

SUNDAY SERVICES

<u>Morning Service</u>	10.30 am
<u>Evening Worship</u>	
1st Sunday in the month	6.00 pm at Vicars Cross URC
2nd Sunday in the month	6.30 pm
3rd and 4th Sunday in the month	6.30 pm at Caldly Valley Neighbourhood Church
5th Sunday in the month	Ecumenical Service rotating between URC, Holy Ascension and St Columba RC
<u>Holy Communion</u>	1 st Sunday morning 2nd Sunday evening (February, April, June, August, October and December)

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

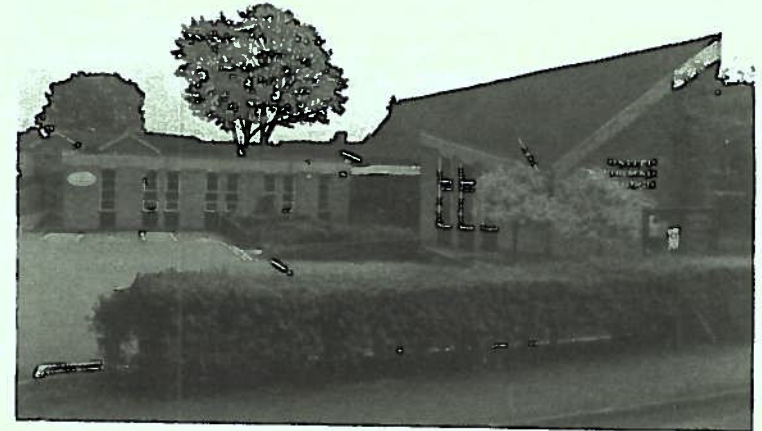
Monday	10 00 am- 12 noon	Churches Together in Upton Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
	6.15 pm - 8.00 pm	Girls' Brigade
Tuesday	2.30 pm (1st & 3rd weeks)	Friendship Group
	10.00 am (every 2 weeks)	NTG (New Tuesday Group)
Wednesday	9.45 am (1 st Wednesday)	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk
	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thursday	10.00 am	WD 40's (Women's Discussion Group)
	3.30 pm - 5.30 pm	Messy Church (2nd Thursday of the month)
	7.30 pm (1 st and 3 rd weeks)	Thursday Home Group
	1.00 pm	Food 'n' Fun (last Thursday of the month)
Saturday	10.00 am - 12 noon	Church open for coffee
	10.00 am	Upton Amblers (dates vary)

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Saturdays	10.15 am	Church Meeting (dates vary)
3rd Wednesday	7.30 pm	Elders Meeting

UPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
HEATH ROAD, UPTON BY CHESTER
TELEPHONE 01244 373854

NEWSLETTER
JULY/AUGUST 2018



VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
WWW.UPTONURC.ORG.UK

EMAIL:
INFO@UPTONURC.ORG.UK

MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

Message from the Manse

June was a month of Ministry with a difference. It began with a much anticipated holiday in which I wanted to enjoy and educate myself whilst visiting Rome.

The trip consisted of a mixture of visits to churches around the city; visiting tourist spots, as well as spending some time resting and relaxing.

The Vatican was a must see tour and I even managed to climb the 360 steps to the top of the dome of St Peter's Basilica. It should have been over 500 steps but because it was so late in the day the longer route was not available - for which I was initially disappointed but after reaching the summit I was thankful. I was so out of breath I had to sit for 5 minutes to catch my breath!

I was also interested in visiting the less well-known churches and spending time in prayer as well as taking in their history, art and beauty. I truly believe that The Lord was speaking to me through the whole experience, in a variety of ways. Sometimes it was through a picture or sculpture, sometimes through music whilst at others it was whilst walking through an area and taking in the culture and personality.

I was delighted to get a seat at The Audience With The Pope on the Wednesday. His message was a continuation of his reflections on the Sacrament of Confirmation.

He spoke of how the faithful should be sharing in the life and mission of the Church and our call to share the Holy Spirit's gifts for the good of all.

When we receive the Holy Spirit, we receive peace and we should give this to others, for the good of one another; for the good of the whole Church; and for the good of the world in which we live. I did say a resounding "Amen" to that.

