

# THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

But seek ye first the  
KINGDOM OF GOD,  
and HIS righteousness;  
and all these things  
shall be added unto YOU.

Matthew 6:33



September 2019 No 682

## From the Minister ...

Many people have asked me over the past few months, what exactly is going on over in Bordon? As you may or may not know, 25% of my ministry is served alongside the Beacon Church over there.



The Beacon Church is a relatively new church plant which was established because a huge number of new houses are being built in that place and those at the time discerned God calling them to become a Christ presence in what is becoming a brand new town. They meet every other week for café church at the Phoenix theatre around 5pm and once a month are running 'Lego Church' which is reaching out to a large number of young families in the area. Alongside these worship activities they run a number of community outreach initiatives such as a Dad's club once a month which Isla and I attend, a board games club, a women's social group, house groups, holiday clubs and a scheme called table talk which is where they put up a gazebo and table in a public space and offer tea and cake and conversation to whoever might be around.

These activities are all aimed at building up community in a brand-new place which has had no previous community to speak of. The hope is, once the church gets a building, that this might grow the church community but that is not the overall aim. The aim is to model Christ to the community meeting them where they are.

The main bulk of my involvement is based around setting up a town chaplaincy scheme. This has been interesting as there is not yet a town centre to speak of, but our thinking was that if we could start this up now, we would be in a position to see the town centre emerge around us and the framework and foundations would be in place for this to evolve and take off when the works are completed. Janet Heys (the local Methodist deacon) and myself spent a long time talking about how we could do this and eventually we met with the Whitehill and Bordon Regeneration Company who suggested the key to getting into the development would be to work alongside the security company who were tasked with patrolling the perimeter and keeping it safe.

It's fair to say, I was dubious about how well this would work and when we met the boss of the company I was even more so. Sat on the opposite side of the table to us was a big, burly ex-military man and it's fair to say I was guilty of judging a book by its cover. His reaction to us was so positive and he told us that he had suffered from PTSD upon leaving the military and he would have really valued some sort of chaplain to talk to during all of this. He even asked us if we could do this over the whole of Southern England (a bit of a stretch for just the two of us unfortunately!)

Since that meeting, Janet and I have been over on Enterprise Park every Monday where we act as chaplains to 'All in Black Security' and where we are trying to reach out to a number of the other businesses on that campus. Most weeks I arrive now and one of the guys is waiting to have a chat and we have had some really deep, meaningful conversations already which is incredible.

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September (if baby has not made an appearance yet...) Janet and I will be sharing some stories and photographs from our chaplaincy up until this point and spending time trying to recruit others as volunteers and praying for the project at St Matthew's church in Blackmoor from 9.30 – 12pm. You would all be most welcome to join us at that event to find out more, but if you can't make it, please do say a little prayer for us if you remember on a Monday. God is unlocking doors for us and breaking down barriers and it's a really exciting project to be involved in.

With every blessing. **Josh.**



## Making the most of your time

September is the time of year when we get back to normal routine after the summer break. It's an opportunity to ask how God wants us to make the most of the time He gives us. Although we can't always choose how we use our time, we can control our attitude towards it. How can we use our time wisely?

Firstly, **see time is a gift from God**. Each day is an opportunity to know God better and serve Him. Time isn't inexhaustible, as someday our time on earth will end. 'Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.' (Psalm 90:12). The first thing we can do when we awake is thank God for the gift of another day.

Secondly, **commit your time to God**. Time is not to be wasted, but to be used for God's glory. We are accountable to God for the way that we use our time: 'Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity' (Ephesians 5:15,16). We should ask God to help us organise our time more wisely, to reflect His concerns.

Thirdly, **set aside time for God, others and ourselves**. How often can we go through a whole day without thinking about God or ignoring someone who needs our help? This is because we relegate God to our spare time, so He ends up at the bottom of our list of priorities. Jesus said, 'Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness' (Matthew 6:33). If we prioritise our time for God, people and our needs, the rest of life will fit around them.





