WHAT'S ON MAY 2016

Sunday 15th May at 5pm: Pentecost Celebration with the Bishop Christopher. Refreshments in the Ruins from 4pm.

Sunday 15th-Saturday 21st May: Christian Aid Week.

Monday 16th May at 1pm: Lunchtime Organ Recital.

Monday 16th May at 7pm in St Michael's House: From Extremist to Peacemaker. Based around a showing of the film For the Love of Tomorrow. It is a particular way here in Coventry. Let's all ask God to lead our hearts and minds in our participation as a volunteer, for some perhaps both. Please be praying over the coming weeks about your response – or fill a form in today and return to the box on the community table. We are called to make God's love known in a very particular way here in Coventry. Let's all ask God to lead our hearts and minds in our own individual and practical response to that calling.

Every blessing

John

The Dean and Canons this week . . .

Canon Sarah and the Reconciliation Interns are in Dresden this weekend at the international youth gathering Peace Academy. Canon Sarah is preaching at the Frauenkirche this morning and leading a workshop at the Academy.
CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

PENTECOST SUNDAY 2016: My giving to Coventry Cathedral

Our congregational giving to the general, unrestricted funds of the Cathedral contributes to its ‘lifeblood’. This enables us to pay staff, to heat and maintain the buildings and to run much of the ministry here. Our planned giving or Stewardship helps our Finance Team, who are working so hard to balance the books, to budget for the year ahead.

Our last Stewardship programme was in 2013 and it resulted in a significant number of one-off gifts which were very helpful to the ministry of the Cathedral that year and for which we were very grateful. There was also an increase in regular giving by Standing Orders or Numbered Envelopes, but this has fallen off slightly as we have lost members, sadly through death or through leaving the Cathedral to move elsewhere.

One-off gifts fluctuate year by year, so while the Finance Team can be fairly assured of the level of giving by Standing Order or Numbered Envelope, they cannot assume a total figure of how much they can budget year by year. We do encourage any members of our congregations, who do not already give in a planned and regular way, to join us in supporting this amazing place with its worldwide ministry of reconciliation in this way.

We are very grateful to all who have continued to maintain their pledged level of giving in a sacrificial way. It is now three years since the last Stewardship Programme, so we now encourage you to review your giving, and to join us by giving by Standing Order or by Numbered Envelope if you do not already do this.

Godfrey Armitage, Stewardship Coordinator (on behalf of the Churchwardens)

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY REPORTS. 2015

Marilyn Brown

Marilyn has been moved to Rugby hospital. She would be pleased to see any visitors.

Foyers

November 2015 was the start of the current Foyer groups. There are 42 people engaging in the foyers at the moment and this is an almost equal mix of couples and singles. We currently have seven groups who have engaged in a variety of situations to enjoy food and friendship together. We have had picnics, supper at the golf club, Sunday lunch at home, tea in ‘Rising’ and any number of other situations to share together.

At the beginning of this season members were asked to think about how we could rejuvenate the idea of Foyer groups to encourage more existing cathedral members and new community members to join in. All suggestions would be very welcome. Please reply to me or Canon Kathryn.

Jane Edwards

Coventry Winter Night Shelter

The Coventry Winter Night Shelter, an operational project of Hope Coventry co-ordinated by Nobby Clarke, opens from the beginning of December and runs to the end of March, accommodating up to 18 homeless men and women in a different church hall each night.

When the CWNS began at the end of 2013 we were unable to offer suitable premises at the Cathedral, so instead we teamed up with St Oswald’s Church Tile Hill (another Spence-designed building). For the last three years a Cathedral team has provided, cooked and served meals to homeless people on most Friday evenings from December to March. This winter the Cathedral has continued in partnership with St Oswald’s, with twelve members of the Cathedral community involved in providing meals, setting up camp beds and chatting or playing games with guests, mainly men and a few women, some local Coventrians and others from Eastern Europe or further afield. Through the winter Nobby works hard to move guests on into permanent accommodation.

You would be welcome to join the team next year – or, of course, to volunteer as an individual on a different evening, or overnight or for the breakfast slot at St Oswald’s or another venue.

