

NEWSLINK

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2025

CANTON UNITING CHURCH



The Harvesters, 1565
Pieter Bruegel the Elder

Canton Uniting Church Deacons in May, 2025

Alison Walker (Chair)	Chair@cantonuniting.org.uk
Audrey Takle	Bookings@cantonuniting.org.uk
Barbara Morgans (Minutes Secretary)	
Eva Elliott	Garden@cantonuniting.org.uk
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Megan Atherton	
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David Smith	
Ex officio	
Andrew Wilson-Dickson	Music@cantonuniting.org.uk
Kenneth Woods (Treasurer)	Treasurer@cantonuniting.org.uk

Dear Friends,

October, 2025

We got the call, 'Martha, have you heard X died?' Then another, 'David, Y died this morning.' We have had several of those in the last few weeks. So as we write, we are in the midst of a number of losses, a season of funerals. This may not be your experience, of course, but you will have had periods like this in your lives.

For many of these people we are celebrating long lives, well-lived. For some it feels like a life has been cut short. Grief is hard to hold. When we feel death has come too soon, it is even harder to navigate.

The grief we carry today is not just about the recent deaths. Grief arises from the world seeming to accept war as normal, the condemnation of free speech, even with all its challenges, or ignoring the climate crisis.

We watch the news from the USA and feel deeply saddened by the loss of life and the violence that continues to unfold. We look around the UK and wonder what people are feeling as the disdain for 'outsiders' grows more deeply entrenched in our society.

How does this impact us? Personally, we may be despairing. We may feel helpless. We have already named grief as part of this experience.

In the face of this, how do we respond? Perhaps we can offer two options--discovering what we can do and staying connected. Faced with global or national crises, there is definitely too much for a few people to do. Instead, the question becomes--what is ours to do? What can I do? Can I lobby, protest, change my car, limit my buying, or talk to my neighbours with grace? Can we educate ourselves so we can respond appropriately? Can we volunteer or gather with others to pray regularly for peace?

We alone can't change the world, but based on our gifts we may be called to do something that is uniquely ours. Let's listen for God's call and do it.

Now there is a caveat to finding what is ours to do. If we are in the midst of a personal grief, we won't have the energy to do anything except survive. Survival then is our only task. So whether we have to survive or do, staying connected is essential.

We need others to encourage us and help us stay the course to which God has called us. We need to hear, from each other, that the work we do is important and makes a difference when added to the work others do. We are not alone. We are in this together. We need to hear that we matter to others, that others notice us and remember our grief.

In tough times, we often proclaim that God brings hope. What might hope look like in these strange days? Anne Lamott writes:

Sometimes hope is a radical act, sometimes a quietly merciful response, sometimes a second wind, or just an increased awareness of goodness and beauty. Maybe you didn't get what you prayed for, but what you got instead was waking to. . . the power of loving hearts.

As we discover what is ours to do and stay connected, perhaps the power of the loving heart is the most essential aspect of our whole time. Hearts that are open to love and welcome the stranger--whether they have come from overseas or from across the street; whether they share an ideology or their beliefs are illogical and flawed--in our view.

May our loving hearts bring healing to us and to others in this season.

In a time of hate
Love is an act of resistance
In a time of fear
Faith is an act of resistance
In a time of misinformation
Education is an act of resistance
In a time of poor leadership
Community is an act of resistance
In a time like this
Joy is an act of resistance . . .

~ Loryn Brantz

Resisting with you for peace,

Martha and David

Karlsruhe Concert Duo

On September 14th, we enjoyed a wonderful performance by Reinhard Armleder (cello) and Dagmar Hartman (piano). They performed a variety of pieces which were greatly enjoyed by those gathered. Many thanks to Andrew for organising the concert.



It wasn't a surprise to receive an email more than a year ago from a pair of classical musicians who had seen that we were hosting concerts at CUC. I wrote back to say that all our Sunday opportunities were taken and, in any case, we had no money to offer. But it was a surprise that they persisted: 'we'll wait for an opportunity and we can manage without a fee'. So it was that more than a year later the Karlsruhe Concert Duo added us to their impressively long list of places round the world where they have given concerts: from Switzerland, USA, Moscow, Israel, Jordan, South Africa, Tunisia... And now Wales! And we discovered that they are very talented and assured musicians. I was worried that I hadn't done enough publicity on the ground, as we had only returned from France less than a week before the concert. There were only 20 of us in the audience, but the pair were not offended and gave us as much commitment as if they were in Washington DC. And, yes, they may return, perhaps because took the opportunity to see the Gower and Bannau Brycheiniog and were suitably delighted and amazed.

The Karlsruhe Duo kicked off a series of concerts this autumn. The rest of the programme up till Christmas is below. I'm really keen that a wider audience should become unwittingly committed to supporting the CUC building fund, while having enjoyable and thought-provoking moments in our lovely sanctuary. Lovely, but in need of TLC - the rain at the moment comes in in three places! Do come and have a relaxing moment, mostly on a Sunday afternoon and help to move CUC on into a new era of ministry.

Andrew W-D

Concerts at CUC Autumn 2025



October

11th Saturday 7-30pm Dovetail Orchestra and Heads Up! Jazz Sextet
Suggested entrance £10. Supporting Space4U.

19th Sunday 3pm 'We Love You Madly' - a Celebration of the Genius of Duke Ellington: an evening with Geoff Eales at the piano.
Suggested donation for entry: £10 adults/ £5 full-time students Supporting CUC building fund.

