



St Andrew's

Roundhay September 2021





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BARA BRITH



Recently our family returned from a wonderfully relaxing holiday in Wales, staying near

Aberaeron in the Cardigan Bay region. I've also fitted in a visit to stay with my sister and her family in Hampshire, as well as a visit to my Dad following his recent hip replacement operation. However I returned home to hear about another medical drama which had happened whilst I was away!

Our dog, **Lola** the lurcher, had pinched and eaten half a fruit cake (including wrappings). As anyone who knows about these things will tell you, the dried fruit in fruit cake can be potentially fatal to dogs. Not wanting to take the risk, Rachel rightly whipped Lola off to the vets, where she had the necessary done to make sure the fruitcake left her system swiftly by the same way it had entered. You will be glad to know she now seems to be fine!

However, we missed out on the lovely fruitcake, which had been made by Rachel's mum. This made me think that although we had enjoyed some delicious Welsh-cakes whilst on holiday, I had missed out on any **bara brith**. I love to eat any kind of fruitcake. I also like to taste local culinary delights wherever we travel. So forgetting to sample some **bara brith** whilst in Wales was a big missed opportunity!

Bara brith gets its name from the Welsh language, **bara** meaning 'bread' and **brith** translating as 'speckled'. It is said to have been invented by a Welsh cook who added dried fruit and spices to a bread dough, creating the first version of the traditional Welsh tea loaf. There is still debate on what makes a 'traditional' **bara brith** – many would say its origins are essentially folklore. Dried fruit is often soaked in a tea mixture to plump up the fruit, which gives so much of the flavour. But some spice is often also added, such as nutmeg. Opinions vary from town to village, but no matter whether it is made with or without yeast, lard, or using ordinary white flour, **bara brith** is a taste of Wales!



Why, you might well ask, is there all this talk about **'bread'**. Well, a month's worth of Revised Common Lectionary Bible readings, focussed on chapter 6 of John's Gospel throughout August, had us stuck on bread! Throughout the chapter Jesus talks about himself as **'living bread'**. In Jesus' description of himself as **living bread**, we are reminded that **bread** is one of the basics or essentials of life. The neediest person who has **bread** (and water) has life. Jesus offers his very being to anyone who wants life.

Whatever your dietary preferences, there will be some aromas that just make you feel hungry. It might be freshly baked bread? Grilled bacon? Fried onions? The inviting smells may not be related to nutritional value, just as we know that many yummy snacks like crisps or chocolate or cake do not make for a healthy meal, however tempting they may be. I know after a summer holiday of indulging in richer food that it's now time for a more healthy diet!

Often our relationship with food is personal! So Jesus says he is **living bread** – so consider now what is your relationship with him like? How often do you feed on his word, or drink in his life? There will be times when we snack elsewhere, but Jesus invites us to share with him something that is more sustaining. How is your appetite now? And how will you feed it as we get going again with long postponed activities at St Andrew's?

Jesus demonstrates time and time again in the gospels that it can be through dialogue around a meal table that people learn the deep truths of life. How might we share food with others in a way that opens a dialogue through which our faith is nourished and deepened? Perhaps you will take the opportunities which might arise this month to invite others to share your views, and to engage others in conversation about your faith views, simply by baking or breaking bread! And if your really lucky, maybe you'll get to share some **Bara Brith** too!

Bon appetit! Or, as they say in Wales:
'Mwynhewch eich bwyd! lechyd da!'



Pastoral News as at 19th August 2021

Congratulations to:

Chris Austin and Louise Dudley, Max & Sheana's daughter on their marriage at St Andrew's on 10th July

Neil Parfitt on receiving the Chief Scout's 40 years' Service Award in recognition of his service to Scouting

In hospital:

Pat Walkden

Unwell in recent weeks or recovering at home:

Joan Allen, Pam Clark, Judy Dixon, Doris Douglas, Mandy Grant, Rob Hayes, John Haywood, Jean Henderson, Kaia, Lisa's granddaughter, Nick Lowe, Lois Manning, Ivy Miller, Angela Ndow, Carol Parfitt, Rod Wilson, Kath Wolfe and Sylvia Wright in India

Sadly missed:

Nan Eells, mother of Betsey Whiting
Paul Sayer, husband of Irene

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the days of sunshine we have enjoyed over the summer and we give thanks that we are able to do many things again which were impossible during lockdown. We remember those people who are not finding it easy to integrate back into life with all its busyness and we ask you to help us to be tolerant of those with feelings and attitudes which may be different from our own.

