

MTC



# Trinity E-News



Issue 1 / 23

Trinity's email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

February 2023



**Our Minister is:**  
**Rev'd Audrey D Browne**  
 ☎: 01256 323103  
 email:  
[padbrowne89@googlemail.com](mailto:padbrowne89@googlemail.com)



**From January Trinity will continue to Zoom Services at Trinity.**

**For Zooming at St Andrew's, see page 4.**

**Thanks to our 'Zoom team', who enable those at home to join us.**

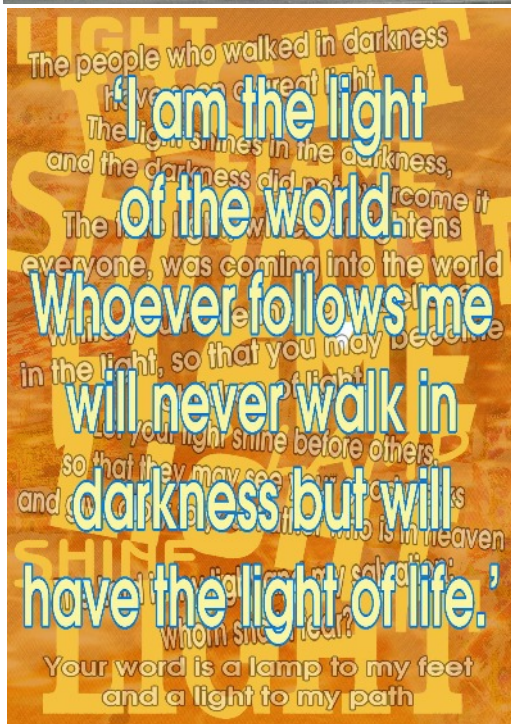
**Trinity's Zoom Link:**  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99500813735?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99500813735?pwd=Rm9pbWgyS1pJam1zMXMzK0R6ay9QUt09)

[pwd=Rm9pbWgyS1pJam1zMXMzK0R6ay9QUt09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99500813735?pwd=Rm9pbWgyS1pJam1zMXMzK0R6ay9QUt09)

**Meeting ID:** 995 0081 3735  
**Passcode:** 816173

**Link to Circuit Website:**  
[basingstokereading.methodists.uk](http://basingstokereading.methodists.uk)

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**Trinity ENews: Deadline:**  
**Mar 23 Newsletter – Sat 18 Feb**  
 Trinity ENews is also available on the **Basingstoke & Reading Website**, see link above.

I love receiving your lovely, varied pieces, so please keep them coming. **A Big Thankyou** to everyone who has sent me items, they can be posted or emailed.

**Thank you again, Hazel, Ed**  
 (☎: 01256461375)

**Email:** [hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)  
 16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 1YQ



**Wesley 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**  
**Details are on Wesley's website**  
<https://www.wesleychurchreading.org/150th.htm>  
 Began in December through to October 2023.

February 2023

Dear Friends,

## Spiritual Traffic Jams

As I write this in midJanuary, all the hustle and bustle, warmth and visits associated with Christmas don't seem so very far behind us all. The new year, however, looks cold and grey and a bit uncertain, despite the fact that optimistic daffodils are already pushing up through the soil in the garden.

January is often a time of tidying and de-cluttering for me and while sorting out one of our bookcases recently, I was reminded by the appearance of several dusty volumes, that while at University I studied transport geography and network dynamics. This involved analysing networks of all kinds, their connections and efficiency and the flow of traffic through them. This may account for the fact that I have learned quite a few life lessons from my subsequent experiences of networks and traffic of all kinds and continue to be fascinated by them.

For example.....

John and I travel the M25 quite often to visit family and there are times when that busy and unpredictable piece of our motorway network seems to mirror my spiritual state. There are busy times and quiet times....times when life's burdens, like the juggernauts clogging the carriageway seem to bear down on me for a short time, but eventually they fall behind or pass by and are gone. Sometimes anxieties like big lorries and all the other little vehicles seem to come in such volume that the road system of my soul seems unable to cope; I'm completely log jammed. When the connections in my spiritual network are all clogged up...I'm stuck.

I know other people experience this stuck feeling too. So do I just need a bigger and better network with more capacity or is there another way to cope with the times when I feel overwhelmed by the juggernaut worries sharing my journey and slowing me down? It seems to me that times of stress are bound to lead to problems in our faith network. I admit there are spiritual potholes in my Christian

faith, the carriageway seems a bit rough and the edges have got a bit crumbly. There are even some bits of wreckage where things have fallen off my vehicle of faith. These last two weeks post Christmas, have included some quiet times when it has been time to do some repairs. I have been able to put up the orange traffic cones and "Holy spirit at work" signs because the power of meditation, prayer and Bible study are beginning to rebuild my faith bridges so that some spiritual traffic can flow safely and steadily again.

Running repairs....

