

# THE CHURCH OF ST URSULA BERNE



August - September 2022

**St Ursula's Church** Jubiläumsplatz 2, 3005 Berne, Switzerland

**Chaplain:** Revd Helen Marshall

chaplain@stursula.ch

031 351 03 43

Day off: Friday

### **Lay Reader**

Archana Jacob

archana@stursula.ch

**Church Office:** 031 352 85 67

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement with the Chaplain

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### **Normal pattern of Sunday services:**

8.30 Said Eucharist (2nd and 4th Sundays)

10.00 Sung Eucharist with Junior Church and Crèche

Our services follow the Church of England's Common Worship Order One (2000)

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 10.00 service is more informal.

See Calendar of Services inside for details of the next few weeks.

**Services in Thun:** 19.00 on the first and third Thursdays of the month at Chapelle

Romande, Frutigenstrasse 22: Eucharist and Bible study.

Contact: Church Office 031 352 85 67

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### **ST URSULA'S BERNE**

The church is one of the nine Swiss chaplaincies that have a resident chaplain (minister) and together form the Archdeaconry of Switzerland. This is part of the Anglican Diocese of Europe which stretches from the Canary Islands to Ankara, from Moscow to Morocco.

The church was built in 1906 on a site that had been given to the community by the British-Berne Land Co. An American lady, Mrs Castleman from St Louis, provided the bulk of the money for the building as a thank offering for the near miraculous recovery of her adopted daughter, who was treated at the clinic of the famous Professor Kocher.

The hall and the house were added in 1959. An English Missionary Society, the USPG, helped to support the church from its earliest days. Since 1977, however, the chaplaincy has been fully self-supporting, relying solely on its members and well-wishers for its financial support.

St Ursula's has a long tradition of ministry to all English-speaking people in the Canton of Berne and beyond. It also provides a home for Christians from many different denominations and cultural backgrounds. Regular worshippers are encouraged to add their names to the Electoral Roll and so play a full part in the life of the church. Details from the Churchwardens or any member of the Church Council.

**See Calendar inside for details of this month's services**

**St Ursula's Church website: [www.stursula.ch](http://www.stursula.ch)**

**E-mail: [berne@anglican.ch](mailto:berne@anglican.ch)**



# St Ursula's Church Magazine

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August - September 2022

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### **COPY DATE**

for the October - November 2022 magazine is

**11 September 2022**

Please send copy to [magazine@stursula.ch](mailto:magazine@stursula.ch)

**COLLATING DATE: Thursday 29 September 2022**

# From the Chaplain

At Pentecost we celebrated that as a congregation we come from many different nationalities and cultures. We also want to be a church that welcomes people of all ages, so I was delighted that people of all ages attended our Pentecost international meal, including 20 children. At our Annual General Meeting in April, I highlighted that one of the priorities for this year was to build up our work with families and children and to involve more younger people in the life of our church.

In June, the Church Council had a day away to think and pray about our work with families and propose different ways that we could develop this. Here is a brief summary of the steps we decided to take (and many of these things are already being put into practice):

1. **Develop Junior Church:** To offer Junior Church every Sunday rather than just twice a month so that there is some continuity for the families. We have now started to do this and I am delighted that we have some new Junior Church teachers and helpers about to start. We still need more helpers for creche however so let us know if you are interested in this.
2. **Partnership with Parents:** We hope to build up the link with the parents in our church, so that we can support them in bringing up their children in the Christian faith, and they can support us in the activities and events we seek to provide for the children.
3. **Involve the children more in our services:** We have encouraged the children to give out service sheets, to ring the bell (with supervision), and to play instruments during the children's song. We are also considering children carrying a candle in the procession at the beginning of the service. We hope that from time to time the children will read a lesson or participate in leading the intercessions.
4. **Pray more for our children and families:** We have started praying for a number of children, by name, at every Sunday service. We are also planning on writing a Junior Church Prayer that can be used both in church and in Junior Church.
5. **Build up links across the generations:** I have invited several of our older members to pray regularly for our children. We are also hoping to invite members of the congregation (who would like to) to be linked up to baptism families as an honorary grandma or grandpa or aunt or uncle. They could then send cards to the child, commit themselves to pray for them regularly, and generally be a support to the family.

6. **Children and Communion:** In November, there will be some classes preparing baptized children over 7 years old to receive communion. This is widely practised in many Anglican churches (as it has been in St Ursula's in the past). The children's first communion will be on Sunday 20 November.

On our Council Day Away we listed the children and families that come to our church. We came up with 30 children under 14 years old, and 5 young people between 14-20 years old. These children and families do not come to church every week but we have regular contact with them and they have all attended church at least once since the church re-opened after the Covid lockdown, and some of them are new families. We would love to see them all more often!

It would be wonderful to see the older and younger generations of our church learning from one another and praying for one another. So, if you don't know the children and families in our church, do get to know them. There is a lot we can learn from our children.

