

BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH

CALENDAR FOR MAY 2010

WORSHIP SERVICES

2 May 11.15am General Assembly Feedback Service

9 May 11.15am Women's League Service

16 May 11.15am Service

23 May 11.15am Whit Sunday, *Holy*

Communion immediately following the service

30 May 11.15am Unity Sunday
Special Service at

Holebottom Cemetery, 3pm

(followed by afternoon tea at Holebottom Cottage)

CHURCH STEWARDS

2 May Lois & Alan Williams

9 May Susan Holt and Barbara Bamford

16 May Miriam Murphy and June Seddon

23 May Barbara Bamford and Allan Hodgert

30 May Sybil Poulson and Molly Ratcliffe

If you are unable to fulfil your duties on the date given, please inform Harry so that stand-in steward(s) can be allocated to that date – thank you.

CHURCH FLOWERS

2 May Church Flowers

9 May In loving memory of George Kenyon

16 May Church Flowers

23 May In memory of John and Rhona Smith

30 May In memory of Mr & Mrs Stanley Warburton

Distributors: Barbara Bamford and Sue McMullen

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SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA

1 May Jean Maden and Margaret Pollard

8 May Margaret Fitzpatrick and Jean Jackson

15 May Pat Haworth and Jean Taylor

22 May Barbara Ashworth and Vera Stephenson

29 May Barbara Bamford and Freda Worthington

LUNCH CIRCLE

The Lunch Circle meets on Tuesday, 18th May at 12.30pm. The organisers are Harry, June, Marc and Michael. Please let Harry know if you are unable to attend.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

13 May 7.30pm Harry Taylor
Working with the Kenyons

The Women's League are holding their project evening on **Thursday, 17th June at 7.30pm.**

This year's project is in aid of Margaret Barr's school in the Karsai Hills. We shall be having a Bring & Buy Stall and a Raffle. Susan Holt will talk on her holiday 'Hunting Tigers' and supper will be Indian nibbles. **Tickets will be £2**

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday, 26th May 7.30pm Speaker to be announced
All men cordially invited

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, 10 May 7.00pm Communications
and Worship/Young
People Wednesday, 12 May 7.30pm Ef-
forts

CALENDAR DEADLINE

Copy for the June Calendar should be in the yellow folder by Sunday, 23 May please.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

I am writing my contribution to the May edition of the church calendar on the day that the Prime Minister has asked Her Majesty The Queen to dissolve Parliament in order that a General Election might take place on 6 May. The date itself is not a surprise, as nearly every political commentator, town hall and election official in the country had reckoned on that being the most likely day for the ballot. What is surprising is the nation's apparent uncertainty as to which party should lead the nation out of recession. Conversations revolve around the possibility of a hung Parliament, and supporters of minority parties are excited at the prospect that their leaders might exert some degree of influence in the formation of a coalition government, or at least be consulted over the composition of a new ruling structure.

As we endure together the coming four weeks of electioneering, what place does our faith hold in the process of assessing the candidates for our local constituency, and what role do our religious convictions have in determining which party is to receive our allegiance? There is a consistent voice that calls for civil and religious freedom in our small but influential dissenting tradition, and that voice has often spoken out in favour of sections of our society that the political parties failed to consider in their plans for the future. Have we any equivalent concerns today in modern Britain? Are there people or groups of people for whom we should have a special concern as the politicians talk about "a more just society" and "fairness for all"?

On 6 May 2010, I encourage you to exercise your right to vote. In the weeks leading up to that date, I would also encourage you to examine the policy statements made by the local candidates and by their party leaders, and judge them in the light of your faith. ***"Truly I tell you: anything you did for one of my brothers here, however insignificant, you did for me."*** [Matthew 25.40]

JEFF

**EFFORTS COMMITTEE EVENT
AT BURY UNITARIAN CHURCH**

MAGICAL MUSICAL EVENING

SATURDAY 8TH MAY AT 7.30PM

**FEATURING STAR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIST
BYRON JONES**

A welcome return visit playing his WERSI SCALA organ

*To reserve a ticket priced at £5 (including refreshments)
telephone: 0161 764 6374 or 0161 764 3979 or see Mar-
garet Fitzpatrick or Colin Smith*

NOT TO BE MISSED**DON'T DELAY****BOOK TO-
DAY**

MEDITATION GROUP

The May meeting of the group will take place on Thursday evening, the 27th, from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Light refreshments are always served at the end. Newcomers are always welcome to take part in this monthly exploration of different methods of meditation. If you would like further information, please speak with the minister (telephone 0161 764 4925).

