

# St. John's Church Record

July - August 2012



**REPORT ON CHRISTIAN AID  
WEEK  
13-19 MAY 2012**

**Thank You!**

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The total amount raised from the house-to-house collection this year was: £1,572.57. This is an increase on last year's total and only made possible by the dedicated efforts of a few individuals, so on behalf of Christian Aid, a huge thank you to everyone for all your support.

For those of you who are interested in facts and figures, we collected a total of 340 envelopes and Christian Aid will be able to reclaim an additional 25% on £803.05 of the above total (from those who completed the Gift Aid form) adding a further £200 to the total amount. We had 11 collectors plus a further 5 people helping to deliver envelopes, and a wonderful team of 10 people helped count all the money.

The following is taken from the Christian Aid website:

*"We know it can be difficult to fundraise in these tough economic times, but your support and hard*

*work is never taken for granted. Every penny raised will make a difference to poor communities around the world, especially this year when your donation could be doubled thanks to the UK Government."*

The latter statement refers to the Government's UK Aid Match Scheme in which the Department for International Development (DFID) will match the first £5m pound for pound donated to Christian Aid Week, enabling Christian Aid to help more people in poor communities around the world, work their way out of poverty.

Loretta Minghella, Director of Christian Aid, said: *"We are delighted DFID has awarded Christian Aid Week UK aid match funding. (continued on page 2) >>*

**POVERTY**



*to help poor communities around the world live in dignity."*

UK Aid Match, introduced in June 2011, allows the public to have a direct say in how some of the UK aid budget is spent by match funding selected charity appeals for poverty reduction work carried out

in developing countries. More information about this scheme can be found on the following link:

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/ukaidmatch> .

Alison Bond



*Christian Aid Week has been running for 55 years and this is the first time we have ever received this kind of match funding for it. It's a major boost to our fundraising efforts in an increasingly difficult economic climate. The potential extra £5million will make an enormous difference to our ability*

## Soul Food with prayer for healing 12<sup>th</sup> August 8:00 pm

There will be no Soul Food in July due to Julian being away at the General Assembly in Scarborough. But there will be one in August, at which prayer will be offered for healing. If you would like to come to this, but require transport, please contact Julian.

# Stained Glass: a Metaphor of the Church?

## From the Minister

What stained glass can you visualise? Perhaps the modernist stained glass of Coventry Cathedral? Or the traditional stained glass of a Parish Church? A stained glass window has its effect on us because of what we see when the light streams through it. The individual pieces of stained glass are irregular, they may contain tiny flaws, and are different colours; but when each piece is placed in the design of the stained glass designer, and when the light streams through it, the picture or design manifests itself to the viewer. What the stained glass is doing is filtering the light. It is totally dependent upon the

quality of light that shines through it. Indeed, when there is no light, the stained glass is dark and unremarkable. But when light shines either from the outside in, or from the inside out, a spectacle of colour and pattern is manifested.

You and I are each a different piece of stained glass. Individually we are irregular, we contain tiny flaws, we are all different colours; yet when put together in that design called 'church', and when we face the eternal light that streams from God, we constitute something so colourful and attractive that it makes people take notice. Yet we are only a

patterned-filter through which others see the light of God. God the Father is the source of light; Jesus, his Son, is the light-beam; and the Holy Spirit is the effect of that light-beam that illuminates and warms. As stained glass draws attention to the varieties of colours in the light spectrum; so we as the church are to draw attention to the manifold attributes of God's character.

The word 'glory' that features so prominently in both the Old and New Testaments, is the manifestation of God's true character and nature.

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The Church believes that Jesus is the human person in whom we have seen God's glory; "...such glory as befits the Father's only-begotten Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14) Jesus says to his disciples, "Let your light so shine before others, that when they see the good you do they may glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) In letting God's light shine through what we do, others may be drawn towards God's glorious character of truth and love; of justice and grace.