MINISTER

Rev Ruth Wilson

01244 372622

revruthwork@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Mrs Marilyn Roberts

01233 678248

marilyn_roberts@hotmail.co.uk

TREASURER

Robin Hodgkins

01244 383038

WRHodgkins@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Mrs Margaret Hainsworth

01244 381396

jm@johnmarg.plus.com

Mrs Christine Beeston

01829 740556

c.beeston688@btinternet.com

CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS

Robin Hodgkins

01244 383038

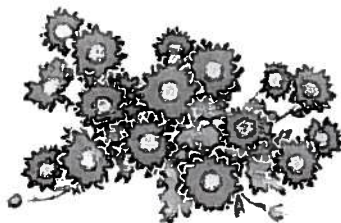
WRHodgkins@aol.com

ROTAS

CHURCH FLOWERS

JULY

- 1 July Jean Needham
8 July Margaret & John Hainsworth
15 July WD 40's
22 July Liz Warrington
29 July Celia Jones



AUGUST

- 5 August Marjorie Kemp
12 August Hilary Salvage
19 August Jean Collyer
26 August Doreen Pleasant

CAR FERRY

JULY

- 1 July Niall Ormerod
8 July John Hainsworth
15 July Phil Mason
22 July Keith Reading
29 July TBC



AUGUST

- 5 August John Hainsworth
12 August Phil Mason
19 August Keith Reading
26 August Niall Ormerod

When I got home it was then onto getting ready for the Minister's Madness on Saturday 16th June to celebrate my special birthday.

I want to express huge thanks to Sheila Cook, Trish Jones and Carole Mellor for helping to organise this wonderful event. In meeting to plan the event I had stressed that "it had to be different: open to all ages with no fuss, no ceremony - just fun, food and laughter for everyone."

The team worked incredibly hard and as well as all the refreshments there were games, music and a photo booth.

I can't thank you enough for making my 50th birthday so memorable. I have, this morning (18th June - my birthday) opened the cards and gifts and want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their kind words and generous gifts. I hope the occasion has given us all a chance to smile and celebrate together.

Grace, peace and love.

Ruth
June 2018



PEOPLE NEWS



We remember in our prayers all those who are not well at this time; all those in hospital, awaiting test results or housebound and not able to attend Church.

SUNDAY MORNING TEA/COFFEE ROTA

JULY

- 1 July Carol Mellor & Marion Gibbons
8 July Lesley & Noel Parry
15 July Robin Hodgkins & Brian Stephenson
22 July Beryl & Jim Frost
29 July Debbie & Niall Ormerod



AUGUST

- 5 August Margaret & John Hainsworth
12 August Susan & Keith Reading
19 August Anne & Richard Sykes
26 August Rose Harrison & Fergus O'Neill

UPTON AMBLERS WALKS TO END OF YEAR

WEDNESDAY WALKS

- July 4th leaders Caryl & Brian Rose (telephone 381199)
August 1st leaders Jean & George Coward (telephone 679259)
September 5th leader Gaynor Kitchener (telephone 341420)
October 3rd leader Jean Needham (telephone 383248)
November 7th leader Cella Jones (telephone 381387)
December 5th NO VOLUNTEER SO FAR

SATURDAY WALKS

- July 28th leader Chris Porteous (telephone 675206) Llanferres and Moel Findeg
August leader Phil Jones (telephone 381387) Whitegate Way
September leaders Alan and Angela Simpson (telephone 01625 860351)
October **DERBYSHIRE WALKING HOLIDAY**
November leader Frank Mawdsley (telephone 381985)
December leader Christine Walsh (telephone 381697)