November

9th Sunday 6pm 'Shipwreck' - the Linarol Consort of viols with Héloïse Bernard (soprano) and James Gilchrist (tenor). Tickets on the door or in advance from Eventbrite.

23rd Sunday 3pm 'Labyrinth' - Richard Boothby, Lucy Robinson (viols), Andrew Wilson-Dickson (harpsichord). Suggested donation for entry: £10 adults/ £5 full-time students.
Supporting CUC building fund.

December

14th Sunday 3pm Recital by Italian international prizewinning pianist Giordano Ferla. 'From Romantic to Contemporary'
Suggested donation for entry: £10 adults/ £5 full-time students. Supporting CUC building fund.

19th Friday 6-30pm silent films accompanied by Andrew Wilson-Dickson at the piano. Free entry, retiring collection supporting CUC building fund.

Refreshments are offered after every event. Only November 9th bookable in advance.
Note varied start times!

Penrhys Visit

On the 7th of September, a number of worshippers from the congregation at Llanfair Uniting Church, Penrhys joined us for a service which was led by the young people of Canton Uniting.

Many thanks to all those who took part, and to Fiona, who did much of the organising.



After the service, we enjoyed a bring and share lunch, and again the young people (I'm including Rob and Katie in this!) served the church family through their work in the kitchen.

It was a lovely day - thanks to everyone who contributed.



Canterbury Uniting Church Services Rota October 2025 - November 2025

If you cannot do duties, please find someone to replace you. Thank you.

Sunday 5th October 2025

Lectionary Readings: Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4; Psalm 37.1-9; 2 Timothy 1.1-14; Luke 17.5-10

Worship Leader: Revd Tom Arthur

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Jan

Deacon on notices: Ceri

Readers: Maireke and David

Refreshments: Fiona and Rob

Sunday 12th October 2025

Lectionary Readings: 2 Kings 5.1-3,7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2.8-15; Luke 17.11-19

Worship Leader: Bethan Trott

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Audrey

Deacon on Notices: Alison

Readers: Sian and Alan

Refreshments: Hugh and Bence

Sunday 19th October 2025 (Communion)

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 32.22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3.14–4.5; Luke 18.1-8

Worship Leader: Revd Martha McInnes or Revd David Dean

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Megan

Deacon on Notices: Fiona

Readers: Taiwo and Roland

Communion Preparation: Hugh and Bence

At the communion table: David and Ceri

Refreshments: Marieke and Alison

Sunday 26th October 2025

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 14.7-10,19-22; Psalm 84.1-7; 2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18; Luke 18.9-14

Worship Leader: TBA

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Sian

Deacon on notices: Megan

Readers: Becky and Ceri

Refreshments: Abi

Sunday 2nd November 2025

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 1.10-18; Psalm 32.1-7; 2 Thessalonians 1.1-4,11-12; Luke 19.1-10

Worship Leader: Revd Gareth Dyer

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Alan

Deacon on notices: Eva

Readers: Eva and Abi

Refreshments: Sian and Josh

Sunday 9th November 2025

Lectionary Readings: Job 19.23-27a; Psalm 17.1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5,13-17; Luke 20.27-38

Worship Leader: Revd Martha McInnes or Revd David Dean

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Steve

Deacon on notices: Ceri

Readers: Ken and Fiona

Refreshments: Megan

Sunday 16th November 2025 (Communion)

Lectionary Readings: Malachi 4.1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13; Luke 21.5-19

Worship Leader: Revds Marc and Alison Dummer

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Ken

Deacon on notices: Alison

Readers: Jan and Hugh

Communion Preparation: Fiona

At Communion table: Marieke and Megan

Refreshments: Hiroko

Sunday 23rd November 2025

Lectionary Readings: Jeremiah 23.1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1.11-20; Luke 23.33-43

Worship Leader: Revd Tom Arthur

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Abi

Deacon on notices: Fiona

Readers: Megan and Alison

Refreshments: The Munniks

Sunday 30th November 2025 Advent 1

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44

Worship Leader: Revd Martha McInnes or Revd David Dean

Welcome Deacon/Steward: Ceri

Deacon on notices: Megan

Readers: Steve and Ken

Refreshments: Rob and Fiona

Sunday 7th December 2025 Advent 2

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7,18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

Worship Leader: TBA

Welcome Deacon/Steward: David

Deacon on notices: Eva

Readers: Marieke and David

Refreshments: Hugh and Bence

CANTON UNITING CHURCH was established in 1995 when New Trinity United Reformed Church joined with Llandaff Road Baptist Church and in 2013 joined with Grand Avenue United Reformed Church Ely which in 2005 had united with Saintwell URC. We are committed to ecumenism through our links with Cytûn, the Covenanted Churches and Churches Together in Canton. Our previous minister was the Chair of the Committee of the Covenanted Baptists which, with the Church in Wales, the Presbyterian, Methodist and United Reformed Churches seeks to bring about the goal of uniting together.

CONTACTS

Ministers: Revd. Martha McInnes - Tel.: 07519 831405
 Revd. David Dean - Tel.: 07772 714388

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Chair: Mrs Alison Walker Email: Chair@Cantonuniting.org.uk

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USUAL WEEKLY DIARY & MONTHLY EVENTS -

The Wednesday evening prayers on Zoom have finished.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

AND FINALLY ... Please hand in material for the next Newslink to Hugh Morgans by the end of the Morning service on **Sunday, 16th of November, 2025.**

Email address: hughmorgans@hotmail.com