These grey winter days don't invite us out in the same way as the bright spring sunshine; certainly journeys often seem a bit more "iffy"

All the more reason to take extra care of our vehicles and our souls during the darker days. I always take more care of my car in the winter. I check tyre pressures, oil levels, make sure I have deicer, torches and a fully charged phone before any journey. The periods of quiet are also the time to check on the health of my spiritual vehicle, to reread through its manual as set out in The Bible, to check out the maker's instructions and make sure that communication is flowing in both directions.

On all my journeys I depend a great deal on the wonderful satnav the makers installed in my car. It has a threepoint fix on orbiting heavenly satellites and not only guides me to my destination but can also predict where there will be holdups or problems along the way.

How wonderful that God's satnav on our earthly journey does the same job. Our Bible guidebook. The Holy Spirit who speaks to us through prayer and Jesus our travel companion will together get us through to our eternal home, no matter how difficult the journey.

*cont'd.....*

I am looking forward to brighter days, confident that God's instructions and promises for our daybyday journeys are the best guarantee of a safe arrival at the right destination for all of us.

Hilary Reed

**A Date for your Diaries**

**Saturday 22 April**

**'Spring Sale' at St Andrew's**

**More details to follow**

**'Jesus And Me' ! (JAM)**

**'JAM' meets from  
2.30 pm – 4.30 pm, usually  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the  
month.**



**The Next JAM Dates are:**

**Sunday 5 February**

**Sunday 5 March**

**Sunday 2 April**

\* \* \* \* \*

**JAM – Children & Families**

meet in the Lounge, usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, to hear stories of Jesus, craft, singing and tea.

Some of what we do on a Sunday afternoon is often displayed in the foyer area at Church for all of us to see.

**All are very welcome.**

**Do come along and join us.**

100 years ago on 16 February 1923 the British archaeologist Howard Carter opened the sealed doorway to Tutankhamen's tomb in Thebes, Egypt. The following day he entered the burial chamber and discovered a wealth of treasures.

**Trinity Circle**

Our next meeting is on

**Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 7 pm in Sarum Hall. We are having a 'Fish & Chip' supper,** so if you would like to come along and join us please speak to: **Jennifer Pitt** or give her a ring on ☎: **01256 816314.**

There is a choice of **fish, chicken, sausage or burger, all with chips.** The price is **£10** a head and **Jennifer** will need to know numbers **no later than Sunday 5 March.** **Jennifer** would also appreciate the money beforehand. There will also be a 'Pud' included in this.

Trinity Circle is open to everyone, so we would love to see you, **Sonia**



**Northern Housegroup**

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 7 March at 7.30 pm in the Lounge.** Our speaker will be **Revd Martin Beukes, our Superintendent Minister.** This is an **'Open Meeting'** and you are all most welcome to come along. We look forward to seeing you. **Please note: we are NOT meeting in February.**

**Hilary, Edna and Sonia**

\* \* \* \* \*

## Joint services at St Andrew’s and Trinity January, February and March 2023

During January, February and March our two Churches will be joining together and sharing services. Here is some information that you should find helpful.

St Andrew’s  
Western Way  
South Ham  
RG21 8SR



Trinity  
Sarum Hill  
RG21 6ER



\* \* \* \* \*

**SERVICES — On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, services will take place at Trinity.**  
(February 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>; March 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>)

**On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, services will take place at St Andrew’s.**  
(February 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>; March 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>)

The Service on the **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** of a month will take place at Trinity.

Worship will start at **10.30 am every Sunday.**

***It is expected that services will be Zoomed when at Trinity.  
Services will also be Zoomed from St Andrew’s if possible.***

\* \* \* \* \*

### Transport:



**St Andrew’s Folk** — If getting to Trinity is difficult and you think you may require a lift, there may be friends at the Church who can help. Please speak to a Steward if you need assistance.

**Trinity Folk** — There will be lifts available from Trinity to St Andrew’s and back again. If you require a lift you will need to be outside Trinity by 10.20 am at the latest. If you require this service please let Jennifer Pitt know on a weekly basis, by phoning ☎ 01256 816314.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Parking:



**At St Andrew’s** — There are parking spaces outside the church in the car park. If you park in the disabled spaces please make sure you display your disabled badge. If this car park is full, proceed through the car park to the exit and you will find opposite you another large parking area.

**At Trinity** — There is a large parking area at the church which should be able to take all cars, however if this is full there is a council car park opposite, but you will need to pay if you use this.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Readers:



If you would like to do a reading at either Church and do not normally do so, then please make yourself known to a steward. We can accommodate people who would like to read from their seat in both Churches.

If reading at St Andrew’s please read from the Good News Bible.

\* \* \* \* \*



Start of Service:



At both Churches a candle appears on the screen and music is played, a short time before the service starts. When this appears we request that you are quiet and prepare yourself for worship.

\* \* \* \* \*

Offertory:



There will be an offertory taken each Sunday. If you normally attend Trinity please put your offering in the weeks you are at Trinity and if you attend St Andrew's, put your offertory in on the weeks you are there.

If you wish to put in money at other services that is of course welcomed, but not expected.

