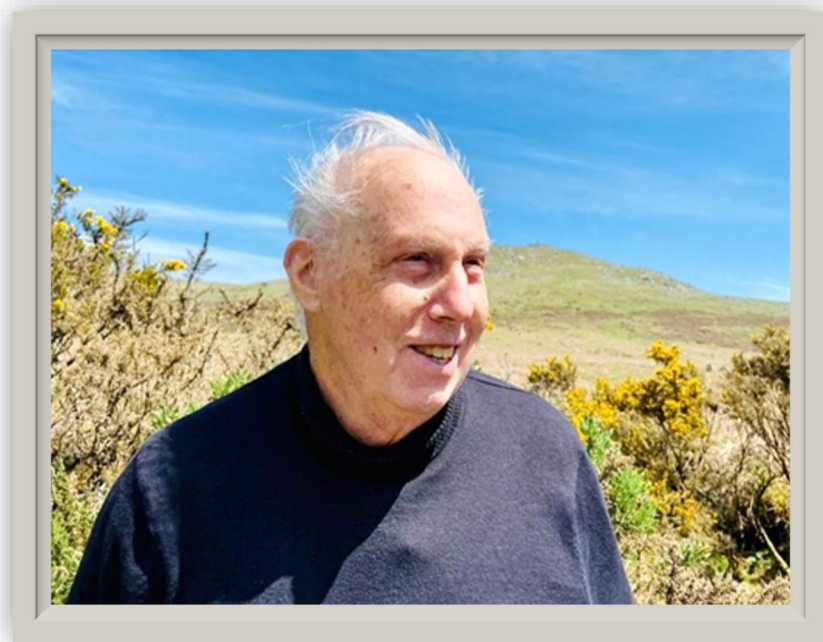


Glenorchy

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
EXETER ROAD - EXMOUTH

THE REVIEW

November 2023



David Lee 1937—2023



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THE REVIEW

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Editor's note: The next *Review* will be for December 2023 / January 2024. Items for inclusion need to reach me by 25th November. Thank you.

Editor: sheila@sheilabrain.com



Sunday Worship in November

Sunday 5th	Revd Janine Atkinson (<i>communion</i>)
Sunday 12th	Remembrance Sunday <i>plus dedication of shoe boxes</i> Revd Janine Atkinson <i>followed by Church Meeting</i>
Sunday 19th	Revd Peter Brain
Sunday 26th	Toy Service Revd Janine Atkinson with Salvation Army

Special Notice

Church Meeting - 12th November

Please note the change of date for the Church Meeting, which needs to be brought forward by a week from 19th November, as the Minister is away that week.

Our church motto:

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

From the minister...



Dear Friends,

The Apostle Paul wrote, in his second letter to the Corinthian Church (*Chapter 5:20*) “so, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”

So, what is an ambassador?

An ambassador represents someone - usually a ruler - a king, or a president. They need to have many skills, strengths and qualities to be the best of representatives;

Ambassadors need: -

Knowledge: A good ambassador knows exactly who and what they represent and what the message or view is that they are required to communicate. An ambassador needs to study and learn the will of the one who sent them.

Wisdom: A good ambassador must be skilled in diplomacy; they must communicate what the king or ruler wants in an attractive manner. They must demonstrate gentleness, tact, and diplomacy, both demonstrating and commanding respect.

Character: An ambassador’s behaviour and conduct must reflect accurately, truthfully and with integrity the person he or she represents.

However, an ambassador must not be a pushover! They must be able to speak truth to power.

Paul tells us that **we** are ambassadors for Christ. And, like all ambassadors, we must know who it is we represent and the message we are to convey.

We must strive to be Christ-like in our words and conduct – what we do and how we behave must reflect what we say, and represent accurately, consistently and dependably the one who sends us. Paul says, it is as though God is making His appeal through **us** that the world needs to be reconciled to God (*to be in a relationship with God*).

It's a high calling to be an ambassador for Christ. We are sent to do what the sovereign would do himself, if He were present. We need to be good representatives of the King of heaven. As ambassadors we transact the business which the Son of God would engage in if He were here, in body, now.