Let us remember Jesus' words: 'Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' (Mark 10:15). And let us also rejoice that 'God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying "Abba, Father"' (Galatians 4:6). In Christ, we can call God Father; we are all God's children.

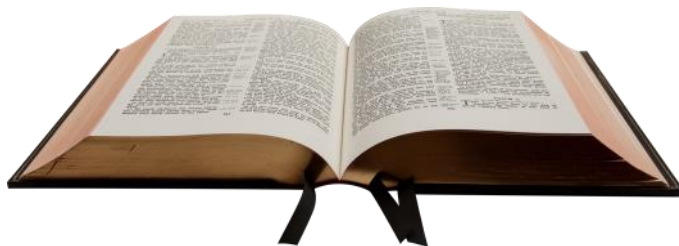
With love in Christ,

*Helen*



# Hear the other side

A question students discuss is whether there is such a thing as natural law. From the earliest times, human beings have made laws – or have had them made for them. Clearly



we must not kill. Clearly we must not steal. But without laws setting out the details, perhaps people can get away with murder. It has been suggested that the only truly universal law is that we should not rush to judgment. We should not condemn anyone without a fair hearing. This seems to be Jesus' view too.

Perhaps we, too, rush to judgment and do not ask enough questions. Will planting trees genuinely delay climate change? Is Ukraine's closeness to NATO genuinely not a threat to Russia? Does a dishonest private life mean that a person is unfit to govern? Does an unborn child have rights? Too often we say "of course" or "of course not" without stopping to think.

I recently re-read Psalm 139. The Psalms were meant to be sung as part of an act of worship, and this one probably was to be sung by a group of musicians. It is headed by a reference to David, but it is not clear if it is "by", "for" or "about" David, and in what way.

The Psalm is an all-embracing hymn to God. God knows everything there is to be known about me. ("Even before a word is on my tongue, you know it completely.") God is inescapable, even at the farthest limits of the sea or in the deepest darkness. God "fearfully and wonderfully" formed me in my mother's womb. Only after eighteen verses of praise and wonder does the Psalmist turn to the other side of the picture, and laments: "O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me". The Psalm ends in a total openness to God: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Even if we cannot see all sides of a situation, God sees all sides of us, and we cannot hide our faults or cover up the ways we fall short. But this all-knowing, all-pervading presence of God works to our advantage and not against us. Thus we can be confident that God can restore us and lead us into the right way – a way of everlasting joy!

- *Hector Davie*

# A Word for the Month – High

A key idea from the beginning of the English Reformation was uniformity. The government wanted all churches to look the same, say the same prayers, follow the same rituals (or ignore them, as the case might be!). Inevitably not everyone agreed with this, from those who wanted no reformation at all, to those who felt that the changes commanded by the law did not go far enough.

This led to disputes and to questions, of course. On whose authority could these arguments be decided? God's authority was the highest, and the Bible contained God's word, but not everybody interpreted it the same way. When a Scottish king, James Stuart, inherited the English throne in 1603, he set about having a new Bible translation made, and made sure that sensitive words were translated his way. James had no sympathy for the view that the church was organised from bottom up, or that his own authority stemmed from the consent of the people. It came from on high. He had had bad experiences with the Scots – he wasn't going to repeat them with the English.

The idea that monarchs ruled by divine right led to ideas about church government that emphasized things that were traditional and hierarchical. "No bishop, no king" was the demand of the revolutionaries. It was also the king's excuse for supporting the existing order of things. Under James' son, Charles, Civil War broke out and the opposite "low" view prevailed. There were experiments with a congregational system of church government, and the monarch was replaced by a "protector of the commonwealth".

Four centuries of history later, we still have "high" and "low" attitudes – to politics, to ways of organizing the church, to worshipping God. It is good if we can recognize that these differences are difficult to define precisely. They go back to arguments about things that were live issues in the past, but have little relevance today. Such topics as nationalism, gender relationships, climate change, use of modern communication media, the power of large corporations, social and health engineering have the capacity to unite high and low, as many of them can transcend the borders between left and right in politics. Perhaps even these divisive modern issues can help us to get on with what we are here to do – loving God and loving our neighbour.

- *Hector Davie*



# Creation Season

## 1 September - 4 October



Every year, the church celebrates 'Creation Season'. This is a time to give thanks to God for the beauty of the world he has made and also a time to ask ourselves hard questions about our failures to look after it and to reflect on how we can best respond to the ever-deepening environmental crisis.

During Creation Season this year, we have two special guests to help us think about some of these issues.

### **Creation Sunday, 4 September:**

We will welcome Professor John Wyatt from the Faraday Institute to preach at St Ursula's. He is also offering to lead an informal discussion after the service.

Professor Wyatt writes: 'We need to recognise the source of our humanity – a Creator God – and the impact this must have on our perception of our humanity in the context of constant medical and scientific advancements.'