\* \* \* \* \*

Prayers:



At each service we will remember those in need during our prayer time. If you would like someone included at this time and you have asked permission from that person, then please pass the name on a piece of paper to the door steward on your arrival at the service. Please only give the name of person concerned as no other details will be used.

\* \* \* \* \*

Communion:



You will be directed by a steward to go to the front of the Church, to stand at the communion rail. After you have received communion please stay at the rail and wait for the dismissal prayer.

If you are unable to go forward to the rail, please make the steward aware and communion will be brought to you in your seat when the rest of your row is at the rail.

\* \* \* \* \*



**St Andrew's enquiries** to Linda Hoe –  
☎ 01256 417219

**Trinity enquiries** to Diane Bath –  
☎ 01256 320429

It is expected that services will be Zoomed when at Trinity. Services will also be Zoomed from St Andrew's if possible.

\* \* \* \* \*

**A Favourite Hymn**

Jenny Leighton's favourite hymn is **'O Jesus, I have promised'** and can be found at **number 704 in Hymns & Psalms, written by J E Bode (1816 – 1874).**

**Jenny says:** "Did you know that a scholar and Rector of Castle Camps in Cambridgeshire, John Bode, had two sons and one daughter, who were presented for confirmation. He felt he had to compose a hymn for the occasion – this is the hymn."



## Sunday Worship – Trinity, St Andrew’s and our Basingstoke Churches



### Plan for Worship – February 2023

From 1 January 2023, Trinity & St Andrew’s will be joining together to share their services. Trinity will be hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays where appropriate & St Andrew’s will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.

Services will be Zoomed from Trinity when services are held at Trinity. Services will also be Zoomed from St Andrew’s if possible.

**Enquiries: St Andrew’s:** contact Linda Hoe on: ☎: 01256 417219 or email at: [lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)

**Trinity Enquiries:** contact Diane Bath on: ☎: 01256 320429 or email at: [dianeath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianeath51@gmail.com) Thank you.

### ***Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – February 2023***

Dates	5 February, 5 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Time	12 February, 6 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Time	19 February, Sunday before Lent	26 February, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent
Trinity 10.30 am	Revd Audrey D Browne, S	<b>Joint at St Andrew’s</b>	Revd Audrey D Browne	<b>Joint at St Andrew’s</b>
Kempshott 10.30 am	Revd David Jenkins, S	Mr Jonathan Skeet, Zoom	Mr Tony Bell, Zoom	Mrs Sarah Whithorn, Zoom
Oakley 10.30 am	Mr Peter Frank	Revd Audrey D Browne, S	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Mrs Linda Hoe
Oakridge 10.30 am	Mr Terry Rowell	Revd David Jenkins	<b>Joint at Old Basing</b>	LA
Old Basing 10.30 am	LA	Mr Stephen Appiah	Revd David Jenkins, S <i>(Oakridge join Old Basing)</i>	Revd John Sumitra
St Andrew’s 10.30 am	<b>Joint at Trinity</b>	Mrs Anne Rowe	<b>Joint at Trinity</b>	Revd Audrey D Browne

**Sanctuary Service (weekly, Zoom):** At 7pm every Thursday evening, we hold a short online Zoom service, based on the Service of *Evening Prayer from the Methodist Worship Book*, but including a piece of music and a reflection. The service usually lasts around 20-25 minutes. While it was started within Tilehurst, this isn't a Tilehurst-specific service, and some of our regular attendees aren't even in the same Circuit or District.

**All are welcome** – please drop Jon Skeet an email ([skeet@pobox.com](mailto:skeet@pobox.com)) if you'd like to find out more or to be put on the mailing list to receive the service sheet each week (with absolutely no commitment to attend). If you would like to get more of an idea of what the services are like, please see the [service web page](#) where past service sheets and reflections can be downloaded. We hope you'll be able to join us for a spiritual recharge in a friendly atmosphere of fellowship.

## A New Minister for our Basingstoke Churches

***This was breaking news in our last newsletter.*** Below is a short piece about our new Minister, who joins us in September 2023 and a photo too .....

### Rev Claire Simpson

I was born and brought up in a Methodist family in Doncaster, South Yorkshire. After completing a degree in English and Philosophy at Hull University I went on to train to be a secondary school teacher in English and Drama and taught in schools in Hull and Doncaster as well as working for a time for NCH Action for Children.



I trained for the ministry at York Institute for Community Theology and completed my first five years in Lincoln South Circuit before moving to Fareham, Hampshire in August 2013 to be a Circuit minister in the East Solent and Downs Circuit.

I'm married to John who works in the NHS as a mental health nurse. We have two children Ben and Sam. Outside of church life my interests include – reading fiction; spending time in the kitchen, especially baking cakes; and going to the gym to offset the calories from eating chocolate!

## Helping Our NHS

Some three months ago I had the first of two cataract removal eye operations by the NHS. It was very successful. I noted though that at the time of my operation there were two missing patients who were either last minute cancellations or “no shows”. This was costly to the NHS in wasting the time of consultants and nursing staff. Two weeks ago, I phoned the NHS and enquired as to the date of my second operation and pointed out that I was available at 24hour notice for an appointment if they had a cancellation. They phoned me back a few days later, giving me an appointment for my operation the following day! This again was very successful. Thank you, NHS! Thank you, Jesus!