*In your name we pray,
Amen.*



THANK YOU!

Thank you my friends at St Andrew's for your kind wishes and get well cards. I am recovering slowly from my illness and I hope to be fully functional soon. It's good to know that while our little group have recorded the hymns you might be singing if you are at home or humming behind your mask if you're in church.

John Haywood

We would very much like to thank everyone for the many kind and thoughtful messages of sympathy following Nan's death. These have been a great source of comfort to us at this difficult time.

Betsey, Richard and all the family

Sheila, Helen, Matthew, Carol and Levi would like to express their deep gratitude for all the love, prayers, support and practical help they experienced during Owen's last illness and following his death.

Your cards, letters, messages and visits have brought huge comfort at this time and have helped immeasurably.



RoCo

Dramatic Society

RoCo is hopeful of staging one of our popular Murder Mystery Evening Events on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th November. The format may have to be different from usual but the fun element will be the same!

Please note the dates if you'd like to be in the audience and further details will follow nearer the time.

Even better, why not take part? We are always looking for people to join us in acting or back stage roles and would love to see new faces. If you are interested in any aspect of the production, whether on stage or off, please come along to a read through/audition at church on **Monday 6th September at 7.30pm**. A warm welcome awaits.

Jill Marston.





PASTORAL VISITORS



www.clipartof.com - 19529

Some people in the congregation may have heard already that a further 9 new Pastoral Visitors have been appointed. We already have 5 Pastoral Visitors (PVs) at St Andrew's, but it was agreed by Elders that increasing the number of PVs would be a way to assist Elders with the pastoral side of being an Elder.

We have fewer serving Elders this year and consequently, Elders have had several more people added to their pastoral list. The Elders without a PV have not been given additional people. Some Elders have full-time jobs and everyone only has 24 hours in their day!

The plan is that you will have a designated Elder as usual, but some of you will have an Elder who also has a PV to assist them. How much and what exactly the PV will do will depend slightly on the Elder and on individual needs.

The PV may call you occasionally, speak to you at Church or contact you in other ways. Needs will vary from person to person.

It is planned that there will be a special Commissioning Service in church for the new Pastoral Visitors in the autumn.

The Minister, Elders and Pastoral Visitors are there to support our whole Church family. You can help by contacting us when you have a need for yourself or your family.

We will try to offer our care and support in a way which encourages everyone to feel part of our St Andrew's Roundhay Church family.

Elders

John Burgess
Jane Dixon
Ian Douthwaite
Sheana Dudley
David Figures
Mark Grant
Helen Hartley
Alex Jowitt
Karen Lamb
Colin McIlwain
Jane Murray
David Robinson
Sheila Telfer
Elaine Weston

Pastoral Visitor

Jill Marston
Neil Parfitt
Pam Clark *
Eileen Belverstone
John Baillie
None
Beverley Cambridge *
Janet Johnston
Celly Rowe
Lisa Large
None
Joy Weightman
None
Carol Parfitt

Ongoing Pastoral Visitors:

Names above denoted by * on above list

Plus: Elizabeth Breckin, Gill Milner and Anna Sweeney

Sheana Dudley
Pastoral Care Convener





Christmas Appeal – 4th Charity

Dear Friends

I would like to give you the opportunity to nominate a charity you support and would like to be considered for our fourth charity that will share the monies raised through this year's Christmas Appeal.

The charity nominated must fall within the following guidelines:

Christian
Registered
Small
Local to Leeds

When I have received all the nominations I will put them forward to the Elders meeting to be held on the 16th of September and they will then take a short list to the Church Meeting the following week.

