



Please take a copy

TAUNTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH MAGAZINE

NO. 598

September 2022

MINISTER:  
Vacant

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:  
Ron Williams  
mobile tel: 07955 237 012  
email: tauntonurc@gmail.com  
office tel: 01823 286776

Pastoral care

For concerns that go beyond mutual pastoral care, please see the note on page 7.

WORK-WISE manager - Lucille Morris  
email:  
manager@workwise-taunton.org.uk  
tel.: 01823 325030

Church website:  
<http://tauntonurc.org.uk>

# Taunton United Reformed Church



SEPTEMBER 2022

Magazine



## CONTENTS

From the editor..... 2

Forthcoming Church Services & Activities ..... 3

Pastoral Letter ..... 4

Praying through the week ..... 6

Revised Common Lectionary ..... 7

Church Family News ..... 8

    Birthday Corner ..... 8

    Social and Arts events ..... 9

Letter from our Companion Minister ..... 10

News from Taunton church network ..... 11

Wondering about trees ..... 12

Sustainability and stewardship of the earth ..... 14

Net Zero In My Neighbourhood ..... 16

Staying afloat ..... 18

Church Flowers & Rotas ..... 19

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## From the Editor



It is Creation-tide so I thought a good theme would be 'sustainability'. My admiration goes to those who rose to the challenge, perhaps spurred on by the second heatwave of the summer, to contribute accordingly.

Sustainability being rather an abstract concept, photographs were in short supply (there weren't any) so we go without the colour centre pages this month. It is a principle that I will not dominate the content with my own output.

In her pastoral letter Sue Ingham reminds us why sustainability and stewardship matter. The reflection by Christian Aid on page 12, should we choose to enter into it, makes this personal for us.

The cover bears an image of a burning bush. Sights of woodland on fire are, sadly, all too familiar both in this country and around the world. The difference is that, unlike the bush in the Bible story, the trees are consumed at the detriment to the planet and risk to nearby residents; the sustainability miraculously portrayed by the burning bush is under extreme threat in the modern world.

Mindful of this, on page 14 Clare Callanan offers a lament, with which many of us will identify, and a challenge.

Just as I was completing this issue JPIT, the Joint Public Issues Team, launched its Net Zero in my Neighbourhood project. I have included extracts from this on page 16. Please read them; you may think this helps to respond to Clare's challenge.

JPIT produces a lot of useful and accessible material to support churches in the field of social justice. Regular readers of this magazine will have noticed that I have been going on about the looming crisis of climate change for some time. It is good that this is now more widely recognised. It is my opinion that we need to be pushing in the same direction; faithful stewardship demands no less. But this requires not only individual efforts but corporate action and, in some cases, repentance. (Gets off soapbox.)

October sees the 50th anniversary of the Uniting Assembly of the United Reformed Church. So I am suggesting as theme for the next magazine issue 'things that last' or, if you prefer, 'endurance'.

*Peter Henderson*

## Forthcoming Church Services

Sundays at 10:30am at the United Reformed Church, Paul Street

- 4 September Morning worship led by the Revd Viv Henderson (includes The Lord's Supper)
- 11 September Morning worship led by the Revd Phillip Jones
- 18 September Morning worship led by the Revd Clare Callanan
- 25 September Harvest festival worship led by the Revd Ken Marsh
- 2 October Morning worship led by the Revd Phillip Jones (includes The Lord's Supper)
- 9 October URC 50th Anniversary Service led by the Revd Ruth Whitehead, Synod Moderator

## Weekly Activities

at the time of publication these are:

Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30 **Work-Wise** in the church hall: offering support with all aspects of job seeking

Tuesday coffee mornings and prayers are on hold till the new year.

## Other Notable Dates

- Wed 31 Aug - Thur 8 Sept *11th Assembly of the World Council of Churches meets in Karlsruhe*
- Thursday 1 September Elders meeting
- Saturday 3 September 3pm Strawberry Tea
- Monday 19 September Magazine deadline
- Wednesday 21 September *U.N. International Day of Peace*
- Thursday 22 September *Hobbit Day (birthday of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins)*
- Saturday 1 October *Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration for the 50th anniversary of the URC in Methodist Central Hall Westminster, London*
- Sunday 9 October Anniversary lunch & quiz

## Pastoral letter



Dear Friends

As summer draws to a close this month, autumn arrives, or does it? Do we now have to realign the seasons because of climate change? I understand that the trees are shedding their leaves early to conserve water, while other plants are just dying. What will you do when it next rains? Will you go out in it and rejoice or will you stay dry and give thanks or will you grumble because you have to rearrange that

outdoor activity that you were going to do. Do we appreciate the rain? As we are experiencing the lack, do we give thanks for the rain we get when many places have very little or none each year.

