



Cardiff  
Unitarians  
Undodiaid  
Caerdydd

JANUARY 2024

# Newsletter

## Welcome

Welcome to the January issue of the Cardiff Unitarians Undodiaid Caerdydd newsletter. As we welcome in a new year many of us will be feeling a little 'deflated' as the celebrations and excitement die down. Decorations will be put away for another year, cards will be recycled, and we'll return to work. Yet, to some the Christmas season doesn't end when the year does! Historically a Roman Catholic practice, the '12 days of Christmas' is still observed by many today, with December 25th being just the start of the Christmas celebrations. According to this tradition, the Christmas season officially begins to wrap up on 'Twelfth Night', the night before the feast of the Epiphany, the night when the Wise Men visited baby Jesus – the 'light of the world'. So whilst you may be feeling a pang of sadness as we return to normal, remember that we've celebrated a beginning, not an end; the light has re-entered the world, and brighter days are ahead.

## CU News

### Website Update

As Unitarians many of us feel an important part of our spirituality is reaching, and benefitting others. At our Congregational Meeting in November 2023 we touched upon the charities we, as a congregation, had supported throughout the year. In addition to this we continued (and continue) to support minister Stephen Lingwood in his admirable community work. Details of Stephen's work, along with our stance on supporting charity have now been uploaded to our website, and can be found here:

<https://www.cardiffunitarians.co.uk/outreach>

Stephen will be the next subject of our 'Meet a Unitarian' blog series, which will be published in late January.

If you would like to contribute to the 'Meet a Unitarian' series, or have a relevant subject you'd love to write about, please contact [secretary.cardiffunitarians@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.cardiffunitarians@gmail.com)

## Newsletter Highlights

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CU NEWS:  
WEBSITE UPDATE  
CHRISTMAS/WINTER  
SOLSTICE SERVICE

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UPCOMING  
SERVICES/MEETINGS

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OTHER DATES FOR  
YOUR DIARY

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FURTHER AFIELD:  
OTHER UNITARIAN  
NEWS

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SOMETHING TO  
PONDER

If you missed  
December's blog post  
'Embodying the Light',  
you can read it now at  
the following link:  
<https://www.cardiffunitarians.co.uk/post/embodying-the-light>



### **A Very Merry Christmas Service**

On the 17th December we held our Christmas/Winter Solstice service, followed by a time of fellowship (and of course mince pie eating!). In addition to the expected singing of festive songs and lighting of our Chalice, we enjoyed an informative Pagan-inspired ritual led by treasurer Sarah Boyce, as well as readings and the sharing of stories and artwork. Thank you to Natalie Davies for kindly organising the service, to Sarah Boyce for preparing our beautiful table (left) and providing refreshments, and to all who attended either online or in person.



## **Upcoming Services/Meetings**

**Sunday 21st January, 3:30pm**

**Cardiff Unitarians/Undodiaid Caerdydd**

**Hybrid service at The Quaker Meeting House**

The first service of the year will be led by CU member Caroline Boyce. You're very welcome to join us either online or in person. Please feel free to pass this information on. If joining us online please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/329899644> Meeting ID: 329 899 644

**TBC:**

**Monday 15th January, 7-8:30pm**

**Worship Group Meeting (online)**

If you are a member of the Worship Group you will be emailed confirmation shortly. If you are a member of Cardiff Unitarian and would like to join the Worship Group, please contact a current member, or email [secretary.cardiffunitarians@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.cardiffunitarians@gmail.com)



## Thank you!

Thank you to all who donated to our Christmas charity of choice: Huggard. Huggard provide crucial support and accommodation to those in Cardiff who are homeless.

To find out more, visit <https://www.huggard.org.uk/>

Diolch!

## Other Dates for Your Diary

**Wednesday 31st January, 7pm**

**UNA Cardiff & District Talk:**

***United Nations Policies of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration and their Role in Northern Ireland***

Join online via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 838 1873 5622 Password: 240600

Advanced notice:

**Saturday 3rd February, 10:30am - 5:30pm**

**U4CJ (Unitarians 4 Climate Justice) event:**

***Faith in our Future.***

To find out more and get tickets, please visit:

[tinyurl.com/faithfuture](https://tinyurl.com/faithfuture)

## Further Afield: Other Unitarian News

### Unitarian Annual Meetings 2024

It's been announced that this year the annual meetings (The Annual Meetings of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches) will be held from the 4th-6th April at Staverton Park Hotel in Northamptonshire. Costs include food and accommodation but concessions are available for those eligible. Bookings will be open shortly. To ensure your place and to get more information, visit <https://www.unitarian.org.uk/annualmeetings/>



## Something to Ponder

*"In order for the light to shine so brightly, the darkness must be present."*

Sir Francis Bacon

*"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle."*

St. Francis of Assisi

*"There is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."*

Amanda Gorman