Margaret Lloyd

Waiting On God

So much of our worship and our prayer with others is spent on talking, not listening, to God. The two (ecumenical) silent Waiting on God groups which started in June 2015 are inviting others to join them as they seek to understand where God might be taking them and the Cathedral. They have a particular common concern to support the life of the Cathedral. Each group meets fortnightly either at the Cathedral on Wednesday afternoon or at Canon Kathryn’s house in Cheylesmore on Wednesday evening. Further details from Canon Kathryn or from me (7667 9126).

Tim Brooke
CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Property Update
The heating has now been switched off as summer has arrived!
Work on the Chapel of Unity will continue at least until the end of the month. All the slates have been removed from one of the 10 bays and at present about 75% have been re-fixed. Each of the 700-odd slates have at least 6 fixings and only 8 slates have had to be replaced due to damage. The contractors’ next task is to point up the joints. There has been long discussion about the appropriate mix to use as this needs to be flexible to accommodate expansion and contraction as well as waterproof. Hot lime mortar, fine sand and ox hair has now been selected. We are submitting an application to the next round of the WW1 Commemoration Fund for a grant towards the cost of dealing with the other 9 bays. The cost is likely to be in excess of £600k excl vat, and the Cathedral will need to raise a proportion of that from other sources - perhaps we should run a sponsor a slate campaign!
The same contractor will soon complete the repairs to the Chapel’s plinth adjacent to the upper car park and then repair the wall to the east side of St Michael’s House which has loose coping stones and requires rebuilding at the corner and repointing.
The Easter cross has been taken down and placed in storage. Before it goes back in the Nave next year it will need some refurbishment including taking apart to check that the suspension bolt is secure. If anyone would like to help please let me know.
Some of you will have noticed that the railings on the south side of St Michaels Avenue were damaged about four weeks ago by a vehicle. If anyone witnessed this or has any information about it please let me know.
Lastly, many thanks to Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers and Margaret Parker for their excellent work on the grounds.
Tony Auty, Director of Property

Coventry Food Bank
Last week I took 257 tins and packets of food to the Food Bank warehouse. They include items bought with cash donations of £155 from 14 people. Thanks to everyone who has supported the Food Bank we have now been able to contribute 12,676 items. The next Food Bank Sundays are June 5th, July 3rd and August 7th.
Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers

Are you the CAT’s WHISKERS?
Find Out on Saturday 11th June at 7.30pm!
On the 11th June 2016 you are invited to a fun evening with CAT’S WHISKERS at a Barn Dance in Stvechale Church Hall. At the same time glow with goodness because all profit from the event goes towards charity work with disadvantaged children. The beneficiaries are the work in our Cross of Nails city of Sibiu, Romania mentioned elsewhere in Cathedral Matters and UNICEF work with children in Bulgaria.
Tickets include supper and cost £10. They are available from me by telephone 07880 500411 or by email – JaneMLWill@aol.com
Have fun! Feel good!
Jane Williams

Captivate: Women’s conference
Sat 18th June: 9.30 to 5.30 at The Welcome Centre Parkside
For more information see leaflet on the Community table.

Community of the Cross of Nails Pilgrimage - May 2016
Partners and soon-to-be partners from India, Austria, Germany, the USA and the UK will be attending the Community of the Cross of Nails pilgrimage from Tuesday to Friday this week.
On the Wednesday daytime, 29 clergy on a visit from France with Bishop John will also be joining the pilgrimage for a short time, and members of the Mothers’ Union will join us for the evening Cathedral by Candlelight.
Thank you to all our cathedral community volunteers who are helping to make this possible - we are looking forward to a varied and colourful few days of sharing stories, learning and building peace!
www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/ccn
Alice Farnhill, CCN Project Worker

Spiritual Formation Course
“An ace to feed the mind, heart and soul that enables us to live more Christ-centred lives.”
Tasters for anyone interested are on Thursday 19th May from 2.15 to 4.15 or 7.30 to 9.30 at St John’s Church Centre, Berkswell.
For more information see the website: www.passionatespirituality.org.uk
or email: Passionatespirituality@live.co.uk
Or see Passionate Spirituality leaflets on the Community Table and events board.
Canon Kathryn

Organ recital Monday 16th May at 1pm
The programme given by Greg Abrahams (Gloucester) will include music by Herbert Brewer, Eugène Gigout, Josef Rheinberger and JP Sousa.