Our theme for this month's magazine is Sustainability - stewardship of the Earth, our home.

My sister and I covered a lot of miles by car and on foot during her three week stay with me. Visiting churches and cathedrals, museums, towns and cities, walking the countryside and being with family, but there was one day that stands out for me. We were walking around Clatworthy Reservoir, we met very few people, but what stands out was that suddenly my sister gave me a hug and said that this was "the best day out she had had". I could see in her face the lack of tension that had been there since she had arrived, and was glad that during our walk (and I put it down to God working through her), she had felt some release from the sudden loss of her husband at the beginning of the year. God's beauty and quietness was a powerful symbol for both of us.

God has given us numerous examples of sustainability, starting in Genesis and throughout the Bible. God commissioned 'People to Steward the Earth's Resources'. God reveals himself in nature, making it all the more important for Christians to play a key role in protecting the beauty of creation. Living sustainably can help us grow closer to God and preserve nature for generations to come.

In the Book of Numbers, the Levites were given details of the amount of pasture land each town should have. We know today that this does not happen. Yet in some communities the land is communal and everyone has a share in it and works it.

Harvest is a time of celebration for many, a time of relief that it has been gathered in, but also a time of worry that it is smaller than expected and that the farmer can't make a living. How can we help? Buy more – can't afford it; have smaller portions – I'll be hungry.

We can find many excuses for what we can't do, but as we are all God's children we should be looking to what we can do in our stewardship of the Earth. As a church and as individuals I suggest that we all, during the season of Harvest, make a conscious effort to make one difference in our lives that will contribute to our greater stewardship of the Earth and hopefully it will carry on into the future.

May the Lord of the Harvest be with you all during these challenging times.

Sue



Photo of Clatworthy Reservoir by Barbara Cook, licensed for reuse under the Creative Commons

## Praying through the week

Thank you Lord for the sunshine and the rain.  
May they enhance our lives with you.

As we give thanks for our harvest and we pray for those whose have failed.

We give thanks for the Elders of our Church, those who have served many years and those who have just started out. We give thanks for their service.

Lord, as we seek nominations for Elders, we pray that Your call may be heard.

We pray for Svitlana, Antonina and Daryna as they leave their home in Kolomyia to come to live in Taunton. We also pray for their husband and Dad.

We pray for the many families who have had to leave their homes in Ukraine and other countries in the world where there is war and unrest.

Prayer suggestions this month come from Sue Ingham.



## Revised Common Lectionary for forthcoming Sundays

4 September	11 September	18 September
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33	Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10	Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13
25 September	2 October	9 October
Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	2 Kings 5:1-15 Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

### PASTORAL TEAM

Our aim is to foster care and concern for each other in the congregation.

However, If you have a emergency and need help or concern, do not hesitate to contact a member of the Pastoral Team.

Mrs Isobel Tosh Robb, Mrs Meg Cardy, Dr Eryl Harris,  
Mrs Sheena Helliari, Miss Sue Ingham, and Revd. Janet Sowerbutts.

## Church Family News

### Thanks from Isobel

Life for Isobel Tosh-Robb involves a lot of medical treatment, and this has intensified more recently. She writes:

Thank you to everyone for the flowers and good wishes. I do miss coming to Church and all the chat but it is imperative at the moment that I do not get an infection.

### Nominations for Elders

As a church we are seeking nominations to the Eldership.

Nominations can be given to the Church Secretary from Sunday 11th to Sunday 25th September. Nomination forms will be available in the Dora Cox Room.

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## Birthday Corner

Special greetings to those in our wider fellowship who have a birthday in September. May God bless you all ...

- 4 Christopher Cutting
- 24 Paul Cottrill
- 25 Joel Hather



## Social and Arts events

We always welcome some different ideas for events, remembering that we are sharing with the community and not just ourselves. Our concerns, looking forward, are for our recently attractively refurbished church and how it can meet the needs of the community

Programme for the rest of the year:

**Saturday 3rd September** at 3.00pm Strawberry tea in the garden  
(hall if wet)

### Sunday 6th November

Following a snack lunch Sue Weightman will be speaking about her work at the Taunton Food Bank. Sue's talk will be informative and give us an insight into what is happening in Taunton amongst many with rising needs.