Ambassadors must be aware of and be able to read the signs of the times. In a world that has little peace, ambassadors must be peacemakers. They must seek peace not through the justice of retribution, but the justice of generosity. They do not create separation they bring people together. Ambassadors do not create higher barriers for people to overcome, they make bigger tables to invite and accommodate.

Our work as ambassadors is one of great importance. It should be carried out faithfully, and with dignity. Such great responsibility requires courage, wisdom, honesty and integrity, as we represent God who has entrusted a priceless message of reconciliation to us. It may seem like foolishness, but in His wisdom, the one who sends us out as ambassadors puts His trust in us.

And the treasure we have to offer people in our ambassadorial role is knowledge

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rev. Janine", written in black ink on a light pink rectangular background.

Glenorchy Bible Book Club

Wednesday 8th November

2pm to 3.30pm



Image: www.pixabay.com

We'll continue to delve into some of Jesus' parables

Look and listen out for information about our Advent Study, starting on Wednesday 29th November from 2 – 3.30pm, and weekly for 4 weeks (last meeting 20th December).



Sunday 12th November Shoe Boxes

The shoe boxes for children in Moldova will be blessed during the service on Sunday 12th November. If you have filled a box yourself, please bring it with you to the service. If you are not going to be at that service please bring it and put it in the office before 12th November.

Thank you.

Sheila Johnstone (shoe box co-ordinator)



Sunday 26th November Toy Service

The annual Gift Service for families in need at Christmas will be held on Sunday 26th November, when your gifts of toys etc will be handed over to the Salvation Army for distribution. There is a box in the vestibule for your donations, which must be brand new and unwrapped. Gifts of wrapping paper are also welcome.

News of the Church Family

Several members and friends have recently has Covid, and it takes some time to recover. Fran Ellis has had a fall and was taken to Wonford Hospital. Fran and Bob have had Covid. Angela Morland had an accident to her foot and is now wearing a surgical boot, so she can get around with the aid of crutches. The bones will take some time to heal. Pam Stephens has been unwell for a few weeks and is unable to come to church. We pray for her recovery. Ron Peters has been receiving treatment for skin cancers on his head. We pray that he will be given the all clear soon. Other people have been unwell in recent weeks and we pray for a good recovery. It has been good to see Pam Diffey back at church after her long recovery period from her operation.

We were delighted to receive John Greenslade into membership on 1st October.

Change to Church Directory

Janet Phillips now has the telephone number **0779 1487335**

Flowers in Church

Grateful thanks to Mell who arranged the pedestals for Brian Chapman's Thanksgiving Service and for David Lee's funeral.



Also to Jenny who donated and arranged the flowers on 22nd October. Please speak to Lyn if you would like to provide the flowers on a particular date.

Lyn

Love and congratulations to all who celebrate an anniversary or birthday in November.





White Poppies 90th Anniversary



Ninety years ago in 1933, the first white poppies were created by members of the Co-operative Women's Guild. Many of these women had lost family and friends in the First World War and were concerned about the way Remembrance Day was going - its growing militarisation and its detachment from a meaningful message of peace. The Guild's General Secretary, Eleanor Barton, called for a renewal of "that 'Never Again' spirit that was strong in 1918, but seems to grow weaker as years go on". Then as now, the white poppy stood for three vital principles:

- Remembrance must include **all victims of war**, not only British military casualties, but also those excluded from mainstream commemorations - civilians, refugees, people of other nationalities, people affected by conflict around the world today.
- We need to **challenge militarism** - both the militarisation of remembrance, and the war and militarism that leads to so much suffering.
- ♦ We must look forwards and **work actively towards peace**, even as we remember the past.

White poppies are available (for a donation) in the church vestibule.
Pamela Diffey

Editor's note: This article was submitted before the dreadful events of recent weeks in Israel/Palestine, which all the more have brought home to us the suffering of innocent civilians in wartime. In the meantime, the war in Ukraine has become almost invisible, but continues unabated. The work for peace is more crucial than ever.