There will be a theme decided for this year's appeal, so the charity chosen will be asked to give a short overview of their work within the theme. The chosen charity will then have to give further details and photograph material which will take us up to the launch of the appeal.

Please contact me with your nominated charity by **Friday 10th September** with a short overview at veronicahood@hotmail.co.uk

Kind regards

Veronica Hood
Convenor

TOGETHER MET TOGETHER BOUND *

This was the theme of the service on 25 July 2021 to celebrate 50 years of our German Partnership with the Lutherkirche in Frankenthal and 30 years with the Martinskirche in Bernburg.

It was intended to celebrate this anniversary here at St Andrew's with a visit from friends, including young people, from our partner churches but Covid made this impossible. Due to the wonders of modern technology the celebration service was held on Zoom which allowed people from all three churches to attend.

The service was led by current ministers from all three churches, Pfarrer Martin Henninger and Pfarrer Karl-Heinz Schmidt and Tim. Former ministers, David Grosch-Miller and David Pickering, also took part. The service was bilingual so that everyone could share in the sermon, Bible readings, prayers and there were musical contributions from all three churches.

As a prelude to the service, photographs of partnership visits over the years were shown. Greetings and good wishes were exchanged and after the service there was time for conversation in small groups in "break out rooms".

The whole experience was very moving and brought back memories of places and people when we had been together.

We are very grateful to the many people who took part and to those whose technical "know how" made it all possible.

It is very much hoped that our German friends will be able to accept our warm invitation to the partnership gathering at St Andrew's in July 2022.

Neil and Carol Parfitt

"Together Met Together Bound" is the title of a book written by the Revd John Reardon, on the history of the Partnership between the Evangelical Church of the Palatinate and the United Reformed church.

Martinskirche



Lutherkirche

St Andrew's



BOSTON SPA METHODIST CHURCH

You are invited to join us for an evening of fun and entertainment on **Friday 17th September at 7.30pm**, with Paul Kerensa and friends.

Tickets are available online via the Boston Spa Methodist Church website:

[Boston Spa Methodist Church](#)

Boston Spa **Methodist** Church

After the 18 months we've had we all could do with a good laugh! He's back (at last) by popular request!



Paul Kerensa

and Friends

Friday 17th **September 2021** at **7.30pm**

Tickets – Main Sanctuary or Gallery Circle - **£12**

Rear Sanctuary or Gallery - **£9.50**

available from bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk
01937 842156



Paul Kerensa
Comedian/Writer



Steve Price
Comic/Magician



Jo Enright
Comedian

Those who subscribe to the United Reformed Church magazine, 'REFORM' will know of Paul Kerensa, who is a regular contributor through his feature 'Do stay for Tea & Coffee'.

Jim Murison

email: james.murison@outlook.com

Prayer for Change

*printed simultaneously in the magazines of
Lidgett Park, St Andrew's and St Edmund's churches*



Father of creation,
thank you for all that
you have made;

For the stunning diversity
of humankind, for the beauty of
every flower head, the abundance
of a healthy harvest.

Help us to tread lightly and
live wisely, remembering our
place in the great web of creation.

Challenge us where we need
to change our lifestyles, convict
us when we need to speak out
to amplify the voices of those
who are so often ignored. Give us
the courage to speak truth to power.

Send us out to play our part in
your work of restoring your world,
healing broken relationships, working
for justice and loving all peoples.



My E-Considerations.

In the run-up to COP 26, may I offer my personal ideals and intentions?

Awful things are happening around the world - in Afghanistan and Haiti as I write.

In no way do I wish to belittle such tragedies and pray alongside you all for solace and peace.

Climate change however, could end civilization. Wipeouts of pockets of smaller civilizations have occurred in the past where the environment has been abused.

This time humans are threatening the whole world. Plants will survive; they love CO₂ but the age of mammals, including humans, could come to an end. And it could happen in the lifetime of our living offspring.

We can't all afford a new electric car or ground source heat pumps to heat our homes and I'm sure all of us are by now aware of some of the basic measures we can, as individuals take to save energy and limit CO₂ output....recycling, turning lights off etc.