Our task is to point people to that vision of God manifested in the

Scriptures and in the person of Jesus Christ: a vision of truth and love; of justice and grace. The good we do, both individually and collectively, should constitute our mission of putting into practice truth and love; justice and grace. What might this mean in practice?

1. Truth. Let us be truthful and self-critical and realistic about who we are and what we can do with God's help. Being flawed is—thank God—no barrier to our heavenly Father shining his light through us.

2. Love. Let love for God and love for one another motivate all that

we do. For some, this will mean first accepting that they are loveable and loved by God; just as the stained-glass artisan loves and uses all shapes and colours of glass.

3. Justice. Let justice characterise all our dealings with one another, which means treating one another fairly and being willing to speak up for those denied justice.

4. Grace. Grace is God's active help, without which we can do nothing for God. When we accept God's gracious help, it gives us the strength and motivation to be gracious and helpful to others.

## Chipping Barnet Food Bank



A group of churches, led by Julian, has come together to form a Food Bank for our local area. We

will be guided by the national Trussell Trust who have helped the setting up of many such Food Banks around the country.

The plan is that the Salvation Army HQ in Albert Road New Barnet will be used as the centre with recipients with vouchers able to collect a food parcel on Saturday mornings. They will be able to access the building via the side entrance for confidentiality. It is hoped that the project will be open by the Autumn, initially on a modest scale but with capacity to develop. So volunteers will be sought in due course to join a Saturday morning distribution rota.

Andrew Summers

**MESSY CHURCH**  
AT **ST. JOHN'S** Songs  
Crafts Worship Fun  
**Monday 23rd July 10:30 - 12:30**  
At St. John's United Reformed Church Hall,  
Mowbray Road, New Barnet, EN5 1RH  
A simple lunch will be included  
This event is for families and children.  
All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.  
For more information call: Valerie Mills, 07855 116 702

## The Great Ejection 1662, Dissent and Nonconformity

The Reverend Michael Hopkins (United Reformed Church Minister whom I tutored as an ordinand at Mansfield College, Oxford) gave us an informative talk on one of the most significant events that shaped the Protestant church in England—the Great Ejection of 1662—because it effectively divided Protestants into different groups that would later become separate denominations. By Saint Bartholomew's Day, 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1662, over 2000 mostly Presbyterian Ministers refused to conform to the Act of Uniformity, which required the exclusive use of the Book of Common Prayer for worship and ministerial re-ordination by a bishop. Those who conformed remained in the Church of England. Those who did not conform were ejected from their livings as Ministers. They and their congregations were known initially as Dissenters, and later as Nonconformists—a title still occasionally used today.

The Conventicle Act made it illegal for more than 5 people to worship unless they used Book of Common Prayer. Michael told us about a dissenting Meeting House that was built right on the boundary of Dorset and Devon, with doors on both sides. This enabled worshippers, if investigated by officials of one county, to flee to the other and escape their jurisdiction!

The Five Mile Act of 1665 required that a dissenting meeting could not

gather within 5 miles of the centre of a town or city. This, for example, led to the establishment of a dissenting meeting in Highgate, which is five miles from Charing Cross. In 1672 a limited indulgence was granted by Parliament. Upon application, dissenters could be granted a licence to meet in a private house. In 1689, limited toleration was granted for dissenters to build Meeting Houses, in exchange for an oath of allegiance to the Crown. But dissenters were still barred from the universities and the professions. Some Presbyterians set up their own Dissenting Academies. Many of these became Unitarian, others became Congregational.