Decorating the Church for Christmas 1st / 2nd December

This year we are dividing the tasks of decorating the church into two mornings to make it less tiring for everyone. It also means that there are two opportunities to come and help, joining friends to dress our lovely church for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. *A free coffee or tea will be available.*

On Friday 1st December 10a.m. trees will be brought down from storage and help is needed to assemble and position them. Also lights and batteries will need be checked.

On Saturday 2nd December 10a.m. Help is needed to decorate the trees also set up the nativity scene in the vestibule and decorate the window sills, etc. I will decorate the 'Big Window' but would value some help too.

Please make this an enjoyable and rewarding team effort by coming on either morning or both, everyone can help in some way. If you have any questions please contact me.

Angela Morland

Church Choir

Choir practices will resume at a new time of 3.00 pm on Friday 17th November and continue until Friday 15th December. We will be preparing for Christmas. Do join us if you enjoy singing.



Peter Johnstone

In Memoriam : David Lee



There are many memories of David, who played a significant role in the life of Glenorchy Church and was well known in the town and area, mainly because of his musical activities. Not only was he active in the Exmouth Choral Society, which holds its rehearsals at Glenorchy, but he was for many years the organiser of the Wednesday lunchtime concerts, for which he found first-class performers and attracted large and appreciative audiences. In the life of the Church he was a long-serving Elder and for many years was Church Secretary.

William David Chown Lee was born in 1937 in London. At the start of the Second World War his father joined the RAF, and David and his mother moved to Exmouth to live with her parents in fear of the bombing in London. David's sister, Diana, was born soon afterwards. Because Exmouth was also being quite severely bombed, his mother moved them to Lydford on the edge of Dartmoor, when David was 4 years old, where he enjoyed an idyllic childhood. He never lost his love of the moor and throughout his life was an avid walker. In 1944 they returned to Exmouth, where he and Diana went to a private school before David passed the 11+ and went to Exmouth Grammar School. He was then articled to a solicitor in Exeter and after passing his exams eventually returned to Exmouth to join Gover and Gover, specialising in conveyancing, where he stayed until retirement.

David grew up in Glenorchy Church and his faith meant a great deal to him. He became an Elder and served for many years as Church Secretary. After retiring as an Elder he was awarded the title of "elder emeritus" which he valued.

An avid music lover and musician, and a Church music lover in particular, he used his gifts to the full as church organist; the hymns that he sang and played at Glenorchy's organ were part of his identity as well as part of the fabric of this place of worship for pretty much all his 86 years. It is no surprise that he was very precise about what hymns and music he wanted played at his funeral.

He loved gardening, parlour games and collected antiques and clocks. He loved art and had favourite artists who depicted Dartmoor. He also had a sweet tooth and insisted on Chudleigh buns being served with cream teas – no scones for David!

In his 86 years, well lived, David touched many lives through his involvement with a wide range of organisations and charities, such as the Exmouth Choral Society, the Organists' Association, as a local Lay Preacher, as a Trustee of the Jamieson-Bystock Trust and the Mary Parminter Trust (Point in View) and as a member of the Exmouth Christian Aid and Bible Society Committees. At Glenorchy he was a member of the Walking Group, the Mission Committee and the General Purposes Committee, and helped out at the Job Café. He hosted one of our House Groups at his home and his thoughtful insights were much valued. He made generous donations both to the church and to charities, including Exmouth's Open Door, who will benefit from gifts made in his memory, and the Exmouth Animal Dispensary.

David's passing will be marked by many and the legacy David has left for us all lies in the final words in his will:

'Remember, there is a world of need on your doorstep'.

William David Chown Lee

Memories of a life-long friendship

When David returned to Exmouth from Dartmoor after the war he became a pupil at Exe View School where I was already a pupil. His grandfather, Mr Chown, was a deacon at Glenorchy and so it was natural that David should worship there, where my family also attended. Thus it was inevitable that we should be friends.