Jesus commands us to Love each other and bear fruit for Him (John 15:1617 and John 14:1214). If we are obedient, when we pray to Him and ask Him, in His name, to meet our needs, Jesus will answer our prayers. We should do whatever we can in our own strength and abilities to meet that need, accepting that in many cases we are helpless and totally rely on Him. In my case here the answer was fast and perfect, for me, the NHS, and my family.

If you are waiting for that long standing appointment, why not contact the NHS and ask to go on the short notice cancellation list? It might just give both you and our wonderful hard working NHS an answer to prayer. Our God works in mysterious ways His wonders to achieve, and stuff happens!

As I am writing this article, we have another answer to prayer. My granddaughter Isabelle has been waiting more than six months for a second kneecap operation. Her situation has now seriously deteriorated. My daughter Jasmine phoned the office of the surgeon who carried out the first operation and was told they have a cancellation and Isabelle's operation will now take place in two days' time. Thank you, NHS! Thank you, Jesus!

***Martin Frost, November 2022***

## Advent Prayers

Thank you to everyone who contributed prayers each week to the prayer stations in church during Advent. Here is a small selection, so that those who were unable to attend in person can share in some of your heartfelt thoughts and prayers, *Ann Walker*

### Week One – HOPE

Hope for those I know to see Christ in me.

Hope for our town to be a community that cares for each other.

Hope for world peace. Amen

May the Lord give hope to the people of Ukraine. Amen

May the nations work together to implement the climate initiatives necessary to stop temperatures rising more than 1.5 degrees.

Lord have mercy. Amen

We seek for signs of hope in this broken world and ask that you will use us to show hope to others. Amen

Hope,  
for our church  
for our congregation  
for our future.

Amen

### Week Four – JOY

Thank you for the joy of friends and family. Amen

May we all discover the joy of our Lord Jesus Christ and may that joy be our strength. Amen

Thank you for the joy you bring through Jesus at Christmas. Amen

I pray for joy in the hearts of those who feel there is no hope at this time of year. Amen

May the joy of Christ's birth be felt in all the unhappy or frightening places in the world.

Amen

### Week Two – PEACE

I pray for peace to the whole world. May the Lord grant peace, where war is making life intolerable. In Jesus name. Amen

I pray for peace in the hearts of all who have responsibility for others. Amen

Lord, in a time of chaos and madness help us to know your peace. Amen

May the peace of Jesus be with all people. We particularly think of those with severe mental health problems. Amen

We pray for peace in Ukraine and in all the troubled parts of the world. Amen

### Week Three – LOVE

For all those who live alone and have no family around, We pray that they may feel your love. Amen

We ask Lord, that the people of the world will learn to love each other more. Amen

God, you are love. All love comes from you. May your love come into our hearts. Amen

Thank you for your love to us O Lord. Help each of us to spread it throughout the world. Amen

Lord, help us to love one another, as you have loved us. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **As we Prayed on Christmas Day:**

Jesus, light of the world, we thank you for your holy rescue mission to bring hope, peace, love and joy to a world of darkness. Help us to be your agents of light in the world, not just at Christmas but all year round. Amen



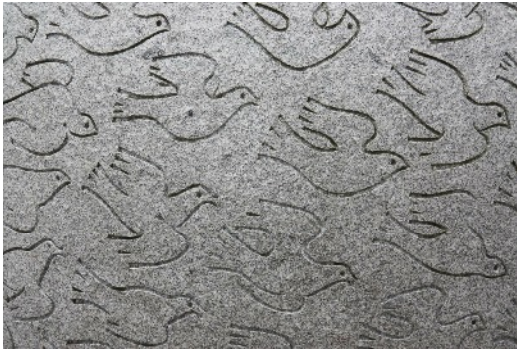
**You are there**

At the beginning,  
At the end,

**You are there.**

In poverty,  
In wealth,  
In work,  
In recreation,

In joy,  
In Sorrow,



**You are there.**

In pain,  
In health,  
In the sunshine,  
In the storm,  
In times of plenty,  
In times of need,

**You are there.**

In Tranquillity,  
In Turmoil,  
In silence,  
In violence,  
In faith,  
In doubt,

**You are there.**

At the beginning,  
At the end,

**You are there**

Thank you Lord,  
That whatever is happening  
In our lives, you are there.  
We may not always feel you near  
We may not always remember,  
But we thank you that you are our  
constant guide and companion.  
For wherever we are, **You are there.**  
Amen

**Written by Jennifer Pitt**

***Good Morning  
My dear child,***

I am the Lord your God.  
Today I will be handling all  
of your problems.  
Please remember that I do not  
need your help.  
If the devil happens to deliver a  
situation to you that you  
cannot handle,  
**DO NOT** attempt to  
resolve it.

Kindly place it in the ***SFJTD***  
***(something for Jesus to do)*** box  
administered by the  
Holy Spirit.