John is a doctor, author, speaker and research scientist. His background is as a consultant neonatologist and academic researcher focussing on the mechanisms, treatment and prevention of brain damage in newborn



infants. He is now engaged in addressing new ethical, philosophical and theological challenges caused by advances in medical science and technology. He is also fascinated by the issues raised by rapid advances in AI (Artificial Intelligence) and robotics, and the interface between cutting-edge science and Christian faith.

He is Emeritus Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics, Ethics & Perinatology at University College London. He is also a senior researcher at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge. Through his clinical experience he became increasingly aware of the ethical maelstrom caused by advancing technology and contentious debates about the nature of humanity at the beginning and end of life. Now retired from frontline medical practice, he is focussing on the ethical, philosophical and theological issues raised by rapidly advancing technology.

### **Sunday 18 September:**

After the service, Louise Rapaud (who has recently started attending St Ursula's) will talk about a project she is launching in relation to climate change. Louise writes:

Moved by her two teenage daughters confronting the reality of climate change, Louise is developing the idea of an apology by older family members to younger family members for their contribution to the climate crisis. It is hoped that this apology could act as a tool to change individual behaviour. The process of such an apology encourages us to recognise the real harm facing the younger people in our lives, focus on and acknowledge our own role as individual consumers and citizens in climate change, and make amends to our young people by reducing our consumption and voting for transformative climate mitigation policies.

Louise is currently developing teaching materials on the idea and exploring ways of further collaboration. Originally from Australia, she worked for 15 years as a social worker in the refugee and humanitarian field before moving to Bern, where she works as an English teacher.

Both these talks should be very interesting and I hope they will stir us to think - and also to act.

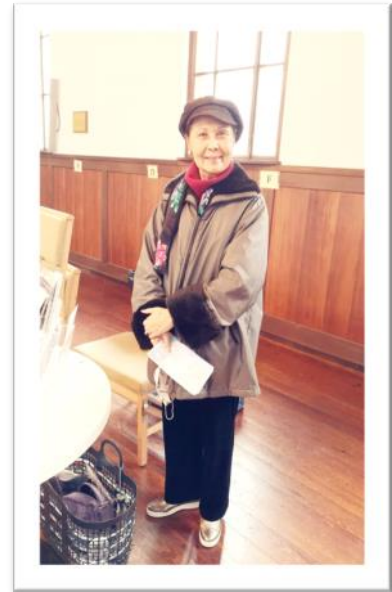
*- Helen Marshall*

# Remembering Adoree Weibel-Ching

Adoree was the much adored first born of five children to Renald and Louise Ching who met in the United States at university in the first half of the 20th century. Adoree also went to Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and qualified as a nurse.

Adoree's father, Renald Ching, was a celebrated eye surgeon and his wife Louise was a remarkable educator and keen musician. All the children and grandchildren were required to learn piano, violin, cello or clarinet.

Adoree and Nick met in 1962. He was irresistible with his dashing white open-topped sports car, black curls and violet blue eyes. He ate apples in great chomps; core and all, just the stalk would be left to toss away. This humble yet self-assured foreigner wasn't the type of beau my grandparents had envisioned for my mother.



Nick and Adoree caused consternation when they decided to get married: Nick's Swiss employers didn't approve of their executives marrying local girls and my grandmother tried to poison poor Nick. She later grew to love him, treasuring him for his steadiness, wisdom and calm demeanour.



They were duly banished to the outpost of the Philippines where I was born in Manila two years later. Everything calmed down after that and Nick was

asked back to run the Hong Kong office. My doting grandmother was delighted to have her first grandchild and three years later, my brother Stefan arrived.

Nick's dream had always been to return to Switzerland so his children could grow up to be proper Swiss citizens, but the reality didn't live up to his imagination of this longed-for life. The move from our beloved Hong Kong to foreign boring Switzerland where all life and bustle seemed to stop after 5pm was traumatic for all of us.



When Nick couldn't stand the rigidity of Swiss business ways any longer he spontaneously took a job requiring a relocation to Sydney, Australia. My mother thought he had finally gone mad but when she relented to go and explore this new strange place she found the bright sunshine, gorgeous oceanside living and a vibrant authentic Chinatown she changed her mind. My parents made many friends during their years there. Adoree started nursing again and worked on the relatively newly established HIV/AIDS ward in St Vincent's hospital. We all became

Australian citizens and it was there where my parents started turning to the Lord apparently thanks to me! They claim the challenges of parenting me brought them to the edge and they were at a loss needing to hand their concerns over to a greater divine being.

Adoree was always very forthright and open; we never kept things secret in our family: better out than in was a fair motto. She wasn't perfect and lost her temper often but she got better as she progressed in her spiritual journey. She never let the sun go down on an argument, and I treasure her example of apologising easily and quickly.

