



Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church June 2018 Newsletter



Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

3 rd	Revd Sarah Simpson including Holy Communion
10 th	Terry Riches
17 th	Revd Alyn Owens
24 th	Revd Adrian Heath

Murmurings from the Manse

Most royal weddings have a particular point of interest, apart from the dress that is, and the recent royal wedding did not disappoint!

However, it is doubtful if anyone thought the biggest talking point would be the address given by Bishop Michael Curry of the US Episcopal Church, and yet that is what happened.

I didn't watch the wedding, but soon after my Twitter timeline was alive – and whilst a few were negative about the Bishop, the majority were nearly as enthusiastic in their reaction as the Bishop was in St. George's chapel.

Why? What did the man say that has made such an impact? And perhaps most importantly, why is anyone surprised that a Bishop of the Episcopal Church was a dynamic preacher?

So let's consider a few of the lines from his address –

“There's power in love to show us the way to live.”

“Someone once said that Jesus began the most revolutionary movement in human history.”

Continued overleaf

“we must discover love, the redemptive power of love. And when we do that, we will make of this old world, a new world.”

These are not revolutionary statements, nothing we haven’t heard before, but everyone seems to be talking about them. Was it his exuberance? His delivery? The way in which his address broke all the accepted conventions of what we expect at a royal wedding?

Or simply – could it be his faith which shone through so brightly as to infect all those listening.

And how, the day before the church celebrated Pentecost, how apt it was to hear in plain simple language what it means to live a Spirit-full life.

One denomination quickly produced a response to the Bishop, suggesting questions their clergy may be asked and how they may respond – was that necessary? Wouldn’t it be a more honest response to say, “that’s what it means to know Jesus and have a relationship with him.”

So what did you think of the Bishop?
And more pertinently what do you think Jesus would have thought?

In His name,

Sarah

Rotas for June

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Notices	Readings	Communion	Tea
3 rd	Angela	Richard	Jack	Jenny	Nicky, Fiona	Andrew, Fiona	Jack, Isobel
10 th	Doreen	Joy	Andrew	Joy	Ron, Margaret		Fiona, Eileen
17 th	Margaret	Lorna	Jenny	Jenny	Andrew, Brian		Ron, Margaret
24 th	Eileen	Jack	Joy	Jenny	Lorna, Jack		Joy, Jenny

Happy Birthday this month to Lucy Dixon

This Time Tomorrow -

I'm Tom, christened Thomas, I celebrated my 70th birthday recently. It's just my brother and I now, he's older than me. My Dad was an engineer of caravan chassis and my Mum was a cake maker - largely for the URC!

I grew up in Hale near Altrincham. I studied bio-chemistry at Sussex University. I'm a micro-circuit designer by trade, having got into electronics working on the Union disco and then worked my way round the industry - having about seven jobs in that time.

Jenny and I met at Sussex University. We have a daughter, Jane, who is now a Junior Doctor.

I got interested in politics and joined the SDP. I'm interested in what is happening in the world. I've continued to be keen on music of all sorts and have around 400 records, vinyl and CDs.

I've been a member of the URC for 10 years having come from a Congregational background.

Gift day

On the Gift Day in May a total of £2,970 was raised for church funds. Thank you to all those who donated.

Reform
NEWS COMMENT INSPIRATION DEBATE

In June's edition of Reform magazine there are three articles about immigration

"I am... a Windrush generation immigrant"

"Is Britain unwelcoming - one question, four answers"

And "Farewell to Nancy", a worrying story of a woman who died from a pulmonary embolism five days after being driven to an immigration removal centre. Search for Nancy Motsamai to also read about her in the Guardian.

Church Diary for June

Welcome to Lorna

At the Sunday service on 3rd June Lorna Lewis will be received into membership and we welcome her family and friends to the service.

Church Meeting

Thursday 21st 7.30pm

Badminton in the Hall

Friday 29th June evening

For your July Diary

Church Lunch at Cross Keys

Sunday 1st July

Community Tea

Saturday 7th July

Elders Meeting

Thursday 12th July 7pm



Hive Toddler Group for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers, meets Thursday mornings, 9.30-11.30

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