## Family Fun Day

Saturday 29 June dawned bright and sunny which was perfect weather for the Family Fun Day. In the morning, many families with young children came to see Elsa from 'Frozen' and Spiderman, which caused much excitement. Throughout the day there were a wide range of activities and games both in the garden and indoors. There was no chance of anyone going hungry, with a fine BBQ at lunchtime and cream teas in the afternoon, as well as hot and cold drinks all day. As a finale, a young man called Graham, came to entertain us with piano playing and singing a number of songs, many of which were from musicals. All in all, it was a day enjoyed by many folk of all ages to celebrate one year of Josh's ministry with us and also to raise funds for YUM.



Spiderman and Elsa delighted youngsters of all ages.



There were a variety of indoor and outdoor activities.



The YUMsters were in charge of the outdoor games



The BBQ was just the thing for a tasty lunch



Just some of our wonderful catering folk -  
always ready with a cup of tea!



Cream teas and musical entertainment - a  
perfect way to finish the day.

## A message from Emsworth ...

**When I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust, I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me? Psalm 56: verses 3 and 4**

There is a myth that the words “Do not be afraid” or “Fear not” appear 365 in the Bible, once for everyday of the year. Although that may not be strictly true, the sentiment “not to be afraid” is certainly strongly represented. It could be confusing though to read Psalm 130 and verses 3 and 4; “If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared” The confusion of course is our English language that ascribes to the word “fear” such other words as “dread, fright, foreboding, terror, panic, threat, horror, alarm, dismay and other such words of concern. The same word however in the Biblical sense and in the Koran and other Religious texts has words such as; “reverence, awe, wonder, deep respect” ascribed to it. When in the Bible we are told to fear not, it is in “the don’t panic Captain Mannering” sense rather than the reverential sense of the word.

In 1967 I joined my first “Ship” as a Surgeon Lieutenant (D) Royal Navy. Although HMS St. Vincent was given the title of a ship it never went to sea of course being a new entrant training establishment in an impressive number of brick built buildings in the centre of Gosport! These now form St Vincent College but there is still access to the tidal Forton Lake. As a Naval training establishment, serving Naval personnel had the use of a Bosun Sailing dinghy. I had represented St. Vincent at Cowes week sailing as crew for the Principal Medical Officer; Surgeon Commander Moony. I had therefore been given permission to sail this dinghy. Every Wednesday afternoon in the Navy was “make and mend” Nowadays it is R and R; Rest and Recuperation, Relaxation, Recreation. On sailing ships this was the time to mend your clothes or make wooden models of ships to take home after a long voyage at sea.

One such “make and mend” afternoon a certain schoolmaster (Schooly) Lieutenant by the name of Normington asked me the “Toothy” to take him sailing in the dinghy. It was a very windy day as I remember but the tide was right and the sun was shining what could possibly go wrong? The relatively calm waters of the lake were ideal but Bill Normington wanted more. You know how some people go on and on at you to do something you know in your heart of hearts would be wrong? Well Bill was one of those, “I want to go on to the sea”, he exclaimed. “I really don’t think we should. We are not wearing life jackets



and it could be rough.” “You're chicken!” was his reply. Reluctantly I pointed the bows of the dinghy towards Portsmouth Harbour. Before we had even got to the entrance of the Harbour, I knew we had made a big mistake. Although the sails were filling well we were hardly moving as the tide was very much against us. Then to make matters a lot worse. the very large Brittany Ferry appeared at the harbour mouth. I expect the Captain was quite annoyed at seeing this tiny Bosun dinghy in the way and I fervently hoped that steam did in fact give way to sail. At that moment a huge gust of wind took us all by surprise and only by standing upright and pushing heavily on the mainmast were Bill and I able to stop the dinghy from capsizing. I looked at Bill and was surprised to see abject fear on his face. “I want to go back PLEASE!!” Gone was the confident bluster, replaced by pure terror.

That look certainly helped stem the rising panic that I was feeling and I felt a calmness that was right out of keeping with reality. My training took over and I got the dinghy into calmer waters and out of the way of the Brittany Ferry. Boy that ship seemed huge from the perspective of that little dinghy!

I sailed a very subdued Lieutenant Normington back to the placid waters of Forton Lake, our adventures over for that day now laughingly called “rest and relaxation!”