David regularly attended Sunday School and each year we entered the Scripture Exam. One year he achieved 100% (to my 99%)! We became leaders in the Junior Church. David led the Junior Section and I stepped into his shoes when he went to London for his legal training. He enjoyed the Youth Club and was a fierce competitor when we played badminton in the Hall.

David had a real gift for music and when I started preaching we would sometimes go to Salem Church in East Budleigh and he would play the harmonium. Later, of course, he became Glenorchy's organist, playing for many years and for many special occasions including my marriage to Pat Mair.

David took on the role of Church Secretary, a position he was to hold for very many years. He immediately made his mark by reciting the notices each week without notes!

Glenorchy was David's life. He was a true Independent and he supported the church his whole life with generosity of time and money. His passing brings to an end the Chown connection and the church, and indeed the town, have every reason to thank God for him.

Revd Chris Baker

David Lee : church organist

David served for many years on the committee of the Exeter and District Organists Association, which has 100 members. The committee meets 4 times a year. This was often in David's house. The committee's main role is to set up our monthly events and activities, which are mostly attended by 20 or so members. On one evening every January we are allowed (for about 5 minutes each) to play the Cathedral organ. In other months there may be an "organ crawl", i.e. during one day we play several organs in one town or in several villages near each other. David and I have travelled together to many such events during the last ten years. Every second year (pre-Covid19) there was an extended event in May when, over 3 days, we would stay in another part of the country playing organs there. In 2015 we visited Hereford and Worcester Cathedrals, Tewkesbury Abbey, Malvern Priory and Elgar's House at Upper Broadheath. In November we have an annual dinner attended by about 40 members in a rural pub/restaurant, which always has an invited "after dinner speaker". David enthusiastically entered into all these events while he could. A recent organ crawl in September included a favourite organ of his in Great Torrington Parish Church. He had arranged with me to take him there but, sadly, he died before the event.

Peter Johnstone

Note: these centre pages of the magazine can be removed if you want to save them as a memento of David.

If you would like a copy of the Order of Service for the funeral, there are some spares available. Please ask Jenny.

Eco Matters

We are still a long way from being able to satisfy the country's energy needs from renewable energy alone.

At the end of September, we saw a collision between our “national interest” and the need of the whole world for less “global warming”. The Prime Minister announced that a company would be allowed to start up production from the Rosebank oil and gas field near to Shetland. When production is built up, Rosebank will enable the UK to generate energy without having to buy its oil and gas from other countries. In other words, it will improve our balance of payments and give a boost to the Economy. Also, we live in a world where wars are continually starting. We need “energy security” in case foreign sources are cut off. Sadly, production will result in more greenhouse gases and more global temperature rise.

On a more positive note, the UN is preparing for the start, on 30th November, of the two week COP28 Conference on Climate Change, to be held in the United Arab Emirates. They will discuss how the costs of adapting the world to reduce climate change can be shared – and how to support the countries most affected. This significant event is not getting much publicity, as I write, because the military conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza is demanding attention. Also Storm Babet is battering Scotland – probably an example of extreme weather linked to climate change.

Let us pray that world leaders will work for peace and will cooperate to eliminate the burning of fossil fuels.

Peter Johnstone

Mission Committee update

Thanks to all who brought in Mission Boxes with £266; the collection at the organ recital by David Davies in memory of David Lee raised £115 for our funds; and there was a generous personal donation. So we have some money – all we need now is for new signatories to the bank account and we can start giving it away!

There will be a Mission committee coffee morning on **November 4** with the usual stalls full of good things to eat and interesting things to buy (ahead of Christmas). Do come along.



At the October Mission Sunday service we learned more about one of our three charities. In their own words:



Smile Train is an international children's charity founded in 1999 and the world's largest organisation with a sustainable approach to a single, solvable problem: cleft lip and palate.

1 in 700 babies are born with a cleft lip and/or palate globally. Clefts can cause difficulties eating, breathing, hearing, and speaking. Without cleft treatment these babies can face various difficulties and experience multiple problems with eating which can lead them to becoming malnourished and result in starvation or even death. Chronic ear infections may result in permanent hearing loss, and difficulty speaking or expressing themselves which could result in anxiety or depression. Babies born with cleft and children living with cleft can also face isolation and prejudice from their communities.