It will be addressed in  
**MY** time, not yours.  
Once the matter is placed into  
the box do not hold  
onto it or attempt to  
remove it.

If it is a situation that you think  
you are capable of handling,  
please consult me in prayer to be  
sure that it is the  
proper resolution.

Because I do not sleep, nor do I  
slumber, there is no need for  
you to lose any sleep.  
Rest my child.

If you need to contact me,  
I am only a prayer away.

Yours in love eternally,  
The Lord your God and  
Heavenly Father.

***Sent in by Edna***

**Useful ☎ & Email, Trinity/Other Contacts,**

Our Minister: Rev'd Audrey D Browne,

☎: 01256 323103 / **NEW** email address is:

[padbrowne89@googlemail.com](mailto:padbrowne89@googlemail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

Church Office: ☎ 01256816173

email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

**Our Church Office** is Open 1 morning a week, usually on Wednesdays.

\* \* \* \* \*

Church Contact / Senior Steward: Diane Bath –

☎ 01256 320429 / email: [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

Bookings / Car Parking: Contact: Sue Doust –

☎ 01256 229456 / email: [rogerdoust@aol.com](mailto:rogerdoust@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Temporary Church Treasurer:** Margaret Hayes –

email: [hayesmargaret489@gmail.com](mailto:hayesmargaret489@gmail.com)

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Church Property: Tony Pitt –

☎ 01256 816314 / email: [organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com)

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Trinity ENews Editor: Hazel Harris – email is:

[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net) ☎ 01256461375

address: 16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 8YQ

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Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:

[www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](http://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

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Basingstoke & Reading Circuit is a Registered Charity, Charity No. is: 1134891

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Trinity Methodist Church is a Registered Charity, Charity No. is 1128299

\* \* \* \* \*

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Marion Young can be contacted on: ☎ 07503 652961 (working hours only) & email: [marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](mailto:marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

**For:**

- 'Smalltalk' with Revd David Shaw
- Methodist JPIT – 'Stay & Pray'
- 'Dial a Prayer'
- 'News from the Wisdom Centre' Romsey
- 'Recycling your Old Spectacles'

**Please see the October Issue of Trinity E News.**

70 years ago, on 28 February 1953, British scientists Francis Crick and James D Watson announced that they had discovered the doublehelix structure of DNA.

Come and Enjoy '*Fellowship with Friends*' after Morning Worship at Trinity and St Andrew's, along with an '*enjoyable cup of Coffee or Tea and a Biscuit*'



**Circuit News: Reminder: To Church Safeguarding Officers, Trainers and Ministers in pastoral charge –**

We have been offered places on some **Advanced Module training courses** run locally, as follows:

- **9.45 am 3.30 pm, Saturday 4 Feb 2023:** Thatcham Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Thatcham RG18 4QL
- **9.45 am 3.30 pm, Saturday 11 Mar 2023:** St Andrews Methodist Centre, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3BH

**Booking onto any of these courses** should be through me, **Peter Frank via email:**

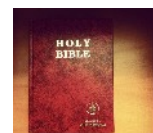
[resources@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](mailto:resources@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk) or phone: 07407 281986.

**War in Ukraine: Help Support the Church in Ukraine with Bibles**

The Bible Society is appealing for funds to send more Bibles to Ukraine.

Bibles which share "*the love and power of God's Word.*" **Details at:**

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>



## A Trip Through the Desert

We had just completed some 1,400 miles in convoy from Egypt through the Sahara Desert – a pretty terrible journey, to arrive at a satellite airfield some 6 miles east of Tripoli. We were still getting the place and ourselves sorted out. Some of the hangars were leaning at funny angles and the building had no doors or windows. We as usual were sleeping on concrete.



It must be realised that this was a major achievement, all supplies for the 8<sup>th</sup> army had to come possibly at least 1,000 miles by road, so to get the use of a large port so near to the front was a great asset. We had been there for some 2 days when the Germans bombed the port – they did some damage as there were very little defences in position.

The main road into Tripoli from the east came across the top of our drome. All the following day, every time you looked, it was to see guns and searchlights etc coming in. We thought it was too late, we did not think he would come again.

### **BUT HE DID.....**

I have never seen flak like it, there were searchlights and tracers everywhere. We all stood outside to watch and it was quite entertaining until some of the bombers seeing the huge amount of flak decided to go back to base, they did a quick turn round and still having their bombs on board looked for somewhere to drop them.

Unfortunately for us several of them saw our drome and quickly dropped them on us. We did not have any shelters etc so we dived for a wall or building, dug our way in to the bottom covered our head and hoped for the best.

We saw some of them shot down. They never came again.

**Nobby**



## World Day of Prayer 2023

[www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)

### Friday 3 March



*'A Service for Everyone'*

*'I have heard about your faith'*

**2 pm**

## All Saints Church

Southern Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3EA

**Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action**

24-7 ● 365 Days of a year ● Prayer Movement ●

Ecumenical International ● Women-LED

## A New Beginning



The start of a new year, is an opportunity to review the past perhaps, but more importantly to step out in faith on our Christian journey.