Three things happened that day. I learned that when that still voice speaks to you advising you not to follow a certain path, listen to it for it is God speaking to you. I then learned that when alarm and panic threatened to take over, “Do not be afraid” again spoken by God meant so much to me. That sailing incident was not the first and certainly not the last time that fear threatened to take over, but when God tells you to “Fear not” He means it, He really does. The third thing that happened was the change in my friend Bill. I never told anyone else this story at HMS St.Vincent, maybe Bill thought I would. After all these years it is the first time I have told anyone else what happened that fateful day

Fear can strike at any time but “When I am afraid I will trust in You, in God I trust, I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?”



Love, **Alan and Cora Jones**

## Connie's Handicraft Group



"So how did this begin and why 'Connie's?'" was asked at a recent gathering of the ladies at Connie's Handicraft Group. Thanks to Dee Crane, we have a short history already written. so here are some extracts ...

Connie and Reg Ewens were part of this church fellowship a number of years ago. Connie had many gifts, serving as elder, Church Secretary and Treasurer. She shared in the choir, played both piano and organ. Connie began a Handicraft Group, probably in the early 1970s. Items were made and given to Oxfam to send to their work in needy parts of the world. Sadly Connie died in 1991. The group continued in Connie's memory, led by Mary Sweetinburgh. Mary's leadership was later passed to Dee who continued with the ladies meeting in her own home. Costs for sending goods overseas were rising and Dee suggested that handmade items could raise money for a Mission to support work overseas. Donations for these items now go to the Ukraine Christian Partnership, with whom the church has its links.

After a number of years, Dee asked Janet and myself if we would take over the organising.

We are thankful to all who support 'CHG'. Between 12 and 17 ladies meet, talk, drink tea and eat cake - while making crafts. So, ladies, if you would like to, please come along. Join in with the Group and, if you wish, bring any new ideas.

**Connie's Handicraft Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month, except August, 2-4pm in the Church Family Centre.**



**Catherine Adams**



Catherine and Janet were recently brought the following poem, which they would like to share with you.



### **The Master Weaver**

Our lives are but fine weavings, that God and we prepare,  
Each life becomes a fabric planned, and fashioned in His care...  
We may not always see how the weavings intertwine,  
But we must trust the Master's hand and follow His design.  
For He can view the pattern upon the upper side,  
While we must look from underneath, and trust in Him to guide.  
Sometimes a strand of sorrow is added to His plan,  
And though it's difficult for us, we still must understand  
That it's He who flies the shuttle, it's He who knows the best,  
So we must weave in patience, and leave to Him the rest...  
Not till the loom is silent, and the shuttles cease to fly,  
Shall God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why  
The dark threads are as needed in the Weaver's skilful hand,  
As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned.

Author unknown



***Included below is another grace from a book of Table Graces.***

Give me a good digestion, Lord,  
And also something to digest;  
Give me a healthy body, Lord,  
With sense to keep it at its best.

*Published in Table Graces © 1986 by Peter Pauper Press, Inc.*

[www.peterpauper.com](http://www.peterpauper.com). Used with permission.

## Farewell to Julie ...

The end of July marked the end of Julie's work with us as Development Worker and on Sunday 28 July, the All age Worship Team led a service looking at the many and varied tasks undertaken by members of our church congregation, all of which are done with the gifts that God has given each one of us. During the service individuals spoke of how much the various areas of Julie's ministry meant to them. Josh and Carol then presented Julie with gifts from the congregation in appreciation of all that she had done during her 3½ years in post. After the service, everyone was invited to join a superb buffet lunch in the Church Family Centre.



## ... and thank you from Julie

Sunday 28th July was a day I will never forget. I'm not sure 'thank you' is adequate but I want to say how much I appreciated the trouble everyone went to, in planning the All Age Worship service, choosing the gifts and cards, putting on the delicious shared lunch, in fact that whole experience which I will never forget. I have had a number of jobs in my professional life but I can say with absolute certainty that I have never had a leaving do that even came close! I loved my gifts, thank you. The beautiful rose came with a welcome instruction leaflet, which also had details of a free helpline. I rang that number and spoke to a very nice lady who talked me through the planting, feeding and pruning process to give my 'Blessings' rose the best chance of survival. I have followed her instructions to the letter so hopefully all will be OK. The rose certainly looks lovely in the garden. I'm a bit worried about the advice to prune it back to 8 inches later in the year, but I'll just have to be brave!

