

**OCTOBER 2011**

**RUSH HILL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**  
FROME ROAD, BATH

**MINISTERS:**

Rev Helen and Rev David Pattie  
01225 331592

Rev Dr Hazel Starritt,  
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**SECRETARY:**

Jackie Jones  
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**TREASURER:**

Clive Shellard  
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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  
October**

- 2nd 10.30am Morning Worship  
led by Rev Roger Nunn
- 7th Elders Meeting
- 9th 10.30am Morning Worship  
and Holy Communion led by  
Rev Helen Pattie
- 16th 10.30 am Church  
Anniversary, Harvest  
Festival, Church Parade and  
Family Service  
led by Rev David Pattie
- 23rd 10.30am Morning Worship  
Led by Rev Hazel Starritt
- 30th 10.30 am Morning Service  
Led by Mr David Pendle
- 6.30 pm Combined Service  
At Larkhall  
led by Rev Helen Pattie

**SOCIAL CALENDAR**

**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.

**Tuesday 20th December**  
Fish and Chip Supper and Social at  
Central URC

Dear friends,

*“In the last one hundred years, we have devoured so much of the earth and its resources that we are stealing food and sustenance out of the mouths of our children and grandchildren, while we live without any compunction about the gulf between those who are rich and those who are poor.” [Megan McKenna]*

Strong words, strong sentiments. Dig a little deeper.

The United Nations defines the rich as ‘those who have more than enough to survive on today’. That’s us. Yet the UN has reported that the number of hungry and undernourished people in the world has reached an all time high - 1.02 billion, 1 in 6, 15% of the global population.

It makes for being a little less ‘gung ho’ in our harvest praise.

The issues of hunger and food are intimately connected to the issues of land, farming and climate change that aggravate and intensify these realities. More than 70% survive on subsistence farming, note I say survive not live. Yet we expect our own standard of living to ever improve.

If I may quote Megan again: *“The connections between food and land and farming and religion are moral and ethical realities that impact ritual and worship. And still, so many go underfed or unfed – a sad reality in a world that claims to be spiritually mature and where the major religions all proclaim the importance of pursuing justice, caring for the poor and the neediest, avoiding waste and excess, sharing one’s possessions, and serving and preserving the earth’s resources of land, water and food’.*

When Gandhi spoke of Christians and their ritual of breaking and sharing of the bread, he remarked ‘Your God was wise – he stayed among you as bread. If God had been an Indian he would have stayed as rice’.

Read John 6:11-14 and set it alongside the report from the G8 summit in Japan. Food sovereignty – *‘it puts the aspirations and needs of those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of food policies rather than markets and corporations’.*

Read John 6:11-14 again. 12 baskets of left overs. If we stop wasting food that could be eaten, we could feed 80 million people a day!

Yes, I am wishing for an altogether different harvest thanksgiving this year.’  
*Your God was wise – he stayed among you as bread.’*

Helen



**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND  
HARVEST LUNCH**

**Sunday 16th October**

(please note change of date)

We will be having a lunch following the morning service on Sunday 16th October  
and hope you can join us.

To aid catering, please put your name on the list at the back of the church.



## Guide news

We have had a very busy summer with Rush Hill guides joining with 3 other units on a visit to the Czech Republic. We had 10 days of sight seeing, activities and fun, visiting Prague, Karlstein Castle, horse riding and enjoying a water park. An exhausting trip, but very much enjoyed by all. Next summer will see us on a camp.

This term will see the guides taking more "GO For IT's". This is an activity which the girls choose themselves and plan activities around their chosen subject for 4 consecutive weeks. Choices range from Teamwork, Fitness, Healthy Eating and arranging a party. Once completed the girls are presented with a signed credit style card which goes towards their yearly challenge badges.

This Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 17 guides from Rush Hill will be joining 20,000 girls at Wembley Arena for a pop concert. This is a hugely popular activity with thousands of guides travelling from all over the country to listen to their favourite pop artists. So many guides want to go that this year the organisers have added two more concert dates. The girls dress up in all sorts of costumes ranging from fairies in tutus to cowboys to pyjamas. Rush Hill has opted for pyjamas this year. Nice and comfortable for the long journey home!!

Many thanks for all the support that Rush Hill church gives to all the uniformed groups.

Jackie Jones ( Pebbles )

## Rainbows and Brownies

The Rainbows and the Brownies of Rush Hill held a coffee evening in aid of MacMillan Nurses and managed to raise a magnificent £100 for the charity. There were lots of delicious cakes for sale as well as games to play.

Well done to all who took part.

## Thank You – Dorothy House

Revd. Helen would like to thank everyone who sponsored her when she took part in the Dorothy House Midnight walk. She completed the 10K course in about an hour and forty minutes. She is pleased to be able to give £130 to this most worthy local charity. Thank you for your generous support!



## Thank You – RUH Scanner Appeal

Matthew and Andrew Pattie would like to thank everyone who supported their 'September Song' Concert in support of the RUH Scanner Appeal. The 'full house' at Larkhall made it possible for a cheque for £500 to be presented to our local hospital. As some of the money was gift-aided the eventual donation will exceed this sum.

**ELDERS MEETING**  
7th October

**CHURCH MEETING**  
4th November

## CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL

We hope to make us some Christmas boxes again this year. If anyone would like to be responsible for doing a box that would be great. If you think this scheme is a good one but are not able to go shopping you might prefer to give money instead.

I am quite happy to get the boxes and cover them. Eileen and Chris are happy to shop around for most of the items. We have just a few hats and gloves left over from last year, but we do need more.

These are quite expensive to buy and up to now we have been grateful to Betty Biggs and Edna Ball for their knitting, but sadly Betty is no longer with us and Edna is willing to carry on knitting hats only.

If you can help in any way please let one of us know. It is a great scheme and brings much happiness to disadvantaged children who perhaps have never received a gift in their lives!

Leaflets are available itemising the different items that are allowable. We are asked also to include in each box a cheque for £2.50 to cover the cost of despatch (if possible).

Peter

## COMMITMENT FOR LIFE PRAYER FOR OCTOBER

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy?

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God who creates, redeems and sanctifies be upon you and all you love and pray for this day and forever more.

Amen

## FLOWERS

Oct	2nd	Spare
	9th	Jackie
	16th	Harvest
	23rd	Spare
	30th	Chris and Pete
Nov	6th	Edna

## CHILDRENS ROTA

Oct	2nd	Carol
	9th	Sue
	16th	Family Service
	23rd	Jackie
	30th	Carol
Nov	6th	Sue

## CHURCH CLEANING

Oct	2nd	Maintenance Team
	9th	Mrs E Rumble
	16th	Miss A Child
	23rd	Mrs J Jones
	30th	Mrs C Rumble
Nov	6th	Maintenance Team

## NEWSLETTER

Items for the next issue to Sue Thurston by 23rd October