God says in *Isaiah 43* **'Behold I am doing a new thing; do you not perceive it'**

The fact is, we do not see it, because it is too easy to be caught up in the past, and as we get older, we do this more and more.

The past makes us feel safe, the future can be frightening, and we are unsure.

Recently in a very unlikely place, I met a new baby girl. Only a month old, she slept in her pram. She is so tiny, her mother smiled when I asked her name. She is Isla, and she is beautiful.

Very soon we will see new life around us. Pushing through the soil, the snowdrops, the crocus, closely followed by the daffodils and tulips.

My Dad was a bit confused at the end of his life, he said 'soon be Christmas' when I visited him in a care home. I pointed out the bulbs growing nearby, then he realised it was Spring. Nearly April in fact, and his earthly journey was almost complete.

God calls us to new beginnings. Every day will require courage, and the faith to believe that all our days, whether long or short, are in the hands of our Heavenly Father.

Jesus said to Peter, **'Simon, satan has desired to have you, but I have prayed for you.'** (Luke 22 3134)

Years ago, in St. Margaret's, Westminster I saw an altar frontal, the figure of Christ, praying, his back to the congregation. Praying for me, for you.

These are the words I take into 2023. Words of intercession.

**'I have prayed for you'.**

God bless you.

**Margaret Garland**

### Lent Groups at Old Basing & St Mary's:



Rev Jo Mulliner and I are planning to lead **Lent Groups** together. We haven't chosen the subject matter yet, but we are planning on having 3 weeks at **the Parish Room at St Mary's** and three weeks at our **Chapel at Old Basing** on **Thursdays at 2.30 pm. At St Mary's on: 23 Feb; 2 & 9 March. At Old Basing on: 16, 23 & 30 March.** (As it happens neither Jo nor I **can manage 30 March**, but as the group develops there may be a suitable person emerging to lead the final one). Jo will be putting these details into Basing.

**With all best wishes, David (Jenkins)**

### Oakley Methodist Church

**Coffee Mornings on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the  
month, 10 am – 12 noon:  
14 & 28 February**

**£1 for a bottomless tea  
or coffee & biscuits.**

**Paperbacks  
available  
30p each**





## MWiB District Partnership with Romania:

We are launching our new District Partnership with the Methodist Church in Romania through a Memory Stick, which can be played through computers and laptops. A Methodist Minister and his wife in Romania have become involved in supporting two Orphanages in their town of Sibiu. The Romanian orphanage is mainly for Roma children, the other orphanage has taken a group of Ukrainian orphans who fled the war in their country. They have a desperate need for our prayers, support and money to enable them to continue their lifesaving work with these children.

You can receive a memory stick with all the information on by sending an email or letter to me and I will send one in the post to you. Deacon Glenda Sidding, 5 Waterford Gardens, Highcliffe, Dorset, BH23 5DW, [glenda.sidding@gmail.com](mailto:glenda.sidding@gmail.com). I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your involvement in this really special partnership and of how we can change children's lives. *(from circuit notices, 08.11.22)*

### The Mug & Biscuit at St Andrew's Church is Open on:



#### New Hours of opening are:

**Tuesday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**  
**Wednesday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**  
**Thursday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**



- We will be serving homemade cakes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches and tea cakes.
- The menu is subject to change.
- Last Orders for hot food is 1 pm
- Takeaway Available. Credit Cards Accepted.
- Please come along and support this initiative.
- If you would like to help, please come along and speak to us.



**The Mug & Biscuit is NOT OPEN during School Holidays.**

**The Mug & Biscuit is now registered as a 'Warm Hub Opening' during 'Mug & Biscuit' Hours**



**We look forward to welcoming old and new friends.**

**The Mug & Biscuit Team**

Any queries contact: **Linda Hoe** ☎: 07963 583506



### Tuesday Lunches at Christ Church Chineham:

Christ Church Chineham cooks and serves a twocourse lunches on the first & third Tuesday each month, 12.15 pm for 12.30 pm. Lunches consist of a jacket potato, two fillings (one is always cheese), salad and a pudding. No set charge – 'guests' are invited to give what they can afford. Come yourself & invite anyone you know who is feeling lonely or finding life difficult. Booking preferred, please sign up on ChurchSuite or phone the Office (☎: 01256 474280) if you are able. If bringing friends, please sign them up too. It is important you advise us of any food allergies. If you would like to join my 'Team of Helpers', please let Marianne know. **Marianne Sales:** ([MarianneBunn1610@hotmail.com](mailto:MarianneBunn1610@hotmail.com))



## SIXTYTHREE YEARS OF TREASURED MEMORIES

Soon after I retired from work in August 2008 I felt a desire to take on quite a large project. It was to attempt to write my life story up to that point, (1945 – 2008). Why would I want to do that?

Sometime after my grandfather and then my father had died I often thought to myself (and I understand it is not uncommon for others to think similarly), I wish I had asked them many questions about their lives before I was born, that only occurred to me when it was too late.