**Sunday 4th December** Pub Lunch (ideas welcomed)

*Janet and Sheila*

### Opening Prayer for Day Two of the World Council of Churches Assembly

God, the Loving Creator,  
we come before you with gratitude  
on this first day of the Season of Creation.  
We celebrate that your goodness and glory  
are revealed as you speak to us in many ways.  
We thank you for our contexts  
and the diversity of gifts showered upon us  
and channelled through us.

## Letter from our Companion Minister

September has always felt to me like the beginning of a new year. I'm not sure if that stems from school days or the rhythm of church life in which I have been involved for many years.

I know that's not strictly true for us in the way it might be for our Methodist friends when that is the month for new ministers to arrive but nevertheless following on from the summer break it is the time when whatever projects, meetings, events are part of church life, often re-start.

Let me stop rambling and introduce myself - I'm Tim Richards and I have been the Minister of the Mid-Somerset group of churches for 17 years. I think that makes me one of the longest serving ministers in our synod. I also have the pleasure of being a Companion Minister to Taunton URC.

Many of you will be familiar with the role of an Interim Minister, this is not that. In fact it's easier to say what a Companion Minister is not than what it is, so let's see if I can have a stab at it.

I see my role as walking with you at this time in your journey, currently all that really involves is attending Elders meetings and I led a service with you in June. I hope to do so again.

You are blessed with a number of retired ministers in your congregation and they are well equipped to pick up much of what a minister would do, so why have me at all?

I think because as a Minister working in a pastorate I automatically have access to what is happening within the wider synod and therefore can, if necessary, reflect back to you on how change may affect you. It is also true that whilst your ministers take on many tasks willingly and are dedicated, there should not be an expectation that they will do so or that they will always do so.

I hope it will be a role that evolves as we get to know each other, I hope there will time to visit you and whilst my time is limited I am open to hearing how you think we can all best use this opportunity to work alongside each other, for now be assured of my prayers for you individually and as a church family,

Your friend,

*Tim*

## News from Taunton church network

### Train as a Debt Advisor

Many people experience financial difficulties at some point in their life, but however bad the situation might be, there are always steps that can be taken to make things better.



It is a very special privilege to walk with someone as they transition from being in financial difficulties into freedom from debt.

Taunton Area Debt Advice is a Christian Charity with a team of trained FCA approved volunteer debt advisors. We aim to take the burden off the shoulders of clients and provide them with a plan, make arrangements and negotiate agreements. We provide hope. Our team of Debt Advisers is growing as we prepare for what will undoubtedly see an increase the number of people in financial difficulty. Applicants will receive training and supervision, and be in agreement with the ethos of this Christian Ministry. Interested? Contact Steven Reed on 07794552321 for an initial discussion.

### Support Taunton Team Chaplaincy while shopping

We're now registered with *easyfundraising*, which means you can help us for **free**. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use *easyfundraising* to shop with them - at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use *easyfundraising* whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely **free**! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us [*but do read the small print - ed*] at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/tauntonteamchaplaincy/>

Raise **FREE** funds for us every time you **shop online**

[Find out more](#)



## Wondering about trees

An abridged reflection from Christian Aid on the sustainability of forests, contributed by Sheila Rudofsky

Imagine you are walking through a forest.

Take a moment to imagine the smell of the trees and the soil.

Listen closely to the noises you can hear.

Do you hear the wind blowing gently through the leaves?

Do you see the sunlight shining through the branches overhead?

What are the different colours you can see?

As you walk through the forest touching each tree that you pass, it is easy to think of each tree as one single tree, separate from all of the other trees. Each tree is tall, majestic and unique. Above the surface this is what the forest looks like. There are lots of tall and beautiful but separate trees. Let's allow our imaginations to journey beneath the surface of the forest to notice if we might begin to see a different story. What will you notice if you look beneath your feet into the darkness of the soil below? Consider the worms, bugs and tiny living things you cannot see.

Deep beneath the soil all of the tree roots of the forest's many trees reach out to each other. The roots connect and grow into each other so they can share nutrients and food. They connect so the trees can communicate with each other - knowing when to drop their leaves, when to bloom their flowers and even sharing warning signs for danger.

Can you picture in your mind the trees sharing life through their roots?  
Can you imagine this web of life joined up together through the roots in the soil beneath your feet?

Picture the journey that nutrients must take in order to travel from the roots, up through the tree to the leaves.