When my parents moved back to Hong Kong for my dad to start a new work project, my mum was employed as an etiquette trainer by the Regent Hotel which had newly opened. If ever a job was invented for the right person it was this one. Adoree would put the new staff through their paces training them in the serving attitude: the right welcome, the right smile, the correct manners and comportment to enhance the guest's experience. I thought her impossibly elegant, imposing and grand; she seemed to glide and sweep – not walk as a mere mortal. She cultivated this aura but underneath she was a kind, steadfast and loyal confidante and friend.

Throughout her life Adoree maintained a large circle of international friends via letters, phone calls and reunions whenever possible. Family were visited from Hong Kong, Perth to Toronto, LA to the UK.

One of these friends wrote to me saying: *Adoree was the angel God sent to me to be like a wise, caring more mature loving older sister to lead me closer to the Lord through the example of her life and through her words. I will miss her terribly. But I'm comforted that she is with your father, together in God's presence and that I will see them when I go to Heaven.*





My parents were very independent yet they loved their time as grandparents and took it very seriously nurturing all their grandchildren in a way they hadn't had the bandwidth for when they were parenting.

This January after Nick's memorial which Adoree organized with awesome energy having tirelessly looked after my dad when his health steadily

diminished, she came for a lovely visit to us in the UK where we took her to see our new place in Scotland for the first and it would seem the last time. When it came time to say goodbye she told me she was at peace and that everything was sorted. I thought this was a bit dramatic, but these words proved prophetic. Soon after she returned to Switzerland her health failed rather alarmingly and quickly. We are so grateful to have had the chance to say goodbye and express our thanks for everything shortly before mum passed away peacefully in Schüpfen. She was cared for so beautifully and many in the community continue to support us and help practically.

I'm conscious that you, her church family, provided Adoree and Nick with spiritual and social support throughout the difficult pandemic period as well as before that. For them and us the association with St Ursula's and its church community over the many years has been enriching and nourishing particularly during this last chapter of my parents' lives.

So many of you have written heartfelt messages to us about what Adoree meant to you. These messages have been widely shared and greatly appreciated. Adoree retained a very worldly sense of humour and interest in life but her faith and sense of belonging in the church was the real font of her strength.

We will always remember Adoree and Nick, the little things especially will keep their memory alive in our hearts. They live on in our lives in a different dimension and form. Every time we share an anecdote or memory, remark how they would have loved this, or not, we let them live on. Thank you for all your support mostly unseen and unspoken of, but very much felt.

*- Nicole Rolland, Adoree's daughter*





Kalimera from Greece!

Last year our Autumn Sale was quite successful. This year we are inviting you again to our Autumn Sale on Saturday 3 September.

We will be offering delicious home-baked goods and a great selection of refreshments. Also you will be able to browse the stalls with our second-hand books and choose from a wide variety of gift items.

As always, a big THANK YOU to our wonderful volunteers for their time and precious help.

### **Would you like to help?**

We would appreciate lots of home-baked cakes as well as volunteers to help on the day. If you would like to be a part of this super team, please contact the Church Office for further details.

### **Flyers**

Please use the flyer with this magazine to help advertise the Sale. If you'd like more flyers, please either pick them up from the Upper Hall or contact the Church Office: [office@stursula.ch](mailto:office@stursula.ch) or 031 352 85 67.

### **Updates**

For more updates and additional information, please stay tuned to St Ursula's website [www.stursula.ch](http://www.stursula.ch) and Facebook page. Moreover, Helen with her weekly emails will keep you updated with any future events taking place at St Ursula's.

Take care of yourselves and stay healthy!

- *Maria Avdikou, Church Office*

The background photo used for our Autumn Sale flyer and the respective article was designed by Freepik.

# From the Treasurer – July 2022

Dear all

I hope you are continuing to enjoy the lovely weather. A big thank you to all those who came along to the summer fête. We had a lovely time, and raised Fr5,400 for Church funds. Our autumn sale will be on 3 September. Do come along, or if you would like to help out, please contact either myself or Maria.

On the next page is an overview of our finances to mid-year, showing a deficit in the Church of Fr32,937 and an excess in the Association of Fr14,287.

The QR slips have now gone out to those who give regularly via a payment slip, so if you were expecting one, and have not received one, please let me know. We have also started taking the collection using the bags on a Sunday again. If you forget to bring cash, you are also able to Twint, or find me as I can process receipts from most bank cards with our Sumup machine.

Best wishes,  
*Sue*

Church CH79 0900 0000 3000 4416 8  
Association CH61 0900 0000 6066 6488 7

PS: I received a \$20 US bill in the collection, can anyone change it for Fr20?

## Have you paid your magazine subs?

If you are reading this magazine in a print version, and are not getting a free one, please check if you have paid your subscription this year. If you are not sure whether you have paid, please let me know. Otherwise please transfer Fr24 to the bank account:

CH79 0900 0000 3000 4416 8 or use the QR code on the next page.

Thank you for your support.