Cathedral Action for Christian Aid Week
Collecting in the Shopping Precinct and at Tesco’s Superstore
Thankyou to those who have offered to help in our Cathedral fund-raising activities for Christian Aid Week. We are still in need of a few more helpers. Even one or two hours of help can make such a difference, not only for us, but more importantly for the Bangladeshi people who need help to be rescued from continual flooding. If you are unsure about helping or have not done it before it can be both rewarding and enjoyable when we collect together.
Do come and talk to one of us at the Community table or by the coffee trolley after today’s service or phone me on 024 7671 1210 or 07962 149236.
Moya Horton, Christian Aid Coordinator

Community Lunch: 22nd May
There will be a simple Community lunch after the Eucharist on Trinity Sunday followed by a short film about the plight of Bangladeshi people who are constantly flooded which will illustrate how our fund-raising efforts will go to solve their problem. Everyone welcome, although it will help if you can sign up at the Community table beforehand. The cost of the lunch will be £5.00 or donations and all money will go to Christian Aid.
Moya Horton

Cathedral Walkers: Wednesday 18 May
Why not join us for our monthly ramble round the Warwickshire countryside? Details are on the Community Table. Please let me know by close Sunday 15th to either 0247646 1946 or daggodall@hotmail.co.uk if you intend to walk, eat, or get the best of both worlds.
Dave Goodall

Moya Horton, Christian Aid Coordinator

Cathedral Action for Christian Aid Week
Collecting in the Shopping Precinct and at Tesco’s Superstore
Thankyou to those who have offered to help in our Cathedral fund-raising activities for Christian Aid Week. We are still in need of a few more helpers. Even one or two hours of help can make such a difference, not only for us, but more importantly for the Bangladeshi people who need help to be rescued from continual flooding. If you are unsure about helping or have not done it before it can be both rewarding and enjoyable when we collect together. Do come and talk to one of us at the Community table or by the coffee trolley after today’s service or phone me on 024 7671 1210 or 07962 149236.
Moya Horton, Christian Aid Coordinator

Community Lunch: 22nd May
There will be a simple Community lunch after the Eucharist on Trinity Sunday followed by a short film about the plight of Bangladeshi people who are constantly flooded which will illustrate how our fund-raising efforts will go to solve their problem. Everyone welcome, although it will help if you can sign up at the Community table beforehand. The cost of the lunch will be £5.00 or donations and all money will go to Christian Aid.
Moya Horton

Cathedral Walkers: Wednesday 18 May
Why not join us for our monthly ramble round the Warwickshire countryside? Details are on the Community Table. Please let me know by close Sunday 15th to either 0247646 1946 or daggodall@hotmail.co.uk if you intend to walk, eat, or get the best of both worlds.
Dave Goodall
Reimagining Europe

‘Reimagining Europe’ is a conversation taking place between Bishop Christopher and Caroline Spelman MP in Coventry Cathedral on Thursday 19th May at 7.30 pm. As the ‘Reimagining Europe’ website says, the ‘central aim is to create a space for Christian reflection and debate on Britain’s future relationship with Europe ahead of the forthcoming referendum on whether Britain should remain a member of the EU.’

Those behind ‘Reimagining Europe’ do not take a particular line beyond a commitment to communicating Christian reflection and commentary in ways that enhance public understanding on an issue that many find both confusing and divisive. To this end, and as part of the exercise of encouraging ‘good disagreement’ on the EU, ‘Reimagining Europe’ contains a broad variety of views from across the political and theological continuum.

The event here on May 19th is just one of a number being planned in different cathedrals (Winchester, Coventry, Bradford, Exeter, Lichfield and Southwark) across the country. The conversation will be followed by an opportunity for questions. Admission is free. Everyone is welcome.

http://www.reimaginingeurope.co.uk/

Calling all Foreign Language Speakers!

