



## **YEOVIL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**News for Pentecost, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Welcome to our final communion service  
led by our minister, the Revd Stella Hayton.**

Bible readings: Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 12 (GNB p656) & Acts 2: 1 – 21 (GNB: p149).

In our prayers we remember Thelma Parish's family, Trish Miles, Winifred Proud, Peggy Harris, Sandie Porter, Dennis & Rosemary Pearce, Joan Denman, Eileen Bonnett, Noel Frost, Phyllis Hicks, Diane Wall and others known to us personally.

Thelma's funeral will take place in St Albans on Saturday. There will be a memorial service on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 2 pm at St John's Church Yeovil.

### **Worship at Princes Street**

<b>10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2.30 pm</b>	<b>FINAL SERVICE</b>	<b>The Revd Ruth Whitehead &amp; the Revd Stella Hayton</b>
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### **Events**

<b>7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>7 pm</b>	<b>Healing Service</b>	<b>62 Westfield Road</b>
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### **Church Open Days**

The church will be open for an exhibition marking the life of the Princes Street on Friday from 10 am to 4 pm and additionally on Saturday from 10 am to 12 noon. Tea and coffee will be available.

We need at least 3 people to cover each two-hour session. There are three sessions on Friday and one on Saturday. Please sign-up on the sheet in the passageway.

### **Final Service - Saturday at 2.30 pm**

The closing service will be led by our Synod Moderator, the Reverend Ruth Whitehead, and our minister, the Reverend Stella Hayton. Please make this service known as widely as possible.

### **Martock URC Garden Party – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June from 2 to 4 pm**

We are invited to Martock's annual garden party. There will be cream teas, a cake sale and other stalls.

### **Somerset Area Gathering - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July – at Middle Lambrook**

We are invited to spend Sunday afternoon with folk from other URCs in Somerset at 3.30 for 4 pm start. The title is *Varieties of spiritual exercise*. Bring & share tea. Closing worship at 6 pm.

### **Messages from visiting preachers**

I wrote to over 30 people who have led our worship in recent years to tell them that the church is closing, to thank them for their contributions to our worship and to invite them to the final service. Here are replies from some of them.

George Faris

#### From the Revd Prebendary Dr Ivor Hughes

My first visit to Princes Street was in 1956 when, as a boarder at Crewkerne Grammar School, I spent the weekend with Malcolm Brown, son of the Reverend Denis Brown who was the Regional Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society and who worshipped at what was then Yeovil Congregational Church.

Of course I got to know you all when in 1995 I became rector of St John's and so began a close working partnership between St John's and other churches in Yeovil. They were good years both for ministers and members.

It was a privilege and pleasure to be asked to help with services from time to time after we returned from America. It was always a pleasant challenge to find some appropriately named chocolate to accompany my talk to younger members ... and I suspect the chocolate was appreciated by the not so younger members too!

And now comes the end of an era, I suppose we could dwell on those verses in Ecclesiastes 3:

There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens:  
a time to be born and a time to die...

or a verse from Isaiah 43:

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!

Both Anthea and I send this with gratitude for the friendships we had with ... the members of Yeovil United Reformed Church. It is our prayer for each of you that you will find the new thing and new place that is of God for you.

We are very sorry not to be with you for your final service – we will be back in Oregon.

From the Revd David Huggett

Thank you so much for your email and kind words of thanks. Having been down a somewhat similar road here in Somerton we feel for you all and assure you of our prayers at this sad time. We have valued your fellowship and support over the years, and Sylvia will never be able to thank you enough for all the support and training opportunities you gave her when she was completing her Lay Preacher's course.

Unfortunately we have company the week-end of the exhibition and closing, but if we are able we shall pop in on the Friday.

From Mrs Heather Andrews

Thank you for the kind invitation to the closing service. It has been my privilege and joy to preach at Princes Street over many years. I feel much sadness on behalf of you all at the loss of your spiritual home and pray you will all find solace and a vibrant new place to worship in the coming months. Of course you would be so welcome amongst us at South Street or if a quieter place is helpful, welcome in my new responsibilities at Montacute. I feel we have lost part of our family after our years of partnership in the centre of town.

Sorry not to be with you, we are away that week, though will try to visit Friday morning before we go.

Please offer my prayerful thanks for years of friendship.

From Mrs Jane Fry

I am so sad to hear that Yeovil URC is closing. I enjoyed the times that I spent with you. I am sorry I will not be able to attend your closing service, as it is the same time as our Flower Festival at Street. My thoughts and prayers are with you all as you start a new journey in your Christian life at a new church.

From Mr Steve Derby

Your very kind letter was much appreciated.

I can't recall when I first began to come along to Yeovil URC - more years than I care to remember! But the welcome that I received and the kindness that I was always shown has stayed constant all through the years.

Of course, it is sad that you have found it necessary to come to this point and I shall certainly pray for you all as you look for an alternative home for worship. I shall do my best to be along on 10<sup>th</sup> June although we have a very busy diary with family coming down from London (and Australia!). But what I would like is for you to let all of the folk know the affection that I have for them all.

Every blessing to every single one of you.

In Christ's love

The Revd Alan Thomasson, the Revd Viv Henderson and the Revd Colin Marsh  
hope to be present at the closing service.

**“Pray for each other as you seek new spiritual homes.”**

**Anna Schiffer 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017**