Hopefully "every little helps", as Tesco says so I offer my personal intentions/practices (though I do admit to falling short at times)

- 1 I now use soap instead of handwash pumps - saves on plastic
- 2 If I *have* to buy products in plastic containers, I buy the biggest possible - 1 .large container requires relatively less plastic than a lot of small ones
- 3 I cut toothpaste and lotion containers in half with scissors or a craft knife to retrieve all the contents.
- 4 I don't fly; wont fly. If I want to visit Italy, I'll go by train
- 5 I save the water that initially runs cold from the shower and use it to flush the toilet. (a money/energy saving tip from my son whose shower is a long way from the boiler.)



- 6 I will not buy anything I don't need (well mostly)
- 7 I have written to Look North, objecting to the 'new dress every day' worn by the weather girls. The fashion industry is a big contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.
- 8 I have replaced all light bulbs with LEDs.
- 9 I avoid leaving appliances on stand by.
- 10 I avoid foodstuff that is imported by air (too expensive anyway)
- 11 I sign petition sites fighting for environmental justice
- 12 I have joined REAP - Roundhay Environmental Action Project- web address (see over the page)
reap-leeds.org.uk
- 13 I subscribe to Possible - an interesting and informative organisation concerning climate change- web address wearepossible.org

I can't think of one to make it 14, but I'm sure we're not superstitious.....
In hope,

Anne Hardiman



Do you have any Eco Tips that you would like to pass on that might help others? Send an email to magazine@standrews.cc and we could make this a regular feature.



REAP - Come and Join your Local Environmental Community Group

With the climate emergency hitting the headlines every day and with the Cop26 Climate Conference just around the corner, there is no better time to join your local environmental action group, the Roundhay Environmental Action Project.

REAP stands for:-

Roundhay – A truly local group

Environment – From more trees to less plastic and everything in between

Action – We run Oakwood Farmers' Market, support tree planting, engage with schools, research green energy and so on

Project – There are tangible things you can be a part of, for example– the edible bed, energy and transport consultations, the market, etc

None of us can fail to be aware of the global climate and ecological emergency that is upon us, but it is often hard for us as individuals, to know how to respond. But.....by joining REAP you can link up with other local people to act together, both within Roundhay and by contributing to city-wide actions and debates.

REAP's overall aim is to promote positive local action on climate change and the environment, to build community and to make our area a more sustainable place in which to live. We have a 14-year history of making things happen on this theme, for example: – Green Hustings to challenge politicians at election time, expert talks on melting ice in the Arctic, encouragement of cycling through the Tour de Roundhay community event, Roundhay Open Gardens, information events on the latest green technology.



Now is the time – the Climate Emergency is the biggest challenge in our lifetime and has grave implications for our children and grandchildren. **Be part of the solution by joining REAP, and if you sign up before the 31st October 2021 your name will be put into a prize draw for a £50 token to spend at the Farmers' Market**

Membership is free. You can find the application form for membership on our website at www.reap-leeds.org.uk or in our leaflet available at the REAP stall at the Oakwood Farmers' Market held on the third Saturday of every month. If you would like further information, email us on info@reap-leeds.org.uk

Tea Cosy+ Memory Cafe is open again!

We are pleased to announce the Tea Cosy+ Memory Cafe has re-opened for those living with dementia.

Instead of Wednesdays, the Tea Cosy+ will be held on the first Thursday of every month between 11.00 - 1.30 at The Highwood Building, Brackenwood Drive, off Lidgett Lane.

With Covid rules restricting singing we will offer reminiscing, group conversation, a music quiz and support for carers.

A light lunch will be provided including homemade sandwiches and cakes. £2.50 per person.

We look forward to welcoming guests back.

Covid government guidelines will be adhered to.

Enquiries: Susie 0113 266 6476



Neil Parfitt was awarded the Chief Scout's 40 Years Service Award in recognition of services to Scouting - well done Neil



Lisa Large has been brightening up her communal garden by growing Sweet Peas and also knitting baby hats for Oxfam. Keep it up Lisa!