I am currently updating the foreign language leaflets which we give out to those visitors for whom English isn’t their first language. Cathedral Guide Martina Thielmann has done a great job on the German leaflet for me, but it now puts the others to shame, so I am looking for anyone who may be able to help with translating into other languages. If you can offer a language please let me know, either in person or via email at carla.crawley@coventrycathedral.org.uk

LB’s Justice Quilt

In 2013, Connor Sparrowhawk (known to family and friends as ‘LB’) died whilst a temporary patient in a specialist treatment and assessment unit. A network of people grew up through social media and elsewhere to support LB’s family. Members of the support group including Janet Read and three other textile artists organised a project to produce ‘LB’s Justice Quilt’ to honour Connor’s life and mourn his death. The quilt has been made from hundreds of fragments of cloth contributed by children and adults in the UK, and from seven other countries, who embroidered, appliquéd, felt-tipped, crocheted and knitted their designs which were then incorporated into an arresting, moving and colourful work of art. The quilt will be hung from the Czech Cross fixing in the Nave from 11 May until 25 June.

Chorister Auditions

Now is a good time for children to audition for the Cathedral Choir. The ideal age for boys to begin in the choir is 7-8; girls can be a little older. It should be emphasised that it is musical potential rather than actual musical ability that is being sought. Singing in tune, good behaviour and focus are the qualities that the choirmaster will look for in a candidate. Our music staff are professional musicians with extensive experience of teaching, training and nurturing young people. We train choristers in proper vocal production, and music reading, nurturing performance skills and confidence. The atmosphere is friendly and designed to get the best out of your child. For more information look at the website http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/wpsite/the-choirs/

Adult singers interested in joining the Chamber Choir are also invited to contact Kerry Beaumont, Director of Music

Cathedral Prayer Circle

In an emergency, a group of us are ready to pray for you and those for whom you are concerned. Contact Meg Bowen on 01926 856928 – brief details would guide our prayers for God’s grace and healing.

Readers

The Readers assisting at the Eucharist this morning are Audrey Rowberry from All Saints Leek Wootton and Richard Spicer from St Mary Cublington.

Soup Volunteer for OPENTable

We are looking for volunteers to prepare a simple soup for OPENTable on 29 May, 26 June, and 24 July. OPENTable is a radically inclusive supper church that gathers in the Nave once a month where all have a seat at the table. We seek to embody reconciliation through our practice of gathering around the table for food, fellowship, prayer, and conversation. We need soup for approximately 30 people. We welcome both individuals and teams of people to help prepare the soup. If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, please email haley.jones@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Breadmaking for OPENTable

Do you have breadmaking skills? Are you lacking in breadmaking skills but enjoy good company? No matter what your answer, we invite you to join us in the kitchen at St Michael’s House on 27 May, 22 June, and 21 July from 10:00-12:00 for fellowship and bread making. We will prepare the bread for OPENTable, a supper church that meets once a month in the Nave of the Cathedral.

Alan Taylor, a longstanding member of the Cathedral Community will be having a 70th birthday Tea Party on 25 June 2016. Please see the Community Table for invitation cards. Amina Brooks

Enthusiasm for Romania

Exciting news! The word has spread and this year volunteers from across the UK have come forward to offer help with the work with disabled children that has been supported by members of the Cathedral community.

We have been supporting disadvantaged people in Sibiu, Transylvania for the last twenty-two years. In the last six years we have sponsored newly-qualified therapists at the end of their courses in Occupational Therapy and in Speech & Language Therapy to work for a month at the “Speranta” Centre with severely disabled children. At the end of their summer’s work past volunteers have come to the Cathedral to explain the impact of their work not only on the children, but on their own lives.

Romania is still recovering from the effects of the Ceaucescu dictatorship that included the creation of an extremely poor underclass. The volunteers that we sponsor take with them skills that are still not taught in the same depth as in the UK. The paid workers at the centre also add to their skills as they observe new techniques. Each volunteer pays towards their costs and the charity SHARE also contributes. I am now seeking to raise the balance of £1200 in sponsorship. Please get in touch with me if you are able to help. “Speranta” means HOPE – and that is what we can give to those children.

Jane Williams, 63 Daventry Road, CV3 5DH.
JaneMLWill@aol.com

P.S. Today I am in Sibiu to attend the official opening of Father Simeon’s social centre about which I have spoken before. His work with poor parishioners and disadvantaged children is a model of Christianity in Action.

The flowers on Unity steps are in loving memory of Pat Satchwell whose anniversary falls today.