Best regards,

Susan Higson

[Treasurer@stursula.ch](mailto:Treasurer@stursula.ch)

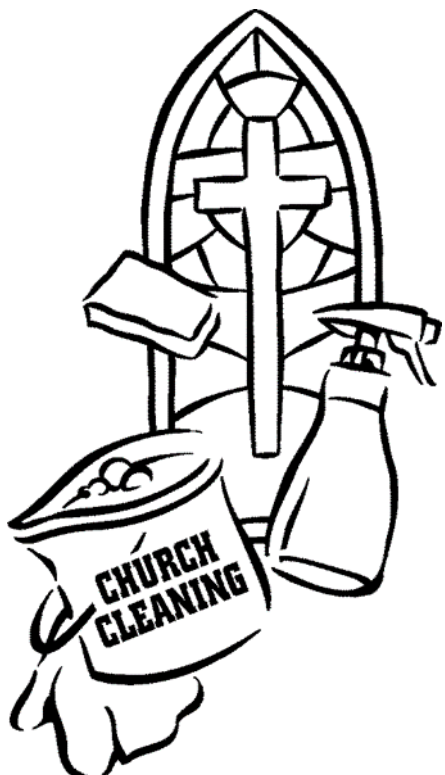


INCOME	Church 22	Assn 22	EXPENDITURE	Church 22	Assn 22
<b>Income from Community</b>	<b>38,477.88</b>	<b>30,194.54</b>	<b>Personnel-related costs</b>	<b>66,385.32</b>	-
<i>Pledged giving</i>	31,050.00	27,160.00	Stipends and remunerations	43,509.64	
<i>Donations</i>	1,686.00	3,034.54	Travelling expenses	1,551.00	-
<i>Collections</i>	5,741.88		Other personnel costs	21,324.68	
			<b>Running costs</b>	<b>11,583.43</b>	<b>3,339</b>
<b>Income from events</b>	13,566.59		<i>Premises</i>	9,153.90	1,847.40
			<i>Office</i>	836.43	
<b>Income from other sources</b>	<b>9,238.10</b>		<i>Telephone and Internet</i>	42.10	-
<i>Contribution to costs: hall</i>	7,928.10		<i>Insurance</i>	860.30	1,492.05
<i>Other</i>	1,310.00		<i>Property tax</i>	-	-
	-		<i>Vestry</i>	610.20	
			<i>Ministry and Hospitality</i>	80.50	
			<i>Subscriptions and advertising</i>	-	
<b>Income from Thun</b>	608.70		<b>Youth and Junior Church</b>	220.95	
<b>Income from Neuchatel</b>	222.80		<b>Cost of food sold</b>	1,925.83	
<b>Permanent activities income</b>	<b>1,438.50</b>		<b>Permanent activities expenses</b>	<b>1,465.40</b>	
<i>Magazine</i>	1,068.00		<i>Magazine</i>	614.65	
<i>Books and Cards</i>	195.50		<i>Books and cards</i>	110.00	
<i>Coffee</i>	175.00		<i>Coffee</i>	740.75	
<i>Other</i>	-		<i>Other</i>	-	
			<b>Diocese/Deanery</b>	15,978.78	
			<b>Charity incl allocations</b>		12,500
Financial income	1,255.80	-	<b>Financial Expense</b>	185.88	68.38
Forex	-	-			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,808.37</b>	<b>30,194.54</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97,745.59</b>	<b>15,907.83</b>
<b>DEFICIT</b>	<b>32,937</b>	-	excess before allocations	-	<b>14,287</b>

<p><b>Empfangsschein</b></p> <p>Konto / Zahlbar an          CH79 0900 0000 3000 4416 8          St Ursula's Church Bern          Jubiläumsplatz 2          3005 Bern</p> <p>Referenz          RF93 MAG2 022</p> <p>Zahlbar durch (Name/Adresse)</p> <p>Währung Betrag          CHF 24.00</p> <p>Annahmestelle</p>	<p><b>Zahlteil</b></p>  <p>Währung Betrag          CHF 24.00</p>	<p>Konto / Zahlbar an          CH79 0900 0000 3000 4416 8          St Ursula's Church Bern          Jubiläumsplatz 2          3005 Bern</p> <p>Referenz          RF93 MAG2 022</p> <p>Zahlbar durch (Name/Adresse)</p>
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# Church clean-up day – 27 August



Come along and help us clear out and clean up our attics and basements and everything in-between. There is something for everyone. We will start at 9am, and finish sometime in the afternoon.

Please bring something for lunch with you.

If you have any special talents you would like to offer, like painting or garden work, or you see something you would particularly like to work on, please let Sue know, otherwise we will allocate you a task when you arrive.

PS: if you would like to help, but really aren't up to cleaning; then please pray for a fun and successful day. That is a big help 😊

- Sue Higson

## Jam jars!

My garden is full of fruit and I've run out of jam jars, so can't make any more jams (or marmalade) until I get some jars. I especially need the "Bonne Maman" type ones. So, a special plea for lots of jam jars so that we don't have a shortage of marmalade and jams at this year's sales.