Cella Jones



PRAYER DIARY FOR AUGUST 2018

- Wed 1 Pray that families will respond to the invitation to Wacky Wednesday
- Thu 2 Pray for refugees and asylum seekers
- Fri 3 Give thanks for the NHS and all who serve it
- Sat 4 Pray for those on holiday that they may be refreshed
- SUN 5 Pray that we will respond to the sacrifice of Jesus celebrated at our Communion service
- Mon 6 Pray for our fellow Christians at Vicars Cross
- Tue 7 Pray for those suffering bereavement
- Wed 8 Pray for families attending Wacky Wednesday
- Thu 9 Pray for those helping and rescuing refugees
- Fri 10 Pray for those ill in hospital
- Sat 11 Give thanks for gardens and the beauty of the countryside
- SUN 12 Pray for Ruth as she leads morning worship today
- Mon 13 Pray for our ecumenical partners at St.Columba's
- Tue 14 Pray for the Food Bank, the helpers and those needing help
- Wed 15 Pray for the leaders and helpers at Wacky Wednesday
- Thu 16 Pray for those in refugee camps
- Fri 17 Pray for the house bound
- Sat 18 Give thanks for the food we eat
- SUN 19 Pray for Rev. Brian Holroyd as he leads our morning service
- Mon 20 Pray for our ecumenical partners at Holy Ascension
- Tue 21 Pray for families where relationships are breaking down
- Wed 22 Pray as Wacky Wednesday ends, families will feel helped and better able to face the future
- Thu 23 Pray for those risking their own lives to help save lives in areas of conflict
- Fri 24 Pray for those with long term illness, especially those we know.
- Sat 25 Give thanks for holidays and holiday weekends
- SUN 26 We come into your house with thanksgiving and enter your courts with praise-
- Mon 27 Pray for our fellow Christians at Upton Baptist Church
- Tue 28 Pray for children preparing to move to new schools
- Wed 29 Pray for our government that they may make wise decisions
- Thu 30 Pray that our country will respond to the needs of those fleeing here, desperate for help
- Fri 31 Pray for all carers

COMMITMENT FOR LIFE

We support the URC's Commitment for Life project and receive updates on where the money is spent. We follow the projects in Central America. Some of the money is distributed through Christian Aid partner ORMUSA in El Salvador. One of the problems in the country is that, despite laws protecting women's rights there is still a perception that violence against women is normal and acceptable. ORMUSA is providing specialist training on gender violence to key members of staff in the justice system including decision makers, attorneys, judges and court staff. The Police and Police Academy have been trained on how to tackle violence suffered by women within these institutions. Training of the state's lawyers on this issue is crucial, since not all prosecutors apply the country's laws on violence against women. Many men in directive roles have been trained. Some of them were reluctant but at the end of training there was an acceptance that mistakes have been made and attitudes have been changed.

Saving to Share Committee

GOD'S LOVE IS FOR ALL

OUR MISSION IS TO SHOW IT, SHARE IT, LIVE IT

CHURCH DIARY FOR JULY 2018

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Sun 1	10.30 am		MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
	6.00 pm		SUNDAY at SIX at Vicars Cross URC led by Revd Ruth Wilson
Mon 2	10.00 am		CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
	6.15 -8.15 pm		Girls' Brigade 'Family Fun & Games Evening with Awards Presentation'
Tues 3	2.30 pm		Friendship Group - 'Who Am I?'
Wed 4	9.45 am		Upton Amblers Midweek Walk -Leaders - Brian & Caryl Rose
	6.45 pm		Ecumenical Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs 5	10.00am		WD 40's - Trip to Nantwich
Sat 7	10.00 am		Church open for coffee
Sun 8	10.30 am		MORNING SERVICE led by Revd David Hamblin
	6.30 pm		EVENING SERVICE led by Revd Ron Reid
Mon 9	10.00 am		CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
	6.15 pm		Girls' Brigade
Tues 10	10.00 am		NTG ' Summer Praise '
Wed 11	6.45 pm		Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
	7.00 pm		Churches Together in Upton Committee Meeting
Thurs 12	10.00 am		WD 40's - Walk in Upton
	3.30 pm		Messy Church
Sat 14	10.00 am		Church open for coffee
	10.15 am		CHURCH MEETING - AGM

AUGUST DIARY CONTINUED

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICED/MEETING</u>
Sat	18	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
Sun	19	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
		6.30 pm	EVENING SERVICE at Caldly Valley
Mon	20	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
Wed	22	12 noon	Wacky Wednesday
		6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Sat	25	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
Sun	26	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
		6.30pm	EVENING SERVICE at Caldly Valley
Mon	27		Bank Holiday
Wed	29	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON

COFFEE MORNING

PAVILION, WEALSTONE LANE

MONDAY 13 AUGUST

10 - 12 noon

We meet every morning, except Bank Holidays, and occasionally have a 'special' morning.