As you travel to the top of the tree,  
what do you notice?

Who else lives there?

What animals make the tree their home?

Do you see birds nesting?

Squirrels dancing through the branches?

Do you see small spiders making their webs?

Or bugs living in the tree bark?



From the top of the tree perhaps you can see the whole forest. The trees are not only connected to each other, but the whole life of the forest is connected. From the worms and fungi in the soil that help to bring nutrients to the roots of the tree, to the animals that need the trees for food and shelter, there is a concert of life working together in harmony.

The forest might look as if it is made up of lots of individual things, but when we dig a little deeper, we start to see a different story.

Continue the reflection by thinking about the things we might be able to learn from the forest and its interconnectedness. How can this help us begin to think about and see the world differently?

Nobody lives in isolation. We are who we are because of the people around us. Our communities help shape who we are and who we are becoming. The people that we laugh with, cry with and celebrate with are all part of the forest of 'us'.

We live in a world that is deeply connected. And we are all a part of it. Who we are and what we do matters. We are part of a bigger world, and when we work together in concert, we can have a deep and far-reaching impact on the world.

*Image credit: Dr Kathleen Hefferon, microbiologist at Cornell University*

This article reminds the editor of something he read about networks of mycorrhizal fungi which have a symbiotic association with plants by attaching to their root systems. There is an exchange of nutrients and, through the levels of chemicals transmitted, information so that damage to one plant can warn a neighbouring plant; the latter has been called the Wood Wide Web. Remarkable.

### MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Contributions for the October 2022 magazine should be with the Editor

Peter Henderson - 14 Somerset Avenue, Taunton, TA1 5HU

Telephone: 01823 254668 - e-mail: tauntonurc.mag@gmail.com

by MONDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2022 (or earlier) please.

The theme will be 'things that last' or, if you prefer, 'endurance'.

## Sustainability and stewardship of the earth

Quite honestly, I am finding it hard to write this article. I think it is because in recent times I have felt quite overwhelmed by what is happening in our country and in the world. On every level and in every area, people and communities and institutions are in crisis. I find it hard to find solace or hope in so much of what is happening on a global scale. I've always been a great believer in looking at the smaller picture, the grassroots projects, the glimmers of light in the darkness. Yet I struggle more and more with all this today.

So... what is there to say? What is there to do? Who is there to look to for inspiration and resilience?

The attempts performed so far to settle the debate on the various disasters befalling us (and that we ourselves created) have led to nothing. For how many decades have we been trying to get an agreement to avoid the climate change disaster? Do we really think that a group of politicians and bureaucrats dressed in dark suits will be able to save the planet? Or is it a young girl sitting down outside her school? What we are seeing, is the utter failure of a way of thinking that we sometimes call "positivism" that has its origins in the 19th century. At that time, it seemed to be a good idea to use the reason and science to settle all questions. (I am not suggesting that there is no value in science and research at all... I am passionate about it. Yet there has to be a way of working with these insights as well as our deeper, intuitive, creative, spiritual selves.)

Science and reason may be a good idea, but, in practice, it does not work in isolation. We know everything about what's happening and why. It is all scientific method and logic. And, yet, the message does not get through; we keep destroying everything, including ourselves. Pure reason turns the ecosystem into a giant supermarket where you do not even have to pay for what you get (as long as there remains something to get).

The poet, writer and environmental activist Wendell Berry writes "We have lived our lives by the assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption, that what is good for the world will be good for us. And that requires that we make the effort to know the world and learn what is good for it."

I believe we are called to be intentional about stewardship. We choose to work to cherish and protect the earth, our physical home. This then calls us to put our belief and values into action. If we believe that 'the earth is the Lord's and everything in it,' then we hold a lifetime tenancy. We can also believe that creation was God's first revelation to humanity and that we can see a reflection of God in the world around us.

So what's our response? What can we at Taunton United Reformed Church do and say? The environmental movement calls us to 'Think Globally, Act Locally'. We need to be informed about the big picture... however unsettling that can be most times. And we can ask ourselves hard questions, such as, what does Mark 16:15 mean when it says, 'go into the world and preach the gospel to all creation'?

Answers on a biodegradable postcard please!