Michael had done some research about Barnet's dissenting history. John Corbet, Rector of Bramshot, Hampshire, was ejected in 1662, and was later found preaching at Chipping Barnet in 1669. John Faldo was not ejected, but was also preaching at Chipping Barnet in 1669, and licensed as a Presbyterian Minister in 1672. William Tutty, the incumbent of Totteridge, was ejected in 1661, and in 1669 was known to be preaching at Chipping Barnet. Samuel Shaw, Rector of East Barnet, was ejected in 1660. The establishment of a dissenting meeting in 1669, the descendent of which is Wood Street United Reformed Church, was largely

due to these dissenters. English Presbyterians mostly became Unitarians in the 1700 - 1800's. Unitarianism is essentially a rationalist belief in God that denies the Holy Trinity and Christ's divinity. Those Presbyterians who subscribed to orthodox belief often became Congregationalists. Congregationalism, and Presbyterianism in Scotland, was deeply affected by the Evangelical Revival spearheaded by the Wesleys and Whitefield, who also created Methodism. Scots Presbyterians who moved south of the border later revived English Presbyterianism. It was English Presbyterians who united with English and Welsh Congregationalists in 1972 to form the United Reformed Church (Congregationalists and Presbyterians in New Barnet had already united to form St John's Church in 1963).

Julian Templeton

### July and August Meetings of St John's Fellowship.

Did you know that: In 2011 the Bank of England took out of circulation 374,000 counterfeit bank notes ? When you take into consideration that most of these were £10 notes and £20 notes you can see that there is a flourishing criminal industry in counterfeiting. Come and learn how the Bank tries to combat it from Pat Bagster on Wed 18 July  
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when Pat comes to talk to the Fellowship on this topic. Pat is a retired employee of the Bank of England.

Do you know that: The RNLI – “The Charity that Saves Lives at Sea” – in addition to its lifeboat service also provides LIFEGUARDS at more than 180 beaches around the UK and Channel Islands. Come and learn more about the activities of the RNLI when a volunteer comes to address the Fellowship on this topic on Wed 15 Aug. We hope that the talk will include particularly RNLI activities in the Thames Estuary.

*[Note this is a change from the published programme: Andrew Poulter will now give his talk on Wed. 21 Nov 2012.]*

## Outing to Wrest Park

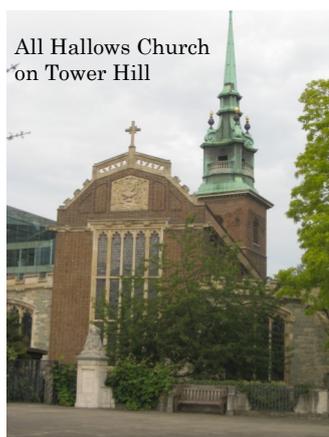
A number of Fellowship Members and friends paid a visit to Wrest Park on Saturday 26 May 2012. We were fortunate to have a sunny afternoon for our visit and in addition to strolling in the



grounds a number of us availed ourselves of a conducted tour around the grounds in a ten seater golf cart with a commentary given by a very knowledgeable volunteer guide. At 4pm we congregated together at the café to enjoy afternoon tea

in very congenial surroundings. Some also visited the ground floor rooms of the house which are open to the public and include display boards which give a very comprehensive history of the house and its occupants over the last 700 years.

Ray Hopwood



All Hallows Church  
on Tower Hill

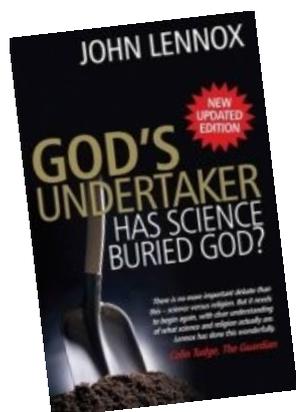
## Toc H London Walk Saturday 1st September 2012

This year's walk is entitled 'Docks, Dickens and Dastardly Deeds'. It is the route that we were due to follow last year but it had to be changed at the last minute because of a protest by the BNP in that area. Hopefully we will be able to complete it this year. It will take place in Wapping, Shadwell and Limehouse along the north bank of the Thames, exploring more of the former docks. This area was once a place that no decent person would risk visiting on their own! Now it is a mix of old buildings and modern developments, interspersed with frequent stretches of water. The walk will be approximately 5 miles long and starts and finishes at All Hallows, the Toc H Guild Church on Tower Hill. Walkers may check in after 10.30am and must complete the walk by 4.30pm. Refreshments will be provided when walkers

check in at the end. The entrance fee is £6 per person and the walk is in aid of projects to advance the education of children, young people and adults in Khasdobir in Bangladesh.