Smile Train is committed to treating the whole patient; in addition to life-changing surgery our local medical partners provide essential care, such as speech therapy, emotional support, nutrition services and orthodontic care, to ensure that children have the opportunity to lead full and productive lives.

Peter Brain

Walking Group

Friday 10th November : Budleigh Salterton

Meet at the free car park just above the public hall in Budleigh Salterton at 10am.

We will walk along the old railway track to the new wetlands and explore the new walkways there.

(postponed from October)

Contact **Peter Street** (266005) or **Bob Austen** (269942)

Christian Response to Eastern Europe.



A big Thank you to the Church Craft Group and others in the Church who once again have been busy with knitting needles and made sets of warm hats, mitts, scarves etc to put in the Christmas Shoe Boxes along with the some treats and other gifts like soap, flannels, tooth brushes & paste.

The Warehouse will be open on Wednesday 1st November from 10am -3pm and on Saturday 18th from 10am-1pm. The Charity is in need of good quality clothing for all ages, including adults, and bedding and curtains etc. I can collect on Tuesday afternoon after 2pm, so just give me a call and leave a message. 275457. The Shoe Box truck will go out in early December to Moldova and Ukraine.

Jenny Newman

PRAY-GROUND AT HOME

Gratitude Jar



- ♦ **You Will Need:-** An Empty Jar, Paper or Post-it Notes, Pens
- ♦ **Set Up:-** Place the jar on a shelf with the paper and pens nearby. You can do this activity every day with the other people in your house
- ♦ **Instructions:-** It's good to be grateful - to say thank you.

What are you thankful for today?

Each day, write or draw something that you are thankful for and put it into the jar. At the end of the week, open the jar with your family, maybe at a meal-time, read what you've all been thankful for during the week and say 'Thank you' to God.



Jesus often 'gave thanks' - and after he'd given thanks there was always even more to be grateful for than there had been before! Here's what happened when Jesus gave thanks for a small amount of food:-

Another time there were many people with Jesus. The people had nothing to eat. So he called his followers to him and said, "I feel sorry for these people. They have been with me for three days, and now they have nothing to eat. I should not send them home hungry. If they leave without eating, they will faint on the way home. Some of them live a long way from here."

Jesus' followers answered, "But we are far away from any towns. Where can we get enough bread to feed all these people?"

Then Jesus asked them,

"How many loaves of bread do you have?"

They answered, "We have seven loaves of bread."



Jesus told the people to sit on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread into pieces and gave them to his followers. He told them to give the bread to the people, and they did as he said. The followers also had a few small fish. Jesus gave thanks for the fish and told them to give the fish to the people.

They all ate until they were full. Then the followers filled seven baskets with the pieces of food that were left. There were about 4,000 who ate.

Mark 8: verses 1 - 9 - Easy to Read Version

Lunchtime Concerts - November



- Nov. 1st** Iain McDonald (*baritone*)
 with Nick Brown (*piano*)
- 8th Beacon Trio: Anna Cockroft (*violin*),
 Joyce Clarke (*piano*), Ruth Lass (*cello*)
- 15th 'Le Jazz': Chris Gradwell and Andrew Barrett
- 22nd Melanie Mehta (*soprano*)
 with John Draisey (*piano*)
- 29th Bartholomew Quintet (*clarinet with strings*)
- Dec. 6th** Joyce Clarke (*piano*)



September was a busy month for the team at the Food Bank. In total we distributed 331 parcels that provided food for 845 people, which is sadly our second highest month of demand on record. We have seen a surge in families being referred to us, many struggling with recent increases in the local rental market as well as having to pay for items such as school uniform at the start of term.

On a positive note our links to local agencies, GP surgeries, social services and schools are working well so that we can step in and provide emergency support just when it is needed. In addition, our 'out of hours' parcels held by many organisations and churches in and around Exmouth, are enabling us to reach those in the community who may initially be hesitant to make contact with the Food Bank. During September 24 of these parcels were distributed which is three times the normal demand.