Clare Callanan

Q U O T E	<p>"The basis for Christian responses to climate change is hope in the realization of the reign of God over a renewed creation... The second possible misunderstanding is that we need not act in relation to the threat of climate change because God will sort out the problem for us."</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Hope in God's Future (JPIT 3rd edition 2020), page 14</i></p>
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### News items from the Taunton Transition Town website

#### Somerset Buses – Use It or Lose It

Somerset County Council and Somerset Bus Partnership have joined forces to encourage people to 'BUS IT'. With the withdrawal of the government's Bus Recovery Grant bus operators are evaluating the viability of routes in Somerset. The number of passengers is key. "Frankly if you do not use it we will lose it."

- bus pass holders are not making the most of free travel
- there are ticket deals that you could use for flexible working (eg £100 ticket bundle of 20 day tickets)

#### Repair Cafe

This meets next on Saturday 10th September from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at Moose Hall, Castle St, Taunton. Bring along your broken electrical items, computers, ceramics, toys and textiles to be repaired on Saturday 10th September. We also can provide sharpening for knives, and scissors.

## Net Zero In My Neighbourhood

The **Joint Public Issues Team** of the United Reformed Church, the Methodist Church and the Baptist Union has just published this initiative to support action towards a sustainable future. Here is some of what they say. There is more at <https://jpit.uk/net-zero-in-my-neighbourhood>

Clean air. Access to green spaces. Good jobs.  
Well insulated homes. Efficient public transport.

These are all things we want to see in our neighbourhoods. When we implement climate-friendly policies locally, we all benefit from an improved living environment and greater harmony with the world around us.

Globally, we face an enormous challenge to move away from fossil fuels that pollute the atmosphere and contribute to global warming. The latest IPCC report states that emissions need to have peaked by 2025, and to then decrease by 46% by 2030, for the atmosphere to remain within 1.5°C of warming from pre-industrial levels.

Simply put, if we don't make significant changes in the next 3-5 years, we will have lost the chance to avoid climate catastrophe. We need to find new ways of living that honour all people and respect the planet and all that lives in it.

Changes need to happen at every level, in order for them to be as sustainable and wide-reaching as they need to be. Crucially, this involves governments, industries and institutions reaching net zero carbon emissions.



Net zero refers to the point at which the amount of carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming) released into the atmosphere is balanced by the same amount being taken out. As we do not currently have the technology to remove large amounts of CO2 from the air, at present reaching net zero means reducing our carbon emissions as close to zero as possible. The world has been powered by carbon through the burning of fossil fuels for the last 200 years, so reducing emissions by the amount necessary requires a fundamental transformation of our economies, energy supply, transport systems and more.

Reaching 'net zero' has been a core goal of climate policy in the past few years. The UK government enacted a law in 2019 committing the country to reach net zero by 2050, but it hasn't had full support across the board.

We're still a long way from meeting the interim targets set out by The Climate Change Committee, which holds the UK government accountable for its actions. If every council in the country were to reach net zero, significant progress would be made on the targets as a whole. But this requires tangible, practical steps towards change, and support from the whole community. That's why we're encouraging churches to be part of the change in their communities.

### Why Churches?

77% of councils have published climate action plans [*including Somerset County Council and SWT - ed*], outlining how they plan to reach net zero. The next step is for them to be held to account on those plans, something churches can play a key role in. Councils themselves are saying that hearing the voices of their communities is essential to carrying out these plans effectively. So how might churches help to bring this about?

**Collaboration** - One of the most effective ways to lobby anyone is to bring together a broad coalition. By bringing together a range of voices from the community, we can represent a fuller picture of our neighbourhood and benefit from the experiences and perspectives of others. As key community institutions, churches are well placed to organise this kind of collective voice.

**Community** - Like councils, churches often have a deep understanding of their local area, through relationships built in support services like foodbanks and homeless shelters, or in community groups like youth groups and drop-in mornings. Churches can play a key role in bringing this knowledge of the community together with their concern for justice to ensure that councils' plans for transition are just, fair and sufficient.

**Commitment** - Many churches are also doing the work themselves. The Methodist Church in Britain and the United Reformed Church have committed to reaching net zero emissions as denominations by 2030, and there are over 250 Baptist, 400 Methodist, 200 URC and 100 LEP churches registered with **Eco Church** in the UK. You can use these facts, and anything you have done in your congregation, to demonstrate your own commitment to environmental action and encourage your council to follow. It certainly helps your case to have made progress on getting your own house in order.

Churches are well placed to start making change for net zero locally. But it's important to recognise that there may already be networks working on this where you are. If so, you can add your voice to that coalition.