My grandfather for instance had served in the First World War fighting in France and Belgium and was badly injured but he didn't talk much about it. I have some wonderful photographs of him and his comrades and if he did say anything it was often about the comradeship that existed between them. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> WW he served in the Civil Defence as a signaller. He became proficient at Morse Code and later taught me as a child. I can still remember some of it to this day.

My father on the other hand was called up for the army about 1938 for National Service (I have a photo of him in army uniform) but failed the medical due to poor eyesight. He was therefore discharged and did not fight in the 2<sup>nd</sup> WW. It occurred to me much later that had he gone to war I might not be here. (Was this God already shaping my life even before I was born?) Again, my father spoke very little about the war years and what he was actually doing in the period 1939-45. Why didn't I ask him I have often asked myself. I have often wondered if he suffered abuse from others that could see he was of an age when he should have been fighting. The only thing that indicated his disability was that he wore glasses.

To get back to writing my Life Story. We just have the one grandchild and I decided to dedicate this book to him in the hope that if he gets to the point where he wished he had asked me more questions he will have something to refer to. Of course, I would prefer him to ask them in my lifetime.

It was quite challenging trying to remember the really early years of my life but one thing I did find out from my parents was that when I was born, I was quite poorly and apparently there was a possibility that I might not live. My parents were practicing members of the Church of England and no doubt prayed for me. I had an emergency baptism at home because of my poor health and have the certificate to show it. Many years later I believed that God had a hand in that as well.

After my parents had died and I was going through their documents, photographs etc I was amazed at what my mother had kept of my early life. A chart showing my monthly weight up to the age of five years!!, virtually all of my school reports, my Identification card that I was issued with at birth because I was born during the war in early 1945 and even a little pair of boots, a cardigan and a coat that I wore when I was 1 – 2 years of age. Maybe it was because I was her first born that she kept so much for so many years. I didn't discover this material until after my father had died and I was amazed.

Of course, all of the above helped me in writing about the early years of my life.

From an early age my brothers and I went to Sunday School and this was the grounding for my faith. Of course, as with most people, I suspect, the strength of my faith waxed and waned over the years.

A lot of my life story covers my time in the RAF (1960 – 1975). It was my first job starting with 18 months technical training followed by just over 12 years working on various RAF stations including Cyprus and Malta.

*cont'd .....*

**SIXTYTHREE YEARS OF TREASURED, cont'd**

It was when we were stationed in Norfolk (I was married by this time) that I felt I wanted to do more than just attend services. I was 25 by this time and offered myself as a Sunday School teacher at the local church just outside Norwich. I had transferred to the local Methodist Church by this time.

Since then I felt called to work with children in a worship capacity, Sunday School, Youth groups etc. and am now part of the Open the Book team at Oakley.

From 1975 to 2008 I had a number of jobs both in the manufacture and testing of data communication equipment and in a training role. This is all described in some detail in my Life Story. One of the most interesting jobs was when I was training data communication engineers both in the UK and going on site to a number of European, middle eastern countries and the USA.

Of course, my meeting and marrying Pauline and having our 2 sons also comprises a large part of the years covered in the life story as well. We have both felt that God has guided us over the years and has been very good to us especially in difficult times.

Writing my life story was a big undertaking and took me about 3 years. As well as putting it on my computer, I have backed it up on a memory stick and I have printed and bound it as well. It runs to 230 pages covering 63 years. The reason that I printed it, is remembering what happened to computer tapes becoming redundant, I knew that one day no doubt memory sticks may as well.

It was quite an undertaking but feel it well worthwhile.

**Peter Ansell**

***A Brief Piece taken from 'Methodist Global Relationships' (Dec 22) – written by Melissa Newell (Mission Partner with the Methodist Church in Ecuador).***

**Melissa writes:** *"I've been in Ecuador for almost nine months now, and it's been a rollercoaster of exciting new places, people and experiences, and at times, frustrations and culture shocks. But God is faithful, and I have already seen this clearly in my life here in Ecuador, and in the prayers of so many people at home and across the world. As Psalm 91 reminds us "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

*Melissa has been running a weekly English Class for 25 teenagers in a village outside of Santo Domingo. A lady from the church begins with a short devotion (in Spanish), before Melissa runs the English Class. On the last Wednesday in October, they had a fun afternoon at the river with games and a picnic and Melissa led a talk on the 'Feeding of the Five Thousand', challenging the young people to 'give what we have to Jesus'.*

*A new activity in October was a ladies' prayer meeting on Zoom. Melissa says "Although meeting in person is ideal, Zoom allows us to meet at night, and mothers with small children are able to attend (in many Latin American countries, it falls to the women to care all the time for their children, and wherever they go, they have to bring their children). We are currently doing a short study on the theme of 'Women in the Bible', and then spending time in prayer."*

**Prayer points** • *For God's protection, and shelter, in daily life, travel and health* • *For peace and safety in Santo Domingo after recent unrest in the city* • *For fellow mission workers from UK who work in Santo Domingo with other organisations.* • *And missionaries from USA and Bolivia who work with the Methodist Church.* • *That we would be a support to each other in our work.*



Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Prayers  
December 2022 to February 2023

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH  
(see Nehemiah 8: 8-10)



*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."  
And he replied:  
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known  
way."*

From a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957) and quoted by King  
George VI Christmas 1939.