As you probably know, my younger daughter Jeanette is getting married next year, so I plan on spending some of my John Lewis voucher on a 'mother of the bride' outfit, (maybe even a hat as well) so your gift will be put towards a very happy event.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to work alongside you over the last 3½ years. Thank you for your support, ideas, enthusiasm, generosity and kindness.

With love and appreciation

**Julie Pejnovic**

## Petersfield Rotas September 2019

Sunday	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
<b>Stewards</b>	Maureen Gilbert & Doreen Lewis (am) Robin Ive (pm)	Janet Clemmy & David Darling	Mandy Martin & Kitty Rohrbach	Sylvia Bressey & Gwen Peake	Ron Wing & Eric Skipper
<b>Welcomer</b>	Steve Glenn	Robin Hart	Graham Fountain	Catherine Adams	Janet Adams
<b>Elder</b>	Wendy Cassar (am) Val Torrance (pm)	Tony Phillips	Keith Evans	Rosemary Ward	Carolyn Barton
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Val Torrance		Keith Evans & Peter Jolly		
<b>AV</b>	David Darling	Keith Evans	John Lewis	Carolyn Barton	Jonathan Oru
<b>Flowers</b>			Janet & Jim Cleverly		



### Tea on the Terrace

After a break in August, we shall be meeting again for Tea on the Terrace on Friday 14 September at 2.30pm. We shall be thinking about holidays we have enjoyed either this year, or some time in the past. Do bring along a photo, postcard, or memento to help you share happy and interesting memories with us. We would be very pleased to see anyone else who would like to join us for a time of fellowship and, of course, tea and cakes.

**Keith, Mary & Julie**



For all who would like to take part in the HIHCT **Ride and Stride on 14th Sept** please contact Robin Hart





## Petersfield Church Calendar – September 2019

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>Jo Oru &amp; team</b>	
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>The Minister (Holy Communion)</b>	
Monday	2	8pm	Prayer Time	CFC
Tuesday	3	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting	CFC
Saturday	7	8 am	Menunited Men's Breakfast	Hurst Barn
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>The Minister</b>	
Monday	9	1 pm	Ladies Bible Study	CFC
Tuesday	10	9.30 am	Little Fishes Toddler Group	CFC
		7.30 pm	Women's Fellowship	CFC
Wednesday	11	7.15 pm	Home Fellowship Group	Cremorne Place
Thursday	12	8 pm	Home Fellowship Group	9 Bowen Lane
		8 pm	Home Fellowship Group	12 Geddes Way
Friday	13	2.30 pm	Tea on the Terrace	CFC
Saturday	14	10 am - 6 pm	Ride & Stride	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>Alan Jones (Holy Communion)</b>	
Monday	16	1 pm	Ladies Bible Study	CFC
		8pm	Prayer Time	CFC
Tuesday	17	9.30 am	Little Fishes Toddler Group	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
Friday	20	10 am	Friday Fellowship	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>All Age Worship Team</b>	
Monday	23	1 pm	Ladies Bible Study	CFC
Tuesday	24	9.30 am	Little Fishes Toddler Group	CFC
		7.30pm	Church meeting	CFC
Wednesday	25	7.15 pm	Home Fellowship Group	Cremorne Place
Thursday	26	8 pm	Home Fellowship Group	9 Bowen Lane
		8 pm	Home Fellowship Group	12 Geddes Way
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11 am</b>	<b>To be advised</b>	
Monday	30	1 pm	Ladies Bible Study	CFC
		8pm	Prayer Time	CFC