The jars should be no bigger than 450g size, have all their labels removed and be totally clean inside & out. Standard "Bonne Maman" jam jars without lids are also fine.

If you have any to spare, please leave them either outside the hall door or in the Church Kitchen

THANK YOU!

- Jana Kutesko



# A special Summer Fête

Our first Summer Fête since Corona came into our lives took place on Saturday 11 June and what a special celebration it was! We were delighted to welcome many people at our premises, not only regular but also new visitors, who came to browse our stalls and enjoy a cup of coffee with some cake or the delicious lunch dishes provided by our amazing team of volunteers.

We were blessed with sunny weather and everyone had the chance to enjoy our lovely garden. By the way, a big thank you to our gardening team for keeping our garden tidy, beautiful and welcoming.

Fun children activities for our tiny world travellers were kindly provided by Little Bears Bern (aka Parents and Tots). This is an international English speaking playgroup meeting at St Ursula's every Wednesday morning. Check their website here: [www.littlebearsbern.ch](http://www.littlebearsbern.ch).



Diccon Bewes was also with us signing books and meeting his readers. He also gave two talks in the church, both entertaining and informative. I particularly enjoyed hearing about his new Swiss map book for children (and not only) *Cartographica Helvetica* which is now on my wish list. More details about Diccon and his books here: [www.dicconbewes.com](http://www.dicconbewes.com).

Once again, I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all who helped with the Sale as well as to all those who came along to support us.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Autumn Sale on Saturday

3 September. Tell your friends!

- Maria Avdikou, Church Office



# For Your Diary August and September

## August

Sunday 7 August	Julie Nelson is taking the Service
Sunday 14 August	Talk about Refugees after the Service
Thursday 18 August	Thun Quiet Day Invitation to join the Old Catholic community for raclette at Kramgasse 10 from 18.00
Saturday 27 August	Clean up Day

## September

Thursday 1 September	Thun Service (via Zoom)
Friday 2 September & Saturday 3 September	SACEP Retreat
Saturday 3 September	Autumn Sale
Thursday 8 September	Church Council meeting
Thursday 15 September	Thun Service (in Thun)
Sunday 11 September	Magazine Copy Date
Thursday 29 September	Magazine Collating

## Future Dates

Sunday 2 October	Pledge Sunday
Tuesday 4 October	Church Council meeting
Thursday 6 October	Thun Service (via Zoom)
Sunday 9 October	Harvest Festival and visit from the Kigezi Diocese Water & Sanitation Project team Auction after the Service Bring & Share Lunch Talk by Bishop Gaddie Akanjuna
Thursday 20 October	Thun Service (in Thun)
Saturday 12 November	Nacht der Religionen
Sunday 13 November	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 20 November	First Communion for some children
Friday 25 November	Christmas Bazaar 17.00 – 19.30
Saturday 26 November	Christmas Bazaar 10.00 – 15.00

# Services and Readings August and September 2022

## Sunday 7 August – Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Genesis 15:1-6*  
*Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*  
*Luke 12:32-40*

## Sunday 14 August – Ninth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Jeremiah 23:23-29*  
*Hebrews 11:29-12:2*  
*Luke 12:49-56*

## Sunday 21 August – Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Isaiah 58:9b-14*  
*Hebrews 12:18 -29*  
*Luke 13:10-17*

## Sunday 28 August – Saint Augustine

10:00 Eucharist  
*Readings to be confirmed*



## Sunday 4 September– Creation Sunday

10:00 Eucharist  
*Psalm 8*  
*Romans 8:18-25*  
*John 1:1-14*

## Sunday 11 September – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Exodus 32:7-14*  
*1 Timothy 1:12-17*  
*Luke 15:1-10*

## Sunday 18 September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Amos 8:4-7*  
*1 Timothy 2:1-7*  
*Luke 16:1-13*

## Sunday 25 September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Eucharist  
*Amos 6:1a, 4-7*  
*1 Timothy 6:6-19*  
*Luke 16:19 -31*

## Sunday 2 October – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity – Pledge Sunday

10:00 Eucharist  
*Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4*  
*2 Timothy 1:1-14*  
*Luke 17:5-10*

# Charity of the Month – A Rocha

Have July’s extreme weather and heat waves across Europe made us more conscious of global warming?

The current crisis has reminded us of the fragility of life and has also helped us love our neighbours and brought communities together. A Rocha is a response to God’s love for all creation.

St Ursula’s Church supports the charity A Rocha International, an international charity focussing on environmental issues around the globe. This aligns very well with our efforts at

St Ursula’s to become an Eco Church. The Eco Church scheme is delivered through A Rocha.



A Rocha is an international Christian conservation NGO which engages in scientific research, practical environmental education and community-based conservation projects. A Rocha means “the Rock” in Portuguese.

A Rocha is the only Christian environmental charity doing both practical nature conservation and education, and facilitating others — local churches, dioceses and denominations, Christian managers and individuals — to do it for themselves.



