# **Cambridge Unitarians**

### Newsletter - June 2016



## A thought for the month of June

On 22 May, we sang 'Colour and Fragrance' written by the Czech Unitarian martyr, Norbert Čapek. Here are a couple of verses:

In human eyes burn the soul of living, illumines altars of loving giving.
Greeting, we meet, seeing light brightly glowing, share in a greater life, God's vision growing.

Shaper of all things, to us you've given our chance to keep here on earth, a heaven. Moving in harmony, light gently glowing, may we be, gratefully, God's vision growing.

#### Minister's sabbatical

Andrew Brown is continuing to post to his blog while on sabbatical. Well worth dipping into! <a href="http://andrewjbrown.blogspot.com">http://andrewjbrown.blogspot.com</a>

#### **Summer Tea Parties**

For the last few summers, we've enjoyed afternoon tea parties at the homes or gardens of members or friends of the congregation. If you might be interested in hosting a tea party in July, August or September, please contact Brendan Boyle on 01480 387883 or <a href="mailto:brendan.eugene@btinternet.com">brendan.eugene@btinternet.com</a>.

# **Accessibility Project: progress during May**

Two staff from the City Council Planning Department visited, along with our architect, to discuss our plans. It was a useful conversation and we are now waiting for their official written comments.

#### For your diary

**Sunday 5 June**: 10.30am Service led by Matthew Smith, minister to the Unitarians of Framlingham and Bury St Edmunds, leads our worship. The theme is 'Fruits of diversity'. Bring & Share Lunch after the service.

**Sunday 5 June**: 8pm. Referendum Hustings at St Columba's URC Church, Downing Street, Cambridge. Speakers from leave and remain campaigns, chaired by Lord Wilson of Dinton. Questions may be submitted in advance to Nigel Uden <a href="minister@urccandf.org">minister@urccandf.org</a> Organised by Centre of Cambridge Churches' Forum.

**Thursday 9 June**: 7-10pm in our church. EU Referendum Conversation Cafe.

A <u>Transition Cambridge</u> and <u>Pivotal Cambridge</u> event. In? Out? Or undecided? An evening of facilitated discussion and honest conversation to help voters with their decision ahead of the Referendum. No speeches or party-political debate, no fear-mongering or political spin, this event is a space in which to listen and be heard. Free entry (suggested donation £3 - £5) Booking required - visit this <u>link</u>.

**Sunday 12 June**: 10.30am. Service led by Mark Mason, a member of this church. His address will be on 'The tree of the knowledge of good and evil'.

**Sunday 19 June**: 10.30am Service. Jackie Metcalfe, a friend of our congregation, and a trainee Church of England lay reader, will share 'Some thoughts on Fathers' Day'.

Wed 22 June: 12noon-2.30pm. Lunch Club Offering companionship, good food and an opportunity to talk about a particular issue relevant to the well-being and happiness of retired people or those planning retirement. A donation of around £3 is suggested to cover the cost of the meal. Throughout 2016, we will be exploring 'Attachment and Separation'. Contact: 01480 432284.

Sunday 26 June: 10.30am. 'God as verb, noun and adjective' - a service led by Andrew Hill from York. Andrew has a long and distinguished ministry at St Mark's Unitarian Church in Edinburgh.

#### **GA Youth Programme**

If there are young people in your household, you might be interested to learn about a couple of activity weekends that are being run by the Unitarian GA's Youth Programme.

Bridging Weekend for 16-21 year olds is at Flagg Barn near Buxton, Derbyshire and consists of discussions, walks, trips out and generally chilling out. (£30)

Castles in the Clouds (1-4 August) is a Unikids holiday for 7-14 year olds at Swanage youth Hostel in Dorset. Fun, games, creativity, walks, exploration of Unitarian values, sandcastles and a visit to Corfe Castle. (£110)

Five Days Away for 12-17 year olds(8-12 August at The Nightingale centre, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire). This will be five days of fun, creativity, friendships, discussions, outdoor pursuits and all sorts. (£125)

https://www.unitarian.org.uk/get-involved/ youth-programme/events

Or email John Harley, Youth Coordinator on <a href="mailto:iharley@unitarian.org.uk">iharley@unitarian.org.uk</a>.

#### **New members**

The committee is delighted to welcome Hilary Taylor and Susanna Hartland as members of the congregation.

#### **Neil Falkner**

A plaque in memory of Neil Falkner, a neighbour and friend of the church, was installed in the church next to a similar plaque for his late wife Mimin. It was created by <a href="Eric Marland">Eric Marland</a>, an artist specialising in the carving of letters in wood and stone. Eric's studio is in the former chapel of Ascension Burial Ground off Huntingdon Road.

# **Campus Ministry**

As mentioned in the GA report circulated with the May newsletter, your committee agreed at its recent meeting to start exploring the possibility of a 'campus ministry'. This would most likely involve setting up a Unitarian society at Cambridge University, trying to forge a link with the Student Christian Movement and developing our existing, but very tenuous. links with the Progressive Christian Network. It was decided in principle to allocate up to £10,000 of our Ministry Development Fund to this venture. Details of the project are still to be worked out. Andrew Bethune and Andrew Brown are in discussion with Susanna Hartland, and Joan Cook of the GA. We are hoping that the GA may be able to provide some funding. It's a great opportunity for the church to engage with the educational community of our city.

## **About our church**

This church belongs to a liberal Christian tradition which welcomes the loving, critical and enquiring spirit. It is founded upon an 'open trust' which imposes no doctrinal tests upon its minister or members. We meet in the spirit which is exemplified in the life and utterances of Jesus, for the worship of God and the service of humankind.

**Church address**: Memorial Church (Unitarian), 5 Emmanuel Road, Cambridge CB1 1JW

www.cambridgeunitarian.org
@CamUnitarian
https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeUnitarians-446299165559139/

**Minister:** Andrew J Brown 01223 576952 (*Please note - the minister is on sabbatical and summer vacation during May-August.*)

minister@cambridegunitarian.org http://andrewjbrown.blogspot.com

#### @caute

**Pastoral care:** During the minister's sabbatical (May-July) and summer vacation(August) please contact Shirley Fieldhouse or Andrew Bethune if you know of anyone who is ill or in hospital, or has any other pastoral needs.

Chairman: Andrew Bethune 01480 387883 Vice-Chairman: Tony Burns 01480 432284 Treasurer: Shirley Fieldhouse 01223 426514 Secretary: Brendan Boyle 01480 387883

Committee Members: Katie Burns 01480 432284 Sue Tombs 01223 844454

Minister Emeritus: Frank Walker

01223 874460

#### Hall Bookings:

Sue Tombs 01223 338543 roombookings@cambridgeunitarian.org