Do you have a poem you have written that you would like to share? I know there are a few budding poets out there among our congregation and we could make this a regular feature.

Covid 19

Today I put on my coat of loneliness
it's not my favourite garment
but a much worn one.
It is becoming very familiar.

The colours are rather drab but can adopt a better hue in sunlight
and when it meets up with others from my wardrobe.

I realise many friends are wearing similar garments
and we need to reach out and disrobe and put on coats of many
colours.

We all have one somewhere but they are sometimes hidden.
We need to find them because they shield a loving heart
Which is longing to reach out to offer some comfort

Being alone need not be a prerequisite to loneliness
but the two can go together.

We all need to reach down into our inner selves/souls
to find that sea of tranquility that no circumstances
can disturb.

From there we can look out, build up and climb towards the
sunshine that is the partner of the rainbow and enables us to grasp
hope.

Anonymous

I do hope the author of this poem is feeling brighter now
society is starting to open up again. I have definitely
swapped my coat of loneliness for my coat of many
colours



St. Andrew's has been lit up for the following special people during the last few months

20th June In loving memory of **Best Dad** xxx

19th Aug **Ellen Peel** in very loving memory of her husband **Denis** on his birthday

Light of the World
May Your light shine on those who have lit up the Church
for special people in their lives.
Light of the World
May Your light shine on loved ones missed but forever in Your loving care,
Amen.

Prayer Times

Tuesday Evening Prayer Time

7 for 7.15pm via Zoom

Meeting ID: 892 9702 1135

Passcode: 973783

Thursday Morning Prayer Time

10 for 10.30am via Zoom

Meeting ID: 827 1953 9585

Passcode: 426039



NAN EELLS 4 October 1932 - 12th July 2021

Nan was born in Massachusetts, a place that was always in her heart. When she was young, her stepfather entered her life. Born in Russia, he emigrated to the USA via Geneva and Germany. He helped further her love of Europe and travel and from him she gained a lifelong fascination with languages.

When she was fifteen a young mathematician called Jim Eells became a lodger and two years later they were married. Over the years Jim's work as a Professor of Mathematics took the family to live in different parts of America and also Italy, Belgium and France. They travelled all over the world spending time in Ghana, Japan and other countries.

When they finally settled in England, Nan taught English to new arrivals to the UK from India, Pakistan and Vietnam, many becoming lifelong friends. Wherever Nan was living, the house was always full of people. She and Jim offered hospitality to friends and visitors from all over the world.

Nan had a love of life and a thirst for knowledge. She was determined to keep her languages up even when she was unable to travel.

Family was very important to Nan. She was so proud of her four children, Mary, Betsey, Emily and John and her ten grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. Although the family lives in five different time zones she stayed very close to them all.

Nine years ago Nan moved to Leeds and into St Edmunds Court where she was very happy. St Andrew's became an important part of her life. Nan was warmly welcomed into the fellowship and became an active and faithful member. She enjoyed singing in the Choir, in Singing for Pleasure and in Easter services with four generations of her family. Nan really enjoyed the fellowship she found in the Book Group and the Film Club.

Nan was held in the greatest affection by all who knew her at St Andrew's. We give thanks for Nan's life; her generous hospitality, her kindness and concern for others and all that she was to her family and friends.

Carol Parfitt with acknowledgement to the family.



is very excited to announce the return of



on Saturday 11th September from 3.30 – 5.30pm

St Andrew's Roundhay URC, Shaftesbury Avenue LS8 1DS (commencing in the Roundhay room, entrance via the car park).

Family worship, fun filled activities for all ages followed by a simple meal celebrating Harvest-time.

You're invited to:



Free event for all ages!

but donations towards food and activities are welcomed.

(Our knit and natter group will also be there for those who simply want to knit and chat.)

Please note all children must be accompanied by an adult.

NEWS FROM KOST..

We give humble thanks that KOST, (The Kenyan Orphan Sponsorship Trust) has been able to operate fully throughout the pandemic, keeping up with extra work and a changed landscape both here and in Kenya. Problems come along, but thankfully, we have been able to work through them and we have managed to continue due to unwavering support here and our good Kenyan staff in Homa Bay.