## Liss Church Calendar – September 2019

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>There will be NO Morning Service at Liss</b>		
Monday	2	7.00 pm	Forward in Faith	Church
Wednesday	4	10 am & 1.30 pm	NCT Meeting	Church & Church Hall
		6 pm	Liss Band	
Saturday	7	8 am	Menunited Men's Breakfast	Hurst Barn
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>The Minister</b>
Monday	9	9.30 am	Little Fishes	Church & Church Hall
		7.00 pm	Forward in Faith	Church
Tuesday	10	9.30 am	Fiddlesticks	Church Hall
Wednesday	11	10 am & 1.30 pm	NCT Meeting	Church & Church Hall
		6 pm	Liss Band	
Saturday	14	8.30 am	LCWT Prayer Breakfast	To be advised
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>There will be NO Morning Service at Liss</b>		
Monday	16	9.30 am	Little Fishes	Church & Church Hall
		7.00 pm	Forward in Faith	Church
Tuesday	17	9.30 am	Fiddlesticks	Church Hall
Wednesday	18	10 am & 1.30 pm	NCT Meeting	Church & Church Hall
		6 pm	Liss Band	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>There will be NO Morning Service at Liss</b>		
Monday	23	9.30 am	Little Fishes	Church & Church Hall
		7.00 pm	Forward in Faith	Church
Tuesday	24	9.30 am	Fiddlesticks	Church Hall
Wednesday	25	10 am & 1.30 pm	NCT Meeting	Church & Church Hall
		6 pm	Liss Band	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>There will be NO Morning Service at Liss</b>		
Monday	30	9.30 am	Little Fishes	Church & Church Hall
		7.00 pm	Forward in Faith	Church

## Pausing for thought

Perhaps it is a matter of advancing years, but I increasingly notice the frequency with which I pass pedestrians seemingly talking to no-one. Are they, I wonder, speaking to me? But then I realise that they are addressing their loved one, or whomsoever, through the tiniest microphone in their mobile phones, and hearing the reply in their earplugs. Those younger than me cannot be parted from their source of instant amusement and communication for more than a minute. Go into any coffee shop and what do you see? Laptops, tablets and mobile phones abound.

Now the internet is a wonderful beast for obtaining immediate answers to urgent domestic queries, from replacing tap washers to real-time train delays - I wouldn't be without it. When I was in professional practice nearly fifty years ago, plucking up courage to deal with a difficult letter, I knew that once consigned to the post I could blissfully forget the file for at least two days, perhaps a week. Then came telex, fax, and universal email, (to say nothing of tweeting, Facebook and suchlike), and respite from that difficult problem becomes a matter of minutes only. I really wonder whether in the pressure of everyday life we make space for ourselves to think and relax.



In Chapter 3 of the Book of Ecclesiastes we find some wise words, paraphrased in a song set to music by Pete Seeger and recorded by the Byrds "Turn, Turn, Turn" – There is a time in this world for everything – including a time for silence and a time to talk. Perhaps the Quakers have right idea in their meetings. Quiet contemplation and prayer, seeking God's will. Time to stop and think, to put matters in perspective. Time to reflect before you hit the "send" button on that none too-cleverly worded email?

**Peter Jolly**

***This article first appeared in the Faith Comment column of the Petersfield Post on 24 July 2019***



## That's impossible!

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge. Ephesians 3:17-19

How can you describe the indescribable? How can you measure the love of God? Who can find words to convey the joy of knowing such amazing love?

The apostle Paul gives us a model for the love of God that is mathematically impossible. Objects normally have only 3 dimensions, but here he gives us 4, such is the greatness of the love he has in mind.

- It is wide, embracing every person without exception.
- It is long, lasting for eternity.
- It is high, coming down from heaven to save us.
- It is deep, taking the Saviour to the cross and the darkness of the tomb.

Paul wants us to begin to understand (grasp) with our minds how great is God's love. More than that, he wants us to experience (know) it for ourselves, in our hearts.

When this happens, with the help of the Spirit, we will become rooted, like trees with roots anchored in the ground. We will become established, like a building resting on a firm foundation. In other words, we will be secure.