One of these is on 13 August when we are having a

BRING AND BUY STALL

CHURCH DIARY FOR AUGUST 2018

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Wed	1	9.45 am	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk - Leaders Jean & George Coward
		12 noon	Wacky Wednesday
		6.45 pm	Ecumenical Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Sat	4	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
Sun	5	10.30 am	MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
		6.30 pm	EVENING SERVICE at Cald Valley (no service at Vicars Cross)
Mon	6	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
Wed	8	12 noon	Wacky Wednesday
		6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Sat	11	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
Sun	12	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Brian Holroyd
		6.30m	EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
<i>COPY DATE FOR SEPTEMBER CHURCH NEWSLETTER ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHRISTINE BEESTON PLEASE</i>			
Mon	13	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
Tues	14	2.30 pm	Friendship Group - Holiday Tea & Chat
Wed	15	12 noon	Wacky Wednesday
		6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry

JULY DIARY CONTINUED

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICE / MEETING</u>
Sun	15	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
		6.30 pm	EVENING SERVICE at Cald Valley
Mon	16	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion, Wealstone Lane
		6.15 pm	Girls' Brigade
Tues	17	2.30 pm	Friendship Group - Strawberry Tea
Wed	18	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
		7.30 pm	Elders Meeting
Thurs	19	10.00 am	WD 40's Meal at Goodwins
Sat	21	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
		1.00 pm	Wedding of Clive Bergstrand and Judith Baritt
Sun	22	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Revd Ruth Wilson
		6.30 pm	EVENING SERVICE at Cald Valley
Mon	23	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion
		6.15 pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	24	10.00 am	NTG
Wed	25	6.45 pm	Prayer & Praise in the Vestry
Thurs	26	1.45 pm	Food & Fun Outing to Bellis's Garden Centre
Sat	28	10.00 am	Church open for coffee
		10.00 am	Upton Amblers Midweek Walk Leader Chris Porteous
Sun	29	10.30 am	MORNING SERVICE led by Ms Sheila Dunbar
		4.30 pm	CTU Ecumenical Service at URC led by Revd Ruth Wilson
Mon	30	10.00 am	CTU Coffee Morning at the Pavilion

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON COACH OUTING

TO NORTON PRIORY AND THE TWO LIVERPOOL CATHEDRALS

It was a beautiful, sunny day when the coach carrying representatives from the three Churches, Holy Ascension, St Columba's, and Upton Reformed Church left for our day's outing.

The first stop was Norton Priory in Runcorn. We were told this is the most excavated monastic site in Europe. It is built on the ruins of a 12th century Abbey. It houses an internationally significant 14th century statue of St Christopher. Also, on loan until the end of August, is a letter from Henry VIII in response to canons and local people trying to stop his men from closing the Abbey during the dissolution of the monasteries. I think we all enjoyed sitting outside in the sun and having lunch and coffee. The gardens were lovely too: we enjoyed the woodland walk, walking round the ruins and the laburnum arch.

Back to the coach and crossing the new bridge over the River Mersey. We marvelled at its construction and the beauty of the bridge.

The next stop was Liverpool Cathedral which is the largest Cathedral and religious building in Britain. We had time to wander around inside the Cathedral before afternoon tea was served. The cup of tea was most welcome as were the sandwiches and scone with cream and jam or strawberries.

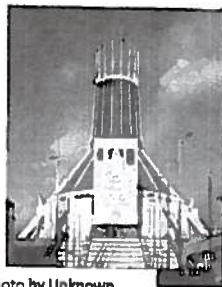
The coach then took us to the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. Again, we had time to wander around the Cathedral before Choral Evening Prayer sung for us by the Cathedral Girls' Choir.

It was a lovely day, and thanks again to John Butler from Holy Ascension Church for arranging another Churches Together event for us.

Margaret Hainsworth



This Photo by Unknown Au-



This Photo by Unknown



This Photo by Unknown Author is li-



Wacky Wednesday

Summer will soon be here and our local schools have asked for confirmation of dates ASAP in order to invite specific families.

Without confirmed volunteer numbers I can't provide these details

WE NEED YOU!

Please add your name to the sheets in the church hall for any week you can help

Thank you for your ongoing support

CHANGE, MADNESS & FAITH

I remember my first church visit in Chester, sitting next to my Great-Auntie Nora, holding my breath in case it was too loud!

When I first helped with Junior Church I never did anything that Auntie Nora would have frowned upon but as time passed I got braver, took risks & even discussed some very controversial topics. Painting with water pistols, unmasking a white cross - the older ones understanding Gods love will win, love rather than violence but the younger ones saw fun & a highlighted cross! Will this fun morning have an effect?

