

For your diary

Wed 1 Mar: 7.30 for 8pm. Conversation: a lively, open, non-judgmental discussion about matters of faith and meaning.

Sun 5 Mar : 10.30am Service.
Organist: Julian Warren.
Bring & Share Lunch after service.
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Tue 7 Mar : 7.30 for 8pm. 'Cambridge Poets for Oxfam' in the church hall. Organised by Jerry Carr-Brion. Entry £5 on the door, with all proceeds going to Oxfam.
There's a talented line-up of local poets: Malcolm Guite, Rebecca Watts, Jane Monson, Adam Crothers, Claudine Toutoungi, Lindsay Fursland and Trish Harewood. All welcome.

Wed 8 Mar : 7.30 for 8pm. Conversation: a lively, open, non-judgmental discussion about matters of faith and meaning.

Sun 12 Mar: 10.30am Service.
Organist: Hugh Taylor
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Wed 15 Mar : 4.15pm. Church Committee in Common Room.

Sun 19 Mar: 10.30am Service.
Pianist: Peter Shepherd.
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Wed 22 Mar: 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. The theme for 2017 is : *Do we, as older individuals, still have a place in the future?* A donation of around £3 is suggested to cover the cost of the meal. Contact: 01480 432284.

Sun 26 Mar : 10.30am Service.
Organist: John Dillistone.
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Unitarians Annual Meetings 2017 (GA)

Five members from Cambridge will be attending the GA this year - Shirley Fieldhouse, Tony Burns, Sue Tombs, Brendan Boyle and Andrew Bethune. Andrew Brown and Susanna Hartland will also be attending for one day.

Progressive Christianity Network

Last month, we welcomed Rev Adrian Alker to our church to speak on the topic of 'Is a radical church possible?' at one of our Freethinkers events. Adrian is currently chair of the Progressive Christianity Network Britain, a membership organisation which works to promote and support open and contemporary Christian understanding. There is a network of local groups across the country. PCN publishes a radical quarterly newsletter, organises conferences and events, and enjoys links with other progressive Christian movements around the world. Our church is listed, along with several other Unitarian congregations, on PCN's website as a community where progressives and questioners are welcomed.

[PCN Britain](#) doesn't have a creed or statement of faith, but offers 'Eight Points' as an expression of the Christian life. They seem to me to chime very closely with our ethos in this church, which, to quote our website, 'looks to Christian culture, and to a modern, minimalist form of spiritual thought and practice'.

[Members of PCN] are people who:

- *seek God, however understood, guided by the life and teachings of Jesus*
- *affirm that there are many ways to experience the Sacred and that we can draw on diverse sources of wisdom on our spiritual journeys.*
- *recognise that following Jesus leads us to act with compassion and to confront evil.*
- *place hospitality at the centre of our communal and worshipping life and see the sharing of bread and wine as an expression of our common humanity.*
- *seek to build communities that accept all who wish to share companionship without insisting on conformity.*
- *know that the way we behave towards others is the fullest expression of our faith.*
- *gain more insights in the search for understanding than we do in certainty.*
- *work together within and beyond the Church to achieve a just, peaceful and sustainable world.*

Andrew Bethune

Our student ministry: the Freethinkers

'The Freethinkers' programme started on 25 January with an evening thinking about *2017: hope not optimism*.

Everyone is welcome at these events - you don't have to be a student.

Dates for March are:

Wed 1 Mar 7.30 for 8pm. *How life looks different to Pagans*, with Prudence Jones

Sun 5 Mar 1.15pm. Visit to the Cambridge Buddhist Centre

Wed 8 Mar 7.30 for 8pm. *The Gospel according to Jesus, Queen of Heaven* (film screening of a play written and performed by Jo Clifford.)

Andrew Brown writes:

Susanna Hartland, who initiated and headed-up our trial student ministry project, The Freethinkers, concludes her six month contract with us at the end of February. She will be leaving to move to London to start a job within the Civil Service.

A report about the project is currently being prepared for both the congregation and for presentation at this year's national GA. We thank her for all her work and wish her well in her new job.

Accessibiity Project



Accessibiity Project.

Architect's view of proposed canopy linking the church and the hall.

Image by:
Arch:angel Ltd



Following our successful application for funding to the Wren Landfill Fund and the John Gregson Trust, our architect has worked hard to finalise all the details of our project, and to put it out for tender to four potential contractors. They are to tender by March 1st, after which we will decide who to appoint and move forward from there. The up-shot of this is that we are currently on course to do the works over July and August, and will hope to have our new ramp, with canopy, and refurbished toilets all complete for the new Autumn term.

Rosemary Watson

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), Emmanuel Road, Cambridge CB1 1JW

www.cambridgeunitarian.org

[@CamUnitarian](https://www.facebook.com/Cambridge-Unitarians-446299165559139/)

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www.facebook.com/cambridgeunitarianstudents

[@FreethinkersCam](https://www.facebook.com/cambridgeunitarianstudents)

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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
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