Why not ask God to take you deeper into His amazing love



## Books of the Bible

This is a series outlining all the books of the Bible, the word of God, which is central to our Christian faith. This month we are focusing on ... **Nahum**



- *What type of book is it?* prophecy
- *Who wrote it?* Nahum
- *When was it written?* approx. 663-612 BC

Nahum was yet another prophet who had a message of God's judgement on those who did not follow his ways. In this case it was the Assyrians, in particular, the city of Nineveh, where there was much idolatry, arrogance and oppression. Nahum brings the message that God will completely destroy this nation and, as a result, the people of Judah will see peace and know that God is in control

For our younger readers ...

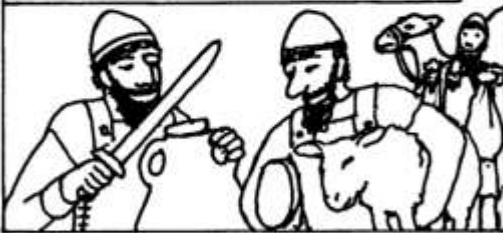
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their promised land, they obeyed God, but not for long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every year, and stole all the food the Israelites had grown.



The Israelites had to hide in the hills.



After 7 years, the Israelites called out to God for help.

Gideon was secretly threshing wheat when an angel arrived.



The Lord is helping you, mighty warrior.



I don't mean to be rude, but it doesn't look like He is.

God said



I will give you the power.



But my clan is the weakest in our tribe and I'm the weakest in my family.

I'll be helping you. Start by pulling down the altar built for Baal and build one for Me.



Gideon did as he was told (but he waited and did it at night).



In the morning, people came to complain to Gideon's father



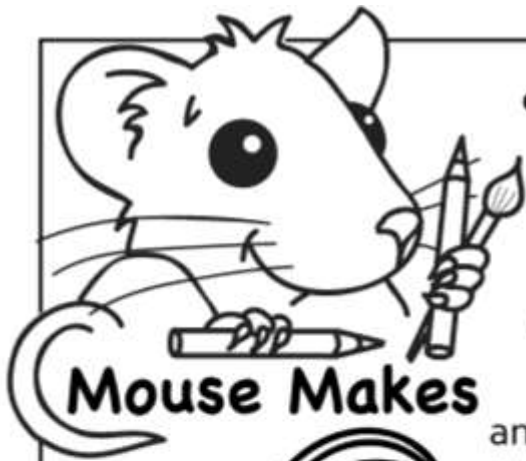
If Baal is upset, he can take his own revenge, can't he?



Gideon sent out messages to call men to fight the Midianites..



and 32000 came.



Read  
the  
story  
in  
Mark  
1:1-20

Once there was a man who went out to sow corn. As he *scattered* the seed in the field some of it fell along the **path** where it was stepped on and **eaten** by the birds. Some of it fell on **rocky ground**, when the plants sprouted they **dried** up because the soil was dry. Some of the seed fell among **thorns** which grew up with the plants and **choked** them, and some seed fell in the **good** soil; the plants grew and produced corn - a **hundred** grains each!



C R O W D  
H E A R O  
G F L I S T E N  
F O E J O Y P I E  
A O L E T E A C H  
J D L S H O R E O  
G R O W U H L A K E  
T S O W E R S U N B R W  
H O B I R D S N . L O J  
O I A T E X T D R E O  
R L G H S S P R O U T  
N T R E T T O E C S  
S C O R C H E D K E  
E H O H U E S I X T Y  
A T W O N D G R A I N  
G A T H E R E D K D P A T H D  
D S E S E E D A Y P

JESUS • TEACH • LAKE • CROWD • GATHERED • BOAT • SHORE  
PARABLE • LISTEN • SOWER • SOW • SEED • PATH • BIRDS • ATE  
FELL • ROCKY • GROUND • SOIL • SUN • SCORCHED • ROOT  
WITHERED • THORNS • CHOKE • GRAIN • GOOD • SPROUT • GROW  
THIRTY • SIXTY • HUNDRED • HEAR • EARS





## Wordsearch– Holy Cross Day

Holy Cross Day (14<sup>th</sup> September) is when the Church celebrates the Cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ's victory over death. It began back in the fourth century, when Helena, mother of the Christian Roman Emperor Constantine, travelled from Rome to Israel to seek out places of special significance to Christians. Much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans in 135 AD, but even so, Helena located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the Burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well be correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them - the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. And that church, built in honour of the Cross, was dedicated on 14<sup>th</sup> September 335.