As expected, needs have been great in Kenya. KOST Children's Home has taken in more children, continuing its good care for the most vulnerable. Donations from regular KOST supporters here in the UK have been maintained and although we have lacked fundraising opportunities and that income, we have still managed to pay the rent, all staff wages, for the children's medical needs and for all other basic requirements. The children are all in school. Their fees are paid and every child has just progressed to a higher level this term. The headteacher of Got Rabuor Primary School made a special visit to KOST Children's Home in April. He wanted to express his thanks for prompt payment of school levies in these difficult times, which are helping to keep his school running in the impoverished area near the lakeshore. He also wanted to thank the staff for their work in bringing up such responsible children. Several KOST children are chosen for important roles in school. One is the school's President, another is an environment minister, whilst a third has responsibility to see that children wash their hands regularly and try to keep their masks on.





Last year, during Kenya's first lockdown when the children were at home for nine months, KOST families suffered additional hardship.

They already lived a hand to mouth existence and when markets had to close and travel restrictions prevailed, their already unstable incomes dried up. Food had already been in short supply in these families. KOST Children's Home staff worked as a team and did a sterling job organising and delivering regular food parcels and hygiene supplies to every KOST child and family. It was a huge logistical operation and very much appreciated by these families, who were living on a knife edge on one meal a day.



Motorcycle transport is a common way of travelling around Homa Bay and to the outlying rural areas where tarmac roads are non-existent. They became even more in use when the pandemic started and passenger numbers were reduced on the buses, even though the taxi fares increased. We were so delighted when the Leeds Rotary Club

stepped in to provide KOST Children's Home with its own transport – a brand new motorbike – a Honda Ace model. The bike has already proved a great asset. As well as saving money, it saves endless time and effort and it will be a huge help in the future. If lockdowns occur again, the staff are now well placed to help with speed when it is really needed.

Most of the children's medical needs can be attended to at the Children's Home, but other cases such as for malaria, have to go to hospital. Just now, the hospitals are caring for many Corona Virus cases as well. Bed capacity and oxygen has run out in Homa Bay. The Lake Region, (including Homa Bay) has been called a 'hotspot' for the Delta variant, which is now surging in the country. Hardly anyone is vaccinated. Everyone is being careful; KOST Children's Home and all the schools have strict protocols in place. Our staff feel very unsettled, yet are hopeful that the end of this will be soon. In the meantime, all necessary hygiene equipment has been provided and all is being done to keep everyone safe, with activities running as normally as possible. The children are glad to have their computer lessons, the use of the library, and they have the help of the new carpentry teacher. They are currently learning how to make a table, having already acquired measuring skills and know which tools are best for the job. The new little girls are settling in well and have just started school. Three big boys have started Form 1 at secondary school and are very happy.

Thank you St. Andrew's for your support of KOST. You will never know the good it is doing for the individual children concerned, but for sure it is turning lives round and giving lots of hope for the future. Thank you so much for all your help.

Gill Waterhouse



**KENYAN ORPHAN
SPONSORSHIP TRUST**

FOOD | SHELTER | HEALTH | EDUCATION



**St Andrew's
Roundhay**

is very excited to announce

the return of PARENTS/CARERS and TOTS

Every Tuesday during term times from 10.00 – 11.30pm

commencing on Tuesday 14th September

At St Andrew's Roundhay URC, Shaftesbury Avenue LS8 1DS

(taking place in the main hall, entrance via the car park).

Toys, craft activity, chat, songs.

As places are limited, if you want to attend

it is necessary to pre-book your place via our administrator –

admin@standrews.cc



When booking, please provide details of the numbers of adults and children in your group and we will confirm whether or not we can offer you a place.

We are looking forward to seeing you!



Front cover photograph supplied by Gill Waterhouse of 'DIY SEWING TRAINER, MR. CALVINCE OMONDI.' in Homa Bay Kenya

Church Family Weekend – it's happening!

