

Report from the latest Elders Meeting January 2020

- It is important that all users of the church take seriously the **Security** (locking up) and the **Condition** (cleanliness, hygiene and general tidiness) of the Church.
- Following a Review of the Christmas programme issues there are proposals for a changeover to using battery operated candles, a 6.00pm start, and a Crib service for the children.
- We have changed over from contract cleaning to appointing a new cleaner, Mel Watts who is a Toddler Mum and has already shown a real interest in the job.
- The Elders are aiming to get a report on the Organ, before the February Church meeting, from the firm who have been servicing it for many years.
- Terry is looking into updated time clocks for the heating system
- Regular attendance has declined in 2019 and we must all be aware that the Synod monitors numbers for scoping purposes.

The next Church meeting is on 23rd February 2020



Jane Jones is taking over the coordination of the church newsletter from the next edition.

Jane is Graham and Carol's daughter. She is planning to run a community slot on the back page.

If you have any interests or events you would like to share with the church please let her know.



**Winners of the URC North
Wiltshire District Pastorate
Elders Cup!!!**

January 2020

Malmesbury United Reformed Church

St Mary's Street
Malmesbury
Wiltshire www.malmesburyurc.org.uk



Minister: REV. SARAH SIMPSON

Tel. 01666 826866

16 FEB - 3 MAY 2020 SERVICES

16 Feb	10.30	Rev Bob Hyatt	Jnr Church
23 Feb	10.30	Rev Sarah Simpson H/C	Church Meeting
1 Mar	10.30	Rev Sarah Simpson	Café Service
8 Mar	10.30	Rev Brian Eyles	
15 Mar	10.30	Bernard Crabb	Jnr Church
22 Mar	10.30	Rev Sarah Simpson H/C	
29 Mar	10.30	Juliet Smith	
5 April	10.30	Rev Sarah Simpson	
10 April	10.30 pm	Rev Sarah Simpson	Good Friday
12 April	10.30	Rev Andrew Francis	Easter Sunday
19 April	10.30	Terry Riches	Jnr Church
26 April	10.30	Rev Roy Lowes	
3 May	10.30	Sara Crabb	Café Service



Murmurings from the Manse

I always wanted to live in 'the twenties' and now I will. Of course, there is a slight difference of some 100 years from those that hold such appeal to me and those that lie before us.

The original twenties were a time of great change, of advancement and uncertainty in equal measure; many flourished during this time but many struggled, and as things are, I suggest the same will be true for the twenties that lie before us.

2020 has shown that and we are only in the 1st month of the year – already some certainties have shifted and fragile political allegiances are showing cracks.

I suggest it is not change itself that proves to be a challenge but rather the speed by which change happens these days. Change can be instant, with a swipe on a phone we are never the 'last to know' and whilst that brings increased knowledge it goes hand in hand with increased responsibility, to ourselves, our community, our country and our world.

The twenties will be the decade that sees climate change become our top priority, our care for creation has not been all it should and time is against us; how we care for our world informs the choices we make and the choices we make have an impact far beyond what we see.

We stand at the beginning of a new decade, our chance to influence its outcome has rarely been so great, let us prove to be worthy of the trust placed in us.

Yours in Christ,

Sarah

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

27th Eddie Leitch 29th Marc Evans

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

15th Jessica Evans 22nd Maureen West

29th Audrey Waters

MAY BIRTHDAYS (to 3rd May)

1st Keith Leaworthy 2nd Claire Edmeston

3rd Suzanna Tomlin



Sarah and Ed — new music makers at the URC

ANSWERED CHRISTMAS APPEALS

- £107.17 was raised from the Christmas card collection; £143.41 from the Carol Service Offertory; £30 from the Christmas Day offertory. A total of **£300** was sent by Malmesbury URC to the YMCA for **BECOME A ROOMSPONSOR** at the YMCA.
- The **CTIM VOUCHER** scheme across all the churches raised over **£3500** and provided 80+ families with Coop food vouchers to celebrate Christmas and to know that the local churches care for them.

In addition The **FOODBANK** operating from our premises distributed **over 100 food parcels** during the run up to Christmas.