The sign of the Cross has been used by Christians since early times. Tertullian, writing about AD 211, noted that Christians seldom did anything significant without making the sign of the cross.

Holy	Emperor
Cross	Constantine
Day	Rome
Celebrate	Israel
Symbol	Site
Triumph	Crucifixion
Victory	Burial
Death	Sepulchre
Helena	Church
Roman	sign

D	A	N	E	L	E	H	L	R	N	E
N	R	O	R	E	P	M	E	O	T	M
E	C	I	L	M	T	S	A	M	M	O
D	M	X	U	D	Y	I	R	A	L	R
E	N	I	T	N	A	T	S	N	O	C
A	R	F	G	R	C	Y	I	E	B	H
T	V	I	C	T	O	R	Y	E	M	U
H	S	C	I	P	R	H	O	L	Y	R
S	B	U	R	I	A	L	M	S	S	C
Y	E	R	H	C	L	U	P	E	S	H
S	S	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E

		5				1		7
				1	3	8		
	3	1						
6				7				2
			8		4			
1				3				9
						6	5	
		9	1	5				
8		4				3		

**Sudoku**

## News from the United Reformed Church

### Items from the August edition of the Synod Newsletter



**Journey of the Magi** - A festive, light-hearted, joyful event with a moving and profound message. Share the joy and wonder of Christmas with your church and local community through this exhilarating, critically acclaimed performance. ***Journey of the Magi*** delights audiences of all ages and offers a chance to reflect and refocus. Springs is inviting churches to host a performance of ***Journey of the Magi***, which will be available nationally from 22<sup>nd</sup> November to 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019. Further information can be found on the Springs Dance Company website page

<https://springsdancecompany.org.uk/productions/journey-of-the-magi/>, by emailing [touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk](mailto:touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk) or by calling 07876 752 910

**October 12<sup>th</sup> Synod – Advance Notice** The morning of our next Synod Meeting will focus on communication, with the communications team from Church House coming to lead a variety of workshops. Synod is for all of us, so anyone with an interest in communications is very welcome to come along.

#### Upcoming Synod events

**Bookings for all events and training courses to Ruth Heine at the Synod Office**

Email: [bookings@urcwessex.org.uk](mailto:bookings@urcwessex.org.uk) Tel: 023 8067 4513

**Lay Presidency at the Sacraments training – new date in September 2019**

**Saturday 21 September 2019 at Longham URC, Ferndown, BH22 9AW.** 10am – 2.30pm. Training: Lay Presidency at the Sacraments: Communion and Baptism

**Advance notice of the date for your diaries. Saturday 20 June 2020.** Speaker: Revd John McGinley, author of Mission Shaped Grace.

**Mental Health First Aider Training – two-day course On Mondays 7 & 14 October 2019 at Petersfield URC.** 9.15am – 5pm. This is a two-day training course resulting in a Mental Health First Aider qualification. Participants must attend both days to complete the course and gain a certificate. Places are limited, first come, first served.

**Church Secretaries' Day Saturday 19 October 2019** at Fleet URC. 10.30am – 2pm. The day will be an opportunity to explore together, safeguarding practice and how this impacts your church. This will be facilitated by the Synod Safeguarding Officer.

**Synod Quiet Day for All – fully booked. Fully booked, no places left.** Saturday 26 October 2019. A reflective day on “Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality” led by specialist Tim Stead. **If you would be interested in a similar event in the future, please contact the Synod Office and your name will be added to a list.**

**Mission Shaped Church Day** **Please note the change of date! Saturday 9 November 2019 at Fleet URC. 10.30am – 3.30pm.** We are constantly faced with the challenge of mission in an ever-changing world. Join us again for this annual shared exploration into how to keep up.

**Red Cross First Aid training for URC** Two local churches in Wessex are hosting the 'Public First Aid for URC' course.

Saturday 19 October 2019 at High Cross Church, Camberley. 10am – 4pm.

Friday 4 January 2020 at London Street URC, Basingstoke. 10am – 4pm.