My faith is more important to me today than ever but I do not think that my faith should be the faith of the young people I spend time with. I am not cool, exciting and I am definitely not celebrity. I am a strange, middle aged Mum who loves to get messy & laugh. I am the crisp fiend who will munch while researching different ways of making a mess! But, I am also a sleepy girl who wants to curl up & snooze. The dog walker, who, maybe controversially, talks to God while in the middle of a field, a forest or a beach. The one with mad ideas to make children smile while hopefully sowing the seed which will grow into something special.

Ministry in Action is how Ruth & I sold our idea for holiday club & that was exactly our aim. As I age & our Wacky Wednesdays grow I question if they have changed my approach or my faith? How many have I offended in pushing the madness? Can this offence be outweighed by the seeds sown? Gardeners, how many seeds germinate & grow to maturity? I wonder if any of the seeds we have sown will lead to a faith? How many of our young people will accept the love of God? I do apologise for any offence I have caused in my madness. I don't wish to offend any more today than as a girl with Auntie Nora.

3rd June was my Grandparents wedding anniversary, the anniversary of the last family gathering with Auntie Nora, soon after we were saying goodbye. 17 years on what she would think of that fidgety girl working in a church? Would she be pleased she helped to sow the seed for me? Would she accept the differences between us & our faiths?

Maybe as we get older we should strive to accept change even if we struggle to welcome it? I will try to reign in my madness if it offends & I will train in being loopy if you fancy? Times change, it is a fact. Faith is personal, it should be, but Gods love is the same love as it was before and has been for generations! Our job is to show it through our lives & actions, to educate through example, to take the hand of the scared child & show them in a way that they can understand.

I wonder what the Children & Families Worker of 2038
will be doing if I am this mad? (SHUDDER!)

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

HARVEST SOCIAL



Saturday 29 September

5.45 – 8pm (supper at 6 pm)

**We will be entertained by Entourage,
award winning female vocal ensemble**

Tickets available from Carole Mellor

on 9 and 16 September

Sausage and chips £7.50

Fish and chips £10.00

Prayer Pointers - July 2018

- Sun 1 Pray for Ruth as she leads Vicars Cross "Sunday at Six" worship this evening
- Mon 2 Girls' Brigade celebrating GB's 125th Anniversary with a Fun & Games Evening
- Tues3 Friendship Group and the fellowship enjoyed together
- Wed 4 Those celebrating birthdays this month
- Thurs5 "All my life Lord, to you I want to give"
- Fri 6 Christian Fellowship at Holy Ascension Anglican Church
- Sat 7 Give thanks for the fellowship enjoyed whilst drinking a cup of tea or coffee
- Sun 8 Rev D Hamblin & Rev Ron Reid leading our worship services today
- Mon 9 Pray for all the young people who come through the doors of our church
- Tues10 New Tuesday Group (NTG) as they share their journey of faith & friendship
- Wed 11 Those who attend "Messy Church" & "Wacky Wednesday"
- Thurs12 "This is my worship, please show me how to live"
- Fri 13 Christian Fellowship at St Columba's' RC Church
- Sat 14 Pray for the Church AGM giving thanks for all the work done in God's name
- Sun 15 *We pray for Ken Peters' Pastoral Support Group*
Brenda Bentley John & Margaret Hainsworth Ron Reid
Howard, Lianne, Jacob & George Blackburn David Jones
Nette & Steve Kettell Marilyn Roberts Joan, Ken & Mark Peters

- Mon 16 Pray for our stewardship group maintaining our church buildings
- Tues17 Pray for all those with positions of responsibility within our church fellowship
- Wed 18 Agencies in our world working actively for peace
- Thurs19 "Take every part of me, make it your own"
- Fri 20 Christian Fellowship at our Baptist Church neighbours
- Sat 21 Pray for providers of Church Music – Hilary Salvage & Digital Hymnal Operators
- Sun 22 Pray that our Fellowship will serve God faithfully – Bind us together in love
- Mon 23 Give thanks for our members who lead worship in other churches
- Tues24 Those who clean our church buildings
- Wed 25 Pray for the housebound who find attending church difficult at this time
- Thurs26 "Me on the cross, Lord, you on the throne"
- Fri 27 Pray for Street Pastors as they give their support in Chester on Friday evenings
- Sat 28 Give thanks for the opportunity to share fellowship with Spanish Classes
- Sun 29 Shella Dunbar leading morning worship & Ruth leading CTU worship at 6:30pm
- Mon 30 Our Pastoral Support Group giving thanks for their help & support
- Tues31 Give thanks for holidays and opportunity for refreshment they bring