St Ursula’s Bronze Award

Eco Church was described by Rowan Williams (2016) as:

*a “tectonic shift” in Christian thinking through which environmental concerns will embed more deeply in church culture.*

St Ursula’s Church has already received a bronze award, which you can see in the entrance porch. But there still is a long way to go, as A Rocha reminds us with its series of challenges in the Eco Church movement.

A Rocha began the Eco Church project to encourage churches to live sustainably and to look after God’s creation.

Given that the care of God’s creation is global and requires us to act collectively, our diocese of Europe has joined the scheme and has already become an eco-diocese. For this to happen, a majority of its



chaplains needed to have been awarded bronze, silver or gold status by A Rocha.

On 14 September 2020 a group of St Ursula's members met with Sarah French on a Zoom meeting and learn more about Eco Church and the work of A Rocha International, you can listen to the meeting again by following the link at the end of this article.



Given that the pandemic made it difficult to meet in person, St Ursula's Eco-group met mostly outside in 2021, over such practical work as gardening (see separate report) or litter-picking.

As part of our Eco-Church commitment, St Ursula's Eco-Group has been focused on issues and raising awareness within the congregation as well as effectively integrating the junior church.

These points include:

1. How can we encourage better use of transport?
2. Can we eliminate plastic from specific areas?
3. What further options have we for reducing waste?
4. How can we use more ethically-produced goods?
5. How are we addressing issues of racial justice?



In September 2022, St Ursula's church will welcome talks from the following speakers all related to our Eco focus. Please join us:

- Professor John Wyatt (Medical Technology and Christian Ethics, on Creation Sunday, 4 September 2022),
- Louise Rapaud (intergenerational response to climate change, on 18 September 2022).

Please pray:

1. for the work of A Rocha international
2. for the upcoming focus on Creationtide
3. that people will be inspired by what they learn about faith through A Rocha's words and action
4. for an environment of caring and sharing
5. for sensitivity to different values and belief systems as we work with others towards common goals and objectives

List of References and links

St Ursula's Church and the Environment: a special section on the [church website](#)

Sign up for A Rocha's newsletter: <https://arocha.org/en/get-involved/stay-in-touch/>

Dominic Roser from St Ursula's church is involved in the [Effective Altruism for Christians](#) website

A Rocha's [website](#) and [blog](#)

A talk given by Sarah French, Director of International Operations at A Rocha on "[Creation Crisis](#)" as a Zoom recording

- *Pieter Perrett*





# The shape I am in

There's nothing the matter with me,  
I'm just as healthy as can be,  
I have arthritis in both knees,  
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.  
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

All my teeth have had to come out,  
And my diet I hate to think about.  
I'm overweight and I can't get thin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

And arch supports I need for my feet...  
Or I wouldn't be able to go out in the street.  
Sleep is denied me night after night,  
But every morning I find I'm all right.  
My memory's failing, my head's in a spin...  
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Old age is golden I've heard it said,  
But sometimes I wonder, as I go to bed.  
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,  
And my glasses on a shelf, until I get up.  
And when sleep dims my eyes, I say to myself,

Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?  
The reason I know my Youth has been spent,  
Is my get-up-and-go has got-up-and-went!  
But really I don't mind, when I think with a grin,  
Of all the places my get-up has been.

I get up each morning and dust off my wits,  
Pick up the paper and read the obits.  
If my name is missing, I'm therefore not dead,  
So I eat a good breakfast and jump back into bed.



The moral of this as the tale unfolds,  
Is that for you and me, who are growing old....  
It is better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,  
Than to let people know the shape we are in.

- Author: *Diamond C Aloes*

ClevelandSeniors.com - the home of online jokes, trivia, fun and games for seniors and boomers age 50 and over

## **New service beginning on 15 August 2022** **Native English-speaking support in your own Bern home.**



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Have you recently become a parent and want some **moral and practical support** with your **new baby**?

Would you like me to **shop, prepare and cook you a meal** (& a couple to go into your freezer) as we chat and then I clean up your kitchen?

Are you a **care-giver** for a loved one with early **dementia** and would like me to come and help give you some moral support and **respite**?

[www.suessupportservices.weebly.com](http://www.suessupportservices.weebly.com)

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**Mob: +41 (0)79 652 6619**

[toni.bachmann@quicknet.ch](mailto:toni.bachmann@quicknet.ch)

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## WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW PLACE TO LIVE

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Contact: Marie-Annick and Malcolm Crawford

Tel: 024 426 02 20 Email: [marieannick2@gmail.com](mailto:marieannick2@gmail.com)



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Mittelstrasse 55, 3012 Bern | Open every Thursday & Friday from 8pm | [www.englishclub.ch](http://www.englishclub.ch)

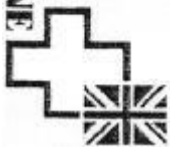
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The club was formed in 1991 as a non-political, non-religious organization open to all men, women and their families, interested in meeting for social and cultural activities. Our aim is to facilitate a better understanding of - and integration into - Switzerland, through a variety of services, programmes and joint explorations of this country and its people. We welcome members from all over the world, and currently count 100 members (including families) from some 30 nations. Our common language is English, but among our members many other languages can be heard. We hold a monthly meeting with guest speakers and presentations on a wide range of topics, and publish a monthly Newsletter. In 2021 the club celebrated its 30th anniversary. We are waiting to welcome you !

