

MARCH 2011

RUSH HILL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

FROME ROAD, BATH

MINISTERS:

Rev Helen and Rev David Pattie
01225 331592

Rev Dr Hazel Starritt,
Tel: 01373 467814

SECRETARY:

Jackie Jones
Tel: 01225 840665

TREASURER:

Clive Shellard
Tel: 01225 833427

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 MARCH

- 4th 10.30 am Women's World Day of Prayer Service at Rush Hill
- 4th 7pm Annual General Meeting
- 6th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Alyn Owens
- 12th 6.30 pm Beetle Drive and Supper
- 13th 10.30am Morning Worship and Holy Communion led by Rev David Pattie
- 20th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Dr Hazel Starritt
- 27th 10.30am Morning Worship led by to be confirmed
- April 3rd 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Roger Nunn

22 Packsaddle Way
Frome

Dear Friends

March is a lovely month – winter is behind us and the promise of spring is about to become a glorious reality. Although it happens every year, there is still something magical about seeing nature returning from dormancy and colour infusing hedges and gardens. Through the long dark winter days we have looked forward to this transformation; but it would be sad if that stopped us appreciating the special pleasures of winter too!

Children are notorious for pressing on towards the future – holidays, Christmas and birthdays are all eagerly anticipated. Yet children are also much better at living in the present than we are. As adults we are often told that we need to live in the moment. We cannot do anything about the past or the future. We can only live now. Perhaps the ability to live in the moment was in part what Jesus had in mind when he talked of his followers “becoming like little children”.

In the life of our church there is much to enjoy and appreciate - we have a rich heritage of worship, our fellowship comprises many talented, commitment and enthusiastic people and our buildings are well used by the community. Even when there are issues to be addressed, we must never lose sight of all that is good and enjoyable in our church life. In the Disney version of Jungle Book, Baloo sang about “accentuating the positive”. Making the most of what we are, and what we can do with God's help, is the best way to approach life. It begins with a realistic assessment of our strengths and our potential.

In March we enter the season of Lent; a time to engage afresh with our spiritual journey. We can use this time as an opportunity to discover where we are in our relationship with God and how this has changed and grown as the years have passed. The spiritual journey is a journey of the heart and mind, and it has its own seasons. We all experience times when we are more aware of God's presence than at other times. Reflecting on when and how God has been at work in our lives gives us many causes for thanksgiving and celebration.

We know that we will face many changes during our lifetime, some welcome and some not so welcome. Our faith allows us to live with confidence, and appreciate the minutes and hours of the life we have been given, whatever the season.

*Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.*

With God's blessing,

Hazel



RUSH HILL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

BEETLE DRIVE and SUPPER

SATURDAY 12th MARCH AT 6.30PM.

Bring your friends!



Coffee Shop

at Rush Hill

Every **Wednesday**

10.30am — 12 noon

During term time.

You can be assured of a warm welcome!



SOCIAL CALENDAR

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.

MEETING SCHEDULE—RUSH HILL

AGM March 4th

ELDERS MEETINGS

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

CHURCH MEETINGS

3rd June
4th November

IN LOVING MEMORY

It is with much sadness that we said goodbye to a very dear friend, Betty Biggs who passed quietly away after a short illness at the RUH on Tuesday February 1st aged 88 years.

Betty, although not a member of Rush Hill, has been associated with us for the past 70+ years. Together with husband Ted she was very much part of our church life. In recent years Betty has experienced much tragedy in her family life and yet despite that she always had a ready smile and comforting words for others. Betty made many friends in the different clubs that she joined during the week, so evident by the large number attending her funeral service. She will be greatly missed by us all. Now she is at peace and re-united with her two daughters Pat and Margaret and her beloved husband Ted.

Our prayers and sympathy go to Betty's family.

FLOWERS

Mar	6th	Carol
	13th	
	20th	Eileen
	27th	
April	3rd	Bert and Olive
	10th	

CHURCH CLEANING

Mar	6th	Maintenance Team
	13th	Miss A Child
	20th	Mrs C Rumble
	27th	Mrs J Jones
April	3rd	Maintenance Team
	10th	Mrs E Rumble

CHILDRENS ROTA

Mar	6th	Carol
	13th	Sue
	20th	Jackie
	27th	Carol
April	3rd	Sue
	10th	Jackie

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

28TH FEBRUARY—13TH MARCH 2011

There will be a selection of Fair Trade Items for sale in Room 1 after the morning services during Fair Trade Fortnight and throughout the month of March.

Why not take this opportunity of trying the products?

COMMITMENT FOR LIFE PRAYER FOR MARCH

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God....
But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.....
Luke 6:20, 24

Blessed are those who see no need for poverty in the kingdom of God.
Blessed are those who grant no place to hunger and gluttony.
Blessed are those who are moved with compassion at the plight of others.
Blessed are those who are stirred into action out of our complacency.
Blessed are those who give no heed to prejudice and hatred.
Blessed are those who seek the way of peace and understanding.
Blessed are those who look not to this life for reward and self-gratification.
Blessed are those who work for fullness of life for all.
Thanks be to God for those who hunger and thirst for the rights of others.

Amen.

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Women's World Day of Prayer

On 4th March we joined with millions of others around the world with one aim in mind - to pray. The Women's World Day of Prayer has in recent years become a global, ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women.

The service is written by a different country each year and that country then becomes the focus of the world's prayers on the day itself. Beginning with the break of dawn in the islands of Tonga in the Pacific and continuing across each continent until the last services of this special day back in the Pacific, on the islands of Samoa, circling the world in prayer for 36 hours. By the end of the day over over 5,000 services in 170+ countries will be held.

The origins of Women's World Day of Prayer dates back to the late nineteenth century when Christian women in the USA and Canada began a variety of activities in support of women's involvement in mission, at home and abroad. But it was not until the 1930s that Women's World Day of Prayer services began in Britain.

This year 2011 the worship material is prepared by the women of Chile with the theme, 'How many loaves have you?', bread is eaten at every meal in Chile, and is very much part of everyday life. Although organised and led by women, it is essentially a day of prayer for everybody, as Christians demonstrate their solidarity with

NEXT NEWSLETTER

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