**URC Taster Day for young people** in school year 7 up to age 16 years (inclusive) on 25 January 2020 at Whitemoor Lakes, Staffs. Book before 11 November for the Early Bird price.

**Children's Day – Eco Warrior – *save the date* Saturday 30 November 2019.** A day for 7 – 13 year olds. At Intech Science Park and Planetarium, Winchester.

**Youth Assembly and Taster Day** Theme: Common Ground: Where is it? URC Youth Assembly for young adults in school year 10 up to age 25 years (inclusive) 24 – 26 January 2020 at Whitemoor Lakes, Staffs.

### **September Area Gatherings – *spread the word***

We will be looking at 2 very different aspects of "Using Resources well"

- Finding Resources: Learn more about how to raise funds and access grants for your church projects
- Using Resources wisely: How can we and our churches work towards zero carbon emissions?

Area	South West	North East	North West	South East
Date	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>
Venue	Southbourne, Bournemouth	High Cross Church, Camberley	Aston Tirrold	Avenue St Andrew's Southampton
6.30pm for 7pm start – finish by 9.15pm				

### **Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar September**

1	High Cross, Somerford, Christchurch; Medstead; Marlow
8	Tilehurst, Reading ; Fordingbridge
15	Hedge End, Southampton; Broad Chalke, Salisbury; Westborough, Guildford
22	Avenue St Andrew's, Southampton; Twyford (Bucks) ;Radipole, Weymouth
29	Christ Church, Henley-on-Thames; Drayton United Church, Portsmouth



## Lectionary Bible Readings for September



September 1	Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; <i>Proverbs</i> 25:6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14
September 8	Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33
September 15	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10
September 22	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13
September 29	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

### Important - Sensitive issues

As the Messenger is included in the Church Website, it is important that all the content is suitable for public exposure. When composing an article, if there is anything at all that you consider should be removed before publishing on the website, please inform the editors, Keith and Mary Evans.

The articles contained in this magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Petersfield and Liss URC leadership.

Deadline for the October Messenger is **Sunday 15 September 2019**. Please e-mail, post or hand deliver articles to Messenger Editors, Keith & Mary Evans, 12 Geddes Way, Petersfield GU31 4DJ tel 01730 235922 e-mail [keithnmary@talktalk.net](mailto:keithnmary@talktalk.net)

### From the editors ...

In this September issue of the Messenger, we hope you have enjoyed the various articles. We are grateful to our contributors for such a wide range of subjects covered, and which, we hope, make the magazine inspirational, informative and entertaining.

**Keith and Mary**

## Church Contact Details

<b>Church</b>	<b>Petersfield : College Street, Petersfield GU31 4AG 01730 266475</b>	<b>Liss : Hillbrow Road, Liss GU33 7PX</b>
Minister	Rev Joshua Thomas Tel 07734 254983 <a href="mailto:minister@petersfieldurc.com">minister@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
Church Office	Administrator Mrs Esme Kelly Office Hours 9am-12noon Tuesdays to Fridays	
Development Worker	Mrs Julie Pejnovic 01730 266475, <a href="mailto:support@petersfieldurc.com">support@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
Telephone	Church Family Centre 01730 266475	
Website	<a href="http://www.petersfieldurc.com"><u>www.petersfieldurc.com</u></a>	
E-mail	<a href="mailto:admin@petersfieldurc.com"><u>admin@petersfieldurc.com</u></a>	
Sunday Services	Mornings at 11 am with Junior Family Church	Mornings at 9.30am (usually 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month only, but see Liss calendar inside for full details)
	Evening Worship at 6.30pm (1st Sunday in the month only)	No evening Services
Secretary	Mrs Carol Tubbs 39 Rotherbank Farm Lane Liss Forest GU33 7BJ Tel 01730 893489 Mobile 07766 412160.	
Treasurer	Mr Jim Cleverly, 4 Crundles, Petersfield GU31 4PJ Tel 01730 300558	

### ***Petersfield United Reformed Church Mission Statement***

*“As a congregation worshipping God: we seek to reach out with the love of Jesus; to worship God in our daily lives; to draw others into the knowledge and love of Christ; and to make disciples.”*