

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July the Christchurch and Wimborne Circuit gathered at Ringwood Trinity United Church to say goodbye to Rev Pauline Crispin and her husband Richard.

The proceedings began with excellent refreshments provided by Ruth & Peter Ellis with a variety of fruit scones, cream and jam, sticky buns in the form of delicate Danish pastries and a lovely selection of cheese and biscuits. Ann Waddington and her amazing team of helpers duly served tea, coffee, and squash, then cleared away and washed up. No mean fete for around eighty people.

At six o'clock the service in the church began. There were musicians and singers from around the circuit, ably led by Peter Aston, a small group of thespians including Pauline and Richard who took on the roles of Ruth and Boaz, goodbye and thank you speeches from Pauline's churches, the CLT, Jackie Burgess (Children & Families worker at Ringwood), Rob White in his role as Circuit Administrator (spoken by Nick) and Nick Wood on behalf of the Ministers.

As part of the evening's celebrations the CLT felt it was very important to recognise the hard work of several of our supernumeraries who over the past 18 months have been real God sends. Gifts were presented to Rev David Ellis, Rev Peter McNeill, Rev Barbara Jeffries, Deacon Glenda Sidding, with gifts for Rev Robert McBain and Rev Linda Chester to be delivered this week as they were unable to attend.

Finally, Pauline and Richard were asked to come forward and receive from the Circuit tokens of appreciation for the four years they have been in situ. Pauline then shared a few words before they were wished all the best for the new appointment at Fareham, Havant, Stubbington and Lee on Solent with a quote from Deuteronomy Ch33 v 27.

The most poignant words of the evening written by Mark Twain and read by Jackie Burgess were:

*Dance like no one's watching  
Love like you've never been hurt  
Sing like nobody's listening  
Live like its heaven on earth*

Goodbyes were spoken, hugs shared and best wishes abounded. May they know God's presence as they move forward on their journey of life in Christ.