

Holyhead Herald

Special May 2021 Edition

The magazine of Holyhead Road United Reformed Church, Coventry

From our Minister

Dear Friends,

One of my favourite Abba songs is 'I have a dream', and we have all dreamt of this pandemic ending. We all have dreams and some of us are able to fulfil a dream, but there are many people who cannot. We know there are people in our community who cannot fulfil their dreams and many who struggle to fulfil them each day. As a Church we want to come together to say that we believe Jesus came so that our communities can have life in all its fullness and we pray for wholeness and healing.



During this month we have Christian Aid Week (10th-16th May) and churches around the country will be raising awareness of funds to help people get to the end of each day and then maybe fulfil dreams. Life in all its fullness in the most basic of ways. Some dreams are bigger than other dreams. For many a dream will be a big house, while for others a place of shelter. For some a hot drink in bed every morning, for others a drink of clean water without having to walk miles to find any.

What are our dreams? What are the dreams of our Church? What are the dreams of our community? As we live in the season of new hope for all maybe it is time that our dreams become dreams of life in all its fullness as an agenda for those we serve.

God bless you all

Love Debbie

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday Worship: each week at 10.45am (details in the weekly newsletter)

Coffee Morning: fortnightly at 11.00am on Tuesdays (next: 4 May)

Prayer Meeting: last Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm (next: 26 May)

For details of how to connect via Zoom, please see the weekly e-mail and newsletter, or speak to one of the Elders.

Quotes

To spend an hour worrying on our knees is not prayer. Indeed, there are times when it is our duty, having committed a problem to God in prayer, to stop praying and to trust and to do the necessary work to arrive at a solution. – *Oliver Barclay*

Prayer is not an argument with God to persuade Him to move things our way, but an exercise by which we are enabled by the Holy Spirit to move ourselves His way. – *Leonard Ravenhill*

Before Christ sent the Church into the world, He sent the Spirit into the Church. The same order must be observed today. – *John R W Stott*.

The Spirit-filled life is not a special, deluxe edition of Christianity. It is part and parcel of the total plan of God for His people. – *AW Tozer*

There are churches so completely out of the hands of God that if the Holy Spirit withdrew from them, they wouldn't find it out for many months. – *AW Tozer*

In one sense, Pentecost can never happen again. In another sense, it may always be happening, since we live in the age of the Spirit. – *AS Wood*

Keep the faith...but not from others! – *Anon*

The longest journey is the journey within. – *Dag Hammarskjold*

The real measure of a man's wealth is what he has invested in eternity. – *Anon*

It is possible to be so active in the service of Christ as to forget to love Him. – *P T Forsyth*

It is necessary to draw near to God, but it is not required of you to prolong your speech till everyone is longing to hear the word 'Amen'. – *CH Spurgeon*

Prejudice is a loose idea, firmly held. – *Anon*

Editorial Comment

There is a tendency at the moment in some parts of the press to use the word “woke” to describe someone. It is intended to be an inherent criticism or, even, ridicule – as if it is a self-evident truth that anyone who might hold ‘those’ views is totally misguided and possibly unpatriotic. The word is used in a similar way to that deployed when someone or something was previously described as “politically correct” or “left wing”. Some seem to think that the use of the word, in itself, is an obvious criticism.



I have to say that, if the allegation of being “woke” means that I am willing to be considerate towards others, to treat everyone equally, and to safeguard the future of our planet, I am happy to plead guilty as charged! I think that the problem is that people feel threatened by new ways of thinking, and want things just like “the good old days”. If those ‘old days’ were built on self-interest and gain at the expense of others, maybe they weren’t so good.

Of course, people may hold different views, and will sometimes make it clear that they disagree with one another, but people shouldn’t be mocked for what they believe.

The early followers of Jesus were ridiculed for their beliefs, and the use of the word “Christian” was a derogatory term in some quarters. They were perceived as a threat to the establishment. Initially, people were afraid and hid away, fearing that they would suffer the same fate that Jesus did. However, that changed at Pentecost. Even though people laughed at them because it was thought that they were drunk, they still felt emboldened to speak out about God’s love and saving grace. Like Jesus, they were not afraid to stand out from the crowd, or ashamed of being different.

This isn’t just a piece of history, important though it was. The Spirit still emboldens people today, energising them with the desire to love, serve and witness to the power of God.

What about us? Is Pentecost just something we read about in our Bibles, or something that we experience on a day-to-day basis?

Steve Powell

The
Tale of the
**TWO
BUILDERS**



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES



THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.

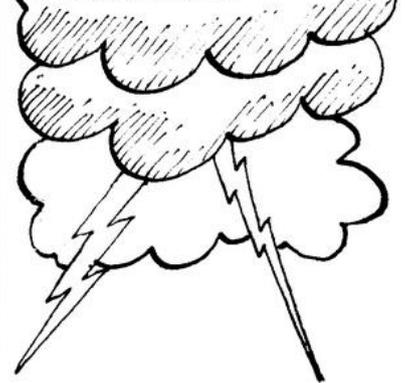


THE OTHER BUILDER
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE
BUILT HIS HOUSE

HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.



BUT ONE DAY THE
STORM CAME...

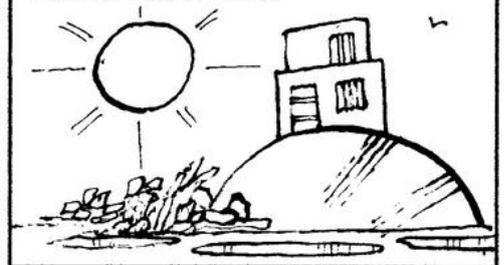


...AND THE WIND BLEW...AND
THE RAIN FELL....



...AND THE HOUSE ON
THE SAND COLLAPSED!

BUT THE HOUSE ON THE
ROCK STOOD FIRM.



JESUS EXPLAINED -
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE
A FIRM FOUNDATION.