See also the discipleship guide at <https://jpit.uk/hope-in-gods-future-2>

# Staying afloat

*Poem inspired by the news, in October 2009, that round-the-world yachtswoman Ellen MacArthur intended to give up sailing to concentrate on environmental campaigning:*

We thought we lived on an ocean liner,  
 cruising our way along the journey of life  
 with every modern convenience available,  
 while someone else worried about the tide:  
 a choice of restaurants, swimming pools, night clubs;  
 and what we didn't want we could throw over the side.  
 It wouldn't be long before we stopped at a port  
 to replenish the stocks of caviar and, yes, rum.  
 Without a care for what happened tomorrow  
 we'd sail on into the setting sun.

But now it appears that the boat is much smaller,  
 and all we have got is what's stored below deck.  
 The food and the water will have to be rationed,  
 and so will the fuel... but who will check?  
 Who will give leadership - who has the wisdom -  
 to help us to adapt to a lifestyle that works?  
 Who will the crew be as we journey life's ocean  
 not on a liner but in fact on the Ark?

So welcome aboard you people of conviction!  
 Sign up to God's navy, so we can all stay afloat.  
 It may be cramped, and you'll have to be frugal,  
 but your work is essential for the good of the boat.  
 You'll have to exercise power responsibly:  
 with no-one the greatest, no-one the least.  
 But one day the Captain will honour your sacrifice  
 when, at his table, he'll invite you to feast.

*Peter Henderson*

<b>Q U O T E</b>	Will I invest four years of my life to sailing round the world? No. This new understanding for me has become far more important. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ellen MacArthur</i>                  on her vision for sustainable living</p>
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## ROTAS FOR SEPTEMBER

### CHURCH FLOWERS

4 Sept Chris & Stuart Trott  
 11 Sept Jean Grigg  
 18 Sept Pamela Bamber  
 25 Sept Harvest Service

### MORNING COFFEE ROTA

4 Sept Rita Williams & Pamela Elliott  
 11 Sept Chris Trott & Sheila Rudofsky  
 18 Sept Pamela Bamber & Carol Rowswell  
 25 Sept Pamela & Alan Bamber  
 2 Oct Heather Parsons & Isobel Tosh-Robb  
 9 Oct Pamela & Alan Bamber

### Sunday duties

	Duty Elder	Communion Elders	Zoom host
4 Sept	Meg	Stuart Sheena	Ron
11 Sept	Sue		Peter
18 Sept	Stuart		Frank
25 Sept	Sheena		Sue
2 Oct	Eryl	Meg Frank	Sue
9 Oct	Sue		TBD

**OFFICE HOLDERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF  
TAUNTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

Car-Park..... Eryl Harris  
 Christian Aid..... Sheila Rudofsky  
 Church Heating ..... Church Administrator (see page 1)  
 Church Secretary..... Sue Ingham (07818 637155)  
 Commitment for Life Contact ..... Sue Ingham  
 FINANCE - Treasurer..... Eryl Harris  
 FINANCE - Covenant Collections..... Paula Powell  
 Flowers ..... Pam Elliott, Sheila Woolvin  
 Letting Secretary ..... Church Administrator (see page 1)  
 Magazine Distributor ..... Dawn Wright (01823 331800)  
 Magazine Editor..... Peter Henderson (01823 254668)  
 Prayer Handbook.....  
 Property ..... Stuart Trott  
 Pulpit Supply ..... Church Administrator (see page 1)  
 Reform Magazine ..... Pamela Bamber  
 Social and Arts Group ..... Janet Sowerbutts, Sheila Rudofsky (01823 617411)  
 Sound ..... Frank Callanan  
 Sunday Coffee Organiser ..... Pamela Bamber  
 Sunday News-Sheet ..... the Church Secretary  
 Synod Representative ..... Sue Ingham  
 World Day of Prayer .....

**SERVING ELDERS**

<b>Sue Ingham</b> <i>Secretary</i> 07818 637155	<b>Meg Cardy</b> 01823 443245	<b>Frank Callanan</b> 07789 071935
<b>Sheena Helliar</b> 01823 333382	<b>Stuart Trott</b> 01823 281551	

Taunton United Reformed Church

**Vision Statement**

**For the sake of the Gospel, we will be:**

- ◆ a church that welcomes, whoever you are
- ◆ a church that cares and responds with action
- ◆ a church that works with others and plays its part in the community
- ◆ a church that knows and shares the love of God
- ◆ a church that is growing in faith and knowledge of God
- ◆ a church full of hope and joy