If you would like to join us more information can be obtained from Valerie and Andrew Mills

## BOOKS WE ARE READING.....



As a Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University, Professor Lennox takes apart the argument that scientific thought only leads to atheism and that all scientists must be atheists. Ranging from Aristotle through many influential religious thinkers and scientists to the present day he presents a clear and very logical argument for God as the Mind that created the universe.

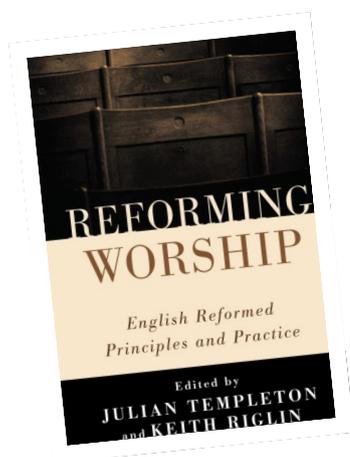
He has debated with leading atheists including Professor Richard Dawkins and he reveals the fallacies and blind faith that support their

arguments against the existence of God. I thoroughly recommend this erudite, thoughtful and very useful book.

Roz Douglas

*"God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?"*  
By John C. Lennox.  
Publisher: Lion UK 2009

## Coming to a Book Shop near you...



Reforming Worship is a collection of essays by Reformed, Anglican and Roman Catholic contributors. It reflects on the continuities, innovations and tensions of the English-speaking tradition of Reformed worship; exploring origins, theology, liturgy, the sacraments, preaching, psalmody and current practice.

Editors:  
Julian Templeton and Keith Riglin

Contributors:

Angela Tilby; Ernest Marvin; David Cornick; Julian Templeton; Keith Riglin; Fleur Houston; David Thompson; Richard Howard; Barbara Douglas; Colin Thompson

Publisher: Wipf & Stock, Eugene, Oregon

An appreciative mention of the team of kind friends who "do the flowers".

These talented ladies, in their turn, come, rain or shine, each week, to make sure that the flowers are there, for our delight, and part of our worship—and later, taken for the pleasure of friends who are unable to be with us.

Some of us, for one reason or another, don't feel able to do our own arranging, and we are grateful to those who do the job so well, on our behalf. So - Alice, Alison, Ann, Rosemary, Sue, and Valerie,

Thank you very much!  
Mary Michael

## Summer Cream Tea



Our Summer Cream Tea raised the sum of £236.58. Thank you to all that supported the event, and especially to Rosemary and David Paul.

## Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet at 8:30pm at the Railway Bell, New Barnet on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July. The next meeting will be a 'Curry Evening' so meet at 8:00pm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

## Women's World Day of Prayer Garden Party

at 1.30pm for 2pm on Friday 27th July 2012

All friends are welcome to come to the New Barnet and East Barnet Women's World Day of Prayer Garden Party where there will be a cream tea. It is to be held on Friday 27th July 2012 at 1.30pm for 2pm to 3pm (approximately) at St John's URC Large Hall in Mowbray Road, New Barnet. This is an opportunity to socialise with people from other local churches who have also been invited along and we hope St John's will offer a supportive welcome.

There will also be a WWDP Bring and Buy stall so do bring an item or money to buy something. Donations of cakes would be welcome.

Offers of help will be gratefully received by Marjorie O'Connor and Brenda Sandford ( St John's URC WWDP Committee Members).

If you think you are coming, please let Marjorie know for catering reasons by phoning her at home-0208 445 6580 or mobile-07515 910514 or seeing her at church. Thanks.

We look forward to seeing you and hope for a fine day. -

Marjorie (WWDP Sec.) and Brenda.