Project with Alexandra House

Alexandra House in Exmouth provides accommodation to people at risk of homelessness. They have 23 supported living flats and guide individuals to navigate the benefits system and access health services. The support workers frequently refer clients to us for food but struggle with those who arrive at weekends with nothing. So we hatched a plan! A stock cupboard containing emergency food items supplied by Exmouth Food Bank was put in place. Individuals can access this when they first come to Alexandra House and, after being assessed, can be referred on to us if needed. We will liaise with the support workers to monitor the impact of the project and will replenish the items as required.

Jenny Newman adds

At this time of year there is a great demand for food, especially seasonal treats. There is a box for any donations at the entrance into the Church. You may prefer to give money and there is a green Food Bank Donation box on the table in the entrance.

You will find the full text of the latest News Letter from the Food Bank on the notice boards and copies are available in the entrance. (*There is only space in the Review for selected items*). Updates will be on the weekly Bulletin.

Table Tennis Club Mark 2.0

**Every Friday in November
from 7pm – 9pm**

to knock a Table Tennis ball around
No experience necessary, just yourself and a
bat and ball (if you have them)
And if not you, then someone you know?
Looking forward to ping and ponging
Sarah King and Mike Atkinson



Reminder: Orders for 2024

Sign up on the noticeboard now if you want to order

- ♦ **URC Diaries** : Two sizes available.
More information from **Jenny Newman**
- ♦ **URC Prayer Fellowship Handbook**
More information from **Jean Curl**.

November Calendar

Wednesday 1st

10.00am Art Group

*12.30pm Lunchtime Concert

Thursday 2nd

9.15am Job Café

Friday 3rd

7.00pm Table Tennis

Saturday 4th

10.00am Coffee Morning

Stalls in aid of mission funds

Sunday 5th

10.30am Family Service

with Holy Communion

Revd Janine Atkinson

Tuesday 7th

2.00pm Elders Meeting

Wednesday 8th

10.00am Art Group

*12.30pm Lunchtime Concert

2.00pm Bible Book Group

Thursday 9th

9.15am Job Café

Friday 10th

10.00am Walking Group (see p17)

7.00pm Table Tennis

Saturday 11th

10.00am Coffee Morning

Sunday 12th Remembrance

10.30am Family Service

with blessing of shoeboxes

Revd Janine Atkinson

11.30am Church Meeting

Wednesday 15th

10.00am Art Group

*12.30pm Lunchtime Concert

Thursday 16th

9.15am Job Café

Friday 17th

3.00 Choir practice

7.00pm Table Tennis

Saturday 18th

10.00am Coffee Morning

Sunday 19th

10.30am Family Service

Revd Peter Brain

Wednesday 22nd

10.00am Art Group

*12.30pm Lunchtime Concert

Thursday 23rd

9.15am Job Café

Friday 24th

3.00 Choir practice

7.00pm Table Tennis

* Tea/coffee served in the hall from 12 noon before concerts

Saturday 25th

10.00am Coffee Morning
Bible Society Christmas Fair

Sunday 26th

Gift Service with Salvation Army
Revd Janine Atkinson
with Andrew Cutler

Tuesday 28th

2.00pm Craft Group

Wednesday 29th

10.00am Art Group
*12.30pm Lunchtime Concert
2.00pm Advent Study Group

Thursday 30th

9.15am Job Café

December**Friday 1st**

10.00am Church decorating
3.00 Choir practice
7.00pm Table Tennis

Saturday 2nd

10.00am Church decorating
10.00am Coffee Morning

Sunday 3rd

10.30am Family Service
with Holy Communion
Revd Janine Atkinson

Puzzle Corner**From which musical?**

Good morning, good morning
Love changes everything
Edelweiss
Night and Day
Oh, what a beautiful morning
Revolting children
Consider yourself at home
Hernandes' hideaway
Younger than springtime



Last months' poets: **Gray, Larkin, Eliot, Newbolt, Owen, Rossetti, Chaucer, Hopkins, Yeats.**

Glenorchy United Reformed Church

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