The date and venue for our church weekend in 2020 had been arranged and several planning meetings had taken place but we all know what happened.

However, 18 months on, we will have our church weekend at Bassenfell Manor, near Keswick in the Lake District on 3rd – 5th December 2021.

<https://www.bassenfell.org.uk/>

Please put the date in your diary. It should be a really great place to be at the beginning of Advent. There are several activities for kids and more leisurely walks for the young at heart.

More details next month!

Planning

Would you like to be part of the group planning this weekend by attending one meeting? Much of the planning has been done already. This meeting will just review and adjust the plans as necessary.

I look forward to hearing from you and we can arrange a meeting – which can be on Zoom if that makes it easier to attend. If you have any questions, please give me a ring.

Sheana Dudley

Yeldud34@gmail.com

0113 237 0389



United Reformed Church National Resolutions

We celebrate with our URC campaigners as 10 significant resolutions on Israel and Palestine are passed at their General Assembly!

On Friday 9.7.2021 we listened intently online as the URC General Assembly debated 10 resolutions, proposed by the Mission Committee, looking to strengthen their commitment towards justice and peace in Palestine and Israel.

A primary focus of the resolutions dealt with the way in which Israeli settlements and forced land acquisitions represent a de facto annexation of the occupied Palestinian territories. Amongst the resolutions were commitments to support more education work within the URC on the situation in Palestine/Israel, including ethical pilgrimages that connect with the Christian community, commitments for members and churches to lobby their MPs regarding settlement expansion and illegal home demolitions, to avoid buying settlement products here in the UK, and to positively support and buy Palestinian products that are available here.

But of greatest significance to our work, and a reflection on the years our campaigners have spent raising awareness of ethical investment choices, was the following commitment:

"After years of research, discernment, prayer, visits, and collaboration with national and international partners, the United Reformed Church has also given its public commitment on investment policies which screen out international companies that benefit from the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories."

Speaking at the opening of the debate, Revd. Dr . Munther Isaac, who was invited as an international guest, made the following statement: We wish to thank the URC for taking this courageous stance, and showing a genuine commitment towards bringing about peace with justice for Palestine. These resolutions have 'teeth' and are not simply

words of support on a page. We have had the privilege of working closely alongside members of the URC to help and assist in this work, and we look forward to continuing to support them as they implement these actions.

You can read the full report on the debate and vote at General Assembly here: [URC passes multiple resolutions about Israel and Palestine](#) We are delighted that in the last few weeks, we have seen the Methodists and URC churches take concrete steps towards screening out companies that profit from the occupation. They join the Quakers, who were our first denomination to adopt this in 2018. This work, led by our Investing for Peace denominational groups, has been the culminations of years of campaigning, educating, and praying for change.

We would love to see the rest of our UK Churches making similar decisions about how they can use their money and influence to support justice for the Palestinians. There are two ways that you can be a part of that!

1. Please consider joining one of our Investing for Peace denominational groups. We currently have groups in the Methodist, URC, Church of England, Catholic, and Scottish Churches. If you would like to join one of these, or are from a different denomination and would be interested in starting something up, please contact us by clicking the link below. We are particularly interested in starting a Baptist group!
2. The work we have achieved with our campaigners this year would not have been possible without financial support. We are grateful to all of our members, and those that continue to support us with both regular giving and one-off donations. Please continue to support us.



Weekly Services 2021

We are once again meeting for public worship as normal on Sundays at 10.30am. Our services will continue to be live streamed as below.

We will be streaming our 'live' worship on Sundays at 10.30am via our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/standrewsroundhay

You can also access this via YouTube afterwards <https://bit.ly/2KTiNel>



Worship is at the heart of church life as people gather together to sing, pray, listen to and reflect on the Bible and celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion.

Through worship we may experience drawing near to the heart of God, spiritual refreshment and guidance for life.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of St Andrew's magazine. The deadline for contributions to the October magazine is 20 September please. Articles may be emailed to magazine@standrews.cc

For handwritten or typed articles please contact the Editor (Claire Westgarth) - details in the directory

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The
**United
Reformed
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