President Graham Tritt,  
tel. 078 684 2473, email [g.tritt@gmx.net](mailto:g.tritt@gmx.net)  
Website [www.icberne.org](http://www.icberne.org)

International Club of Berne, 3000 Berne, [www: icberne.ch](http://www.icberne.ch)  
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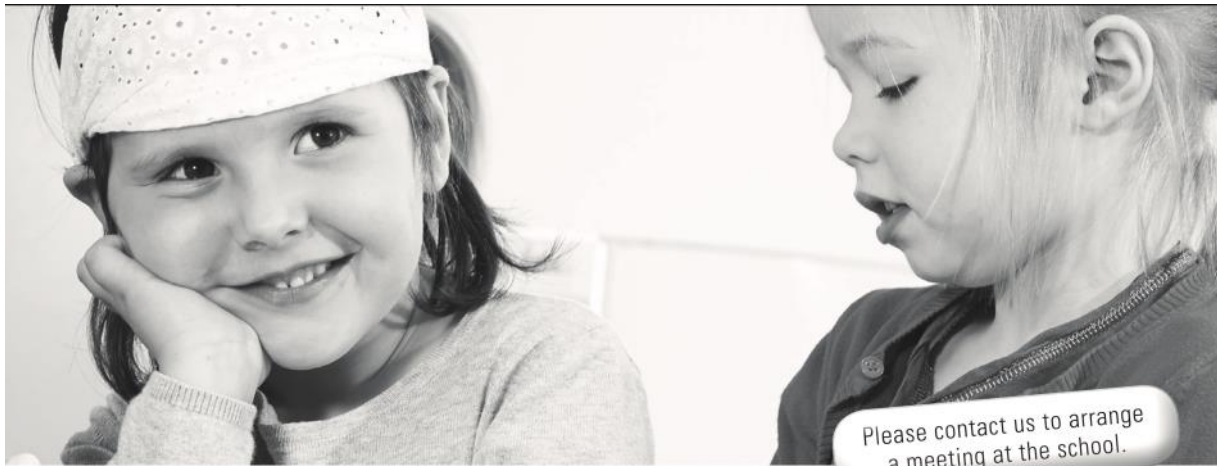
SWISS-BRITISH  
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The Swiss British Society, Berne organises a number of cultural events including visits to exhibitions, concerts, a Christmas dinner, Burns supper and musical evenings. We also invite guest speakers to address our members on a range of literary, musical or political topics. Usually our events have a social element - we try to combine dinner or lunch together with our lectures and outings, or at least a chat and a cup of tea! New members are always welcome. Our website (and circular) is hosted by the Federation of Anglo Swiss clubs at [www.angloswissclubs.ch](http://www.angloswissclubs.ch)

Contact: President: Chris Warren

Email: [cuwarren@zapp.ch](mailto:cuwarren@zapp.ch)



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Archana Jacob 031 859 64 12  
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**Dave Bilbrough**

In the 1960s and 1970s, there was a widespread feeling that the church was becoming out of touch with society. God, it was true, was unchanging, but the way we told others, as well as the way we worshipped, was full of jargon which was obscure and unattractive. The Reformers had had the same thoughts four hundred years before and had made changes, but their changes had become fossilized.

So a crop of new Bible translations sprang up, new prayers, new liturgies, new songs, using “modern” language and a more accessible style. This led to movements everywhere in the church for new approaches – from Pope John XXIII’s call in 1959 for *aggiornamento*, and the first Vatican Council, to the holding among the Protestant churches of a pan-evangelical event in Britain, Spring Harvest, in 1979.

Dave Bilbrough was born in 1955 in Hackney in London and grew up in Romford, in suburban Essex. In his teens, he was a convert to an evangelical faith and worship style. He received early acceptance in 1975 for a short, direct song, *Abba, Father*, a simple, personal prayer for commitment.

Tastes differ, and often musical preferences do not match other factors – age, class, background, belief. A critic in the Anglican Church Times once referred to Bilbrough’s style as “musically predictable, repetitive, banal and numbing”, but the success of his music is a sign that many people thought the opposite. A quick survey of the Psalms will find many of them with the same message, and surely it is the message, more than the tune, that we should heed! May our hearts never grow cold towards so loving a father.

- *Hector Davie*

**Abba, Father, let me be  
yours and yours alone.  
May my will forever be  
evermore your own.  
Never let my heart grow cold,  
never let me go.**

**Abba, Father, let me be  
yours and yours alone**

*Dave Bilbrough (b. 1955)*



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