## Bring-and-Share Garden Party at the Manse

Saturday 18 August, 12 – 3 pm  
42 Onslow Gardens, Muswell Hill, N10 3JX

By the 18<sup>th</sup> of August some may be suffering Olympic-withdrawal symptoms! If so, we have the perfect solution for the 'at-a-loose-end' sport spectator, and that is to make your way to Julian and Laura's garden in Muswell Hill. Bring some food with you to share, and we shall hopefully by then have some fine weather! Drinks—including Julian's special version of Pimms—will be provided. Come through the yellow gate on the left of the house to the garden at the rear. There are just two steps to negotiate, and there will be access to a ground-floor toilet. If it is wet, it will become a House Party. Come to the front door, and you will need to be able to climb at least one flight of stairs (handrail provided), since the Manse is a maisonette. With regard to transport, please contact Julian if you need a lift, and he will arrange it. Onslow Gardens is very close to the 134 and 43 bus routes, and 10-15 minute walk from the 234 and 263 bus routes and Highgate underground station.

## Bring-and-Share Lunch with the Kellers,

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July after worship

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of July the Keller family will be visiting from the Czech Republic. Julian will lead worship and Filip will preach the sermon. Then after worship, you are invited to bring some food to share for lunch in the Hall. This gives us an opportunity to speak to Filip, Kveta, and the children. The photograph below

was taken during Julian and Laura's visit to the Kellers in Svitavy in May. You may be interested to learn that on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> of May, Filip led, Julian preached the sermon, and Filip interpreted in Czech!



## Picnic in the Park 3:00pm, July 29th

Come and join the Causeway Group for a picnic in Greenfield Park.

# St. John's Anniversary

50

Next year our church will celebrate a special anniversary.

On 26th April 2013

we will be 50 years! Yes, it is nearly half a century since St. Augustine's Presbyterian Church and New Barnet Congregational Church united to form the present St. John's United Reformed Church. To mark the occasion a number of special events are being planned for the weekend of 26th to 28th April 2013, so make a note to keep that weekend free.

I am writing to appeal to all

present and past members of St. John's for any stories and memories you may have about our church. Did you attend St. John's in its early days in the 1960's, what was it like then? Over the years there have been many special services held here such as weddings, (did you get married at St. John's?) and baptisms, inductions of new ministers and dedication services. We have held flower festivals in our church and halls, do you have memories you would be willing to share? Have you kept any souvenirs of old church magazines, leaflets, programmes etc. of events in the church? Also, do you have any old photos, film or video of church

related events such as the musicals we used to stage or church holidays you went on?

I would like to present a small exhibition during that weekend to reflect church members and friends memories and photos/film of St. John's life over those 50 years, so please get in touch with me.

David Paul  
43 Highlands Road,  
New Barnet  
Herts. EN5 5AA

Telephone: 020 8449 8627

Email:

david.paul11@btinternet.com



## General Assembly 2012

The United Reformed Church meets in its entirety every other year at General Assembly. In 2012, Assembly meets at the Spa Complex in Scarborough, North Yorkshire from 2pm on Friday 6 July to 1pm on Monday 9 July

### A view from the Moderator-elect

On the way towards, during, and beyond General Assembly 2012, we hope that passion, liveliness, creative engagement and a sense of adventure for Christ's sake will draw us out into the deep. Metaphorically speaking, the sea is indeed awash with possibilities!

