know where we will travel. For life is so very unpredictable.

Will we be travelling the road of ill-health? Who knows? Will we be travelling the road of unemployment? Who knows? Will we be travelling the road of financial hardship? Who knows? Will we be travelling the road of sorrow and loss? Who knows?

Will we be travelling the road of new beginnings? Who knows? Will we be travelling the road of new family members? Who knows? Will we be travelling the road of health-restored? Who knows?

Who knows? – Well I suppose at the risk of sounding trite – God Knows!

As we travel we have to place our life- journeys this year into the hands of God – the good journeys and the harder ones. For he alone knows the routes they are going to take. But that is hard ... it is always hard to trust.

I was, after pondering the fridge-magnets, reading a newspaper and saw an article which interested me – A Car Dealership in Florida which has a unique offer (Especially targeted at senior citizens as it happens) ‘Buy a Car and Get a Free Gun’. Yes! To keep you safe as you journey in the ‘Sunshine State’ you can have a free gun (value \$400 + tax!). Sales of these cars has doubled since the offer came in.

Considering the very high level of church going in Florida (and so, one would suppose, the high level of faith & trust in God) it is truly amazing that so many people want a gun as an in-car accessory for their daily journeys. So, we will all have life- journeys this year. Some good, other perhaps less so. Where we will be going we do not truly know ... but God does. So we travel with him in confidence.

There was a big bang at the Manse – and a wizz and even a pop!



Yes, it was New Year Children’s Firework Party!

An excellent attendance spanning three generations gathered in the garden to celebrate the arrival of the New Year. Food (bangers, naturally, were included) and refreshments were served in the gazebo followed by sparklers and, (in recognition of Health & Safety), light sticks were available for the younger children. Once darkness fell – then things went with a BANG!

There was a spectacular display with a variety of land-based and aerial pyrotechnics culminating with three large fireworks and two rockets launched simultaneously.

Thanks to Matthew and Andrew for erecting the gazebo, and for service rendered as pyrotechnicians. Thanks also to Clair and Carol for all their hard work on the catering front. Especial thanks to the Joint Social Committee whose generosity and ready support made this fun-time possible.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

The following social events have been arranged. Please put the dates in your diaries now and we look forward to seeing you, your friends and family at as many events as you can .

Friday February 18th

Michael Pitts Underwater Photographer
Talk and Slide Show at Central URC

Saturday 12th March

Beetle Drive at Rush Hill. Commencing at 6.30 pm. Buffet included.

Friday 29th April

Royal Quiz. An opportunity to end a day of celebration with a fun quiz and supper at Rush Hill. 6.30pm.

Sunday 15th May

Christian Aid Lunch. A frugal lunch following the morning service

Sunday 3rd July

Church Picnic at Alexandra Park following the morning service. Transport will be available. Just bring a plate of food to share.

Saturday 24th September

Harvest Supper and slide show.

Sunday 23rd October

Church Anniversary—Sunday lunch to follow the morning service

Saturday 19th November

Craft Fair at Rush Hill. Jewellery, glass, pottery, and other crafts, refreshments and light lunches. 11am—2pm. See Carol for more details and to book a stall.

Friday 2nd December

Carols and Chips Getting the festive season underway, 6pm for chips, 7pm for Carols.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SMILERS

The Lord is My Shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Tommy was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the children were due to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Tommy was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

Fishing

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark ?'

'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

Say a Prayer

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served.

When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away. 'Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer.' said his mother. 'I don't need to,' the boy replied. 'Of course, you do.' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house.' Johnny explained. 'But this is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!'

MEETING SCHEDULE—RUSH HILL

AGM March 4th

ELDERS MEETINGS

1st April
6th May
2nd September
7th October

CHURCH MEETINGS

3rd June
4th November

2011 – The Year of the Bible

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. What better opportunity to celebrate Scripture as a gift from God and take up the challenge of encouraging people to read the Bible; engaging with it in fresh, life-changing ways to become effective disciples of Jesus Christ in the twenty first century?

IN LOVING MEMORY

It is with sadness that we record the death of Roy Russell, brother to Joy Rumble and Christine Sorensen. Roy passed away in the New Year and the funeral was held at Rush Hill on 25th January.

Roy and his wife Peggy became members at Rush Hill in 1942 and worshipped regularly at Rush Hill following their return to Bath several years ago. Our thoughts are with the family, especially Peggy who is now living in a care home in Chippenham.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 4th March at Rush Hill. 7pm

All members are invited to attend.

Would leaders of groups and organisations please prepare your reports to be given in at the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you.

FLOWERS

Feb	6th	Peggie and Ernie
	13th	
	20th	Joy and Gordon
	27th	
Mar	6th	Carol
	13th	

CHURCH CLEANING

Feb	6th	Maintenance Team
	13th	Mrs C Rumble
	20th	Mrs J Jones
	27th	Mrs E Rumble
Mar	6th	Maintenance Team
	13th	Miss A Child

CHILDRENS ROTA

Feb	6th	Jackie
	13th	Carol
	20th	Sue
	27th	Jackie
Mar	6th	Carol
	13th	Sue

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Items for the next issue to Sue Thurston by 27th February