BOOK CLUB

The book to be read for Monday, 24 May will be announced in the course of Sunday services from 2 May onwards, as it will be decided at the April meeting. The group will next meet on 24 May at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

JAM JARS

1 lb jam jars are needed by Barbara Ashworth. Please note she has plenty of the smaller jars.

POINTS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCIL MEETING

The following issues were discussed at the recent Council Meeting on 12th April

The result of the voting regarding Chalice Lighting was: 44 for, 14 against, and 1 invalid voting paper, a total of 59 votes in all. Council agreed to go with the majority vote and accordingly chalice lighting will continue at the beginning of our Sunday services. Attempts will be made to acquire a plinth which fits in better with the other furniture in Church.

Anyone wishing to do a reading during the Sunday morning service but preferring, for whatever reason, not to do so from the pulpit may do the reading from their seat in the congregation by using the hand microphone. Anyone interested in doing this should speak to the Minister.

Sue McMullen has kindly agreed to help June Clarke with the children on a Sunday morning.

Many thanks were extended to Betty Kenyon for the lovely, welcoming children's corner which is impressive and has already been put to good use.

Enquiries are being made about a visit to Kendal Unitarian Church on a Wednesday in the summer when it would also be possible to go to see the Quaker Tapestry.

A budget has been agreed for the purchase of a plaque listing all past and present Ministers of this Church, including Chesham and Heywood.

Membership applications were accepted for Lynda and Ewan Arthur and Roy Holden.

Risk Assessment for this Church and its members is continually monitored and updated. Regulations to ensure the safety of people in the upstairs hall should a fire occur during an event are to be adhered to by the 'responsible person' and these will be displayed on the noticeboard and circulated to all key holders.

Ainsworth Unitarian Chapel News

SUNDAY SERVICES in MAY 2010

10.00 am 2 May Rev Beryl Allerton

6.30 pm 9 May 295th Chapel Anniversary
Mr Neville Kenyon,
President of The General
Assembly

10.00 am 16 May Rev Desmond Porter

Chapel Anniversary Sunday 9th May

We send our warmest congratulations to Mr Neville Kenyon on his appointment as President of The General Assembly and look forward to his visit here on the occasion of our 295th Chapel Anniversary on Sunday 9th May.

4.30 pm Tea in the Schoolroom (Tickets: £4.50 from Harry)

6.30 pm Service in Chapel

IN MEMORIAM: MRS PEGGY MASSEY 1922 - 2010

Mrs Margaret Massey, always known as 'Peggy', passed away 30th March, aged 88 years. Peggy had been poorly for some years and was resident in Park View Nursing Home, Bolton.

Peggy is remembered with much love and affection. She, and her husband Peter, were both stalwart members of the Chapel with Peggy holding the office of Chapel Treasurer for many years.

We send our deepest condolences to her son, Philip and Gwen and the family. A Service of Thanksgiving was held

in Chapel on Monday 12 April, followed by interment in the Chapel yard, The Rev John D. Allerton officiating.

LADIES' SOCIAL GROUP

Because of The Anniversary Tea on Sunday 9th May, there will be NO meeting in May.

NEWS OF PEOPLE

Mrs Nora Evans suffered a broken wrist in a fall and is in plaster for 5 weeks. Nora is coping well with the inevitable disruption to normal routine, and we send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Mrs Ivy Partington was re-admitted to hospital for observation following her hip operation and we hope that she will soon be home again.

“Bury Unitarian Church is an intentionally diverse religious community.”

This congregation is a member of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, whose object is:

“To promote a free and inquiring religion through the worship of God and the celebration of life; the service of humanity and respect for all creation; and the upholding of the liberal Christian tradition.”

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

But blessedness comes to the man who, in spite of failures
and failings, still clutches to him the passionate love of the
highest.

William Barclay