Michael Jagessar, Moderator-elect, General Assembly 2012-2014

## Calendar of Church Events

### July 2012

Sunday 1st	11:00am	Worship with Communion led by Tony Alderman and David Paul
Monday 2nd	1:30pm	Little John's Toddler Group
Wednesday 3rd	7:00pm	Nosh and Natter at 10 Leicester Road
Friday 6th	8:00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday 8th	11:00am	Worship led by Meg Hardie and Paul Elsdon
Monday 9th	1:30pm	Little John's Toddler Group
Tuesday 10th	8:00pm	Elders' Meeting
Wednesday 11th	8:00pm	Junior Church Teachers' Meeting
Friday 13th	8:00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday 15th	11:00am	Worship led by Rev Julian Templeton: Preacher: Filip Keller
	12:30pm	Bring-and-share lunch in Hall with Kellers
Monday 16th	1:30pm	Little John's Toddler Group
Wednesday 18th	8:00pm	St. John's Fellowship, Pat Bagster – Counterfeit Bank Notes
Saturday 21st	10:00am	Elders' Half Day Retreat
Sunday 22nd	11:00am	Worship led by Sarah Beaumont and Roz Douglas
Monday 23rd	10:30am	Messy Church
Tuesday 24th	8:30pm	Men's Group at the Railway Bell, East Barnet Road
Sunday 29th	11:00am	Worship led by Richard Harvey and Brenda Sandford
	3:00pm	Causeway 'Picnic in the Park', meet at Greenfield Park
Tuesday 31st	8:00pm	Prayer and Discussion Group at 37 Greenhill Park

### August 2012

Wednesday 1st	7:00pm	Nosh and Natter at 10 Leicester Road
Sunday 5th	11:00am	Worship with Communion led by Rev Julian Templeton
Sunday 12th	11:00am	Family Worship
	8:00pm	Soul Food led by Rev Julian Templeton with prayer for Healing
Wednesday 15th	8:00pm	St. John's Fellowship, Ms J. McCann – The Work of the RNLI
Saturday 18th	12 -3pm	Bring and Share Garden Party at the Manse, 42 Onslow Gardens, N10 3JX
Sunday 19th	11:00am	Worship led by Rev Julian Templeton
Thursday 23rd	8:00pm	Men's 'Group 'Curry Evening' at the Railway Bell, East Barnet Road
Sunday 26th	11:00am	Worship led by Alison Bond and Alison Cousins
Tuesday 28th	8:00pm	Prayer and Discussion Group at 37 Greenhill Park

## Calendar of Church Events

### September 2012

Sunday 2nd	11:00am	Worship Communion led by Rev Julian Templeton
Wednesday 5th	7:00pm	Nosh and Natter at 10 Leicester Road
Friday 7th	8:00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday 9th	11:00am	Worship led by Sarah Beaumont and Roz Douglas
Monday 10th	1:30pm	Little John's Toddler Group

### Children's Worker

### St. John's Church (United Reformed)

St. John's Church seeks Christian applicants with suitable skills, experience, and commitment to lead a team of volunteers to run the following activities as part of its ministry and outreach to children and their parents:

Little John's Baby and Toddler Group (Mondays afternoons, weekly)

Junior Church (Sunday morning Christian education, twice per month)

Messy Church (once per month craft-based event)

The successful applicant will be paid £11 per hour, 32 hours per month, including holiday provision.

Applications close on 13th July 2012. For an application form and further information, contact:

#### Alison Cousins

**Email:** [acousins.sjnb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:acousins.sjnb@hotmail.co.uk) **Tel.** 02084471684

St John's Church, Somerset & Mowbray Roads, New Barnet EN5 1RH.

The advertisement has also been placed on [Gumtree.com](http://www.gumtree.com) see link:

<http://www.gumtree.com/p/jobs/part-time-childrens-worker-st-johns-church-new-barnet/105494665>

<b>Minister: Julian Templeton</b>	<a href="mailto:julian@temleton.me.uk">julian@temleton.me.uk</a>	<b>020 8444 5076</b>
<b>Secretary: Tony Alderman</b>	<a href="mailto:aldermantony@aol.com">aldermantony@aol.com</a>	<b>020 8441 4807</b>
<b>Administrator: Alison Cousins</b>	<a href="mailto:acousins.sjnb@hotmail.co.uk">acousins.sjnb@hotmail.co.uk</a>	<b>07816115817</b>