## **Church leaders protest over Cumbrian Mine**

More than 450 church leaders and Christian campaigners have recently signed an open letter to the Prime Minister, calling for a reversal on the Government's decision to open a new coal mine in Cumbria. The mine, near Whitehaven, would be the first in Britain for more than 30 years. But the campaigners say that while they acknowledge that Cumbria needs investment, investment in renewables would create three times more jobs than in the fossil fuel industry. "Coal from this mine will continue to heat up the planet, pollute the atmosphere and most severely impact those in the world's poorest countries who have done the least to cause the climate crisis." Signatories include former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Williams, the Church's lead bishop on the environment, the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, leaders from the Roman Catholic Church, the Free Churches, the Salvation Army and the Quakers in Britain.



### **A prayer as we Dwell in the Word**

Loving God,  
 Although our destination is not yet clear,  
 May we trust in your graceful promises;  
 Though we are uncertain of ourselves,  
 May we be rooted in your loving regard;  
 Though our attention is inclined to wander,  
 May we hear the things you are saying;  
 Though we often neglect your influence,  
 May we be convicted of your power to change,  
 In Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 Amen.

### **Dwelling in the Word text:** Philippians 4: 4-9 NRSV

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

<sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

<sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

<sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

<sup>9</sup> Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Pancakes** feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shoving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan. Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from Pasquil's Palin in 1619 runs: "And every man and maide doe take their turne, and tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne." Some people have noted that the **ingredients of pancakes can be used to Highlight Four Significant Things about this time of year: Eggs stand for Creation, Flour the Staff of Life, Salt keeps things Wholesome and Milk stands for Purity. Shrove Tuesday** is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3 February and 9 March.

A prayer of dedication:

*In all things-  
the affections of my heart-  
the efforts of my body,  
the fruits of my thinking,  
and the longings of my spirit  
I offer myself to you.*

A prayer based on Zephaniah 3:17

Gracious God,  
We rest in your presence.  
You are with us and within us.  
You are our Saviour and Friend.  
We share your delight  
In all you have created.  
We wonder at your joy  
And gladness at our response to you.  
May we know your loving embrace  
Calming our fears.  
May we know your joyful energy  
Reviving our lives.  
For we ask this in Jesus' name,  
Amen

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.

Zephaniah 3:17 NRSV

## The Gates of Hell

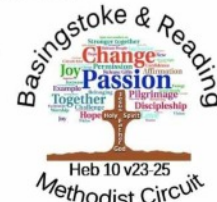
The Russian invasion of Ukraine has **“opened the gates of hell”** and unleashed evil around the world. So said the Archbishop of Canterbury during a recent interview on BBC1’s **‘Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg’**. He told how, during his recent visit to Ukraine, he had seen the mass grave in Bucha and heard of the massacres and torture carried out by the occupying Russian forces. The Russians are driven by “an ideology of conquest” he said, their only goal is “getting historic Ukraine back.” Justin Welby said it was important for Britain to continue to support Ukrainian resistance, and to recognise that “you can’t talk about reconciliation when the guns are firing, because people are just concentrating on whether they’re alive for the next 20 minutes.” He said the Ukrainians had told him that “for us, that word (reconciliation) means surrender, and we’re not going to do that.” There was a way forward, said the Archbishop: “and that’s withdrawal and ceasefire by Russian forces.”



## THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH

***Pray each day/week, for a group of our churches.***

Pray that their joy in walking with the Lord may be seen in their strengths.



### **Our Circuit churches are:**

Bradfield Methodist Church  
Tilehurst Methodist Church  
Wesley Methodist Church

Burnt Hill Methodist Church  
Emmanuel Methodist Church  
Whitley Methodist Church

Trinity Church, Earley  
Christ Church, Woodley

Caversham Methodist Church  
Woodley Airfield Church

Oakley Methodist Church  
Oakridge Methodist Church  
Kempshott Methodist Church  
Trinity Methodist Church

St. Andrews Methodist Church  
Old Basing Methodist Church  
Christ Church, Chineham

Tadley Methodist Church  
Silchester Methodist Church  
Burghfield Common Methodist Church

Tadley Common Methodist Church  
Mortimer Methodist Church

Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

Love brings Hope, Hope gives us more personal Peace,  
Peace has its own Joy.

Love does so many things- Love overcomes.

With hope and peaceful joy in our hearts from our Lord Jesus,  
we can't help but Love.

*Marion Wales      written for The Light of Advent 2017*

***Here is a creative prayer suggestion from  
The Methodist Church, Prayer Cards, Creative Prayer for All.***

Take a large sheet of paper and write 'God' in the middle.

Doodle the names of people you want to pray for or images which represent them.

When you have finished write 'Amen' at the bottom of the page.

## Fairtrade Fortnight 2023

This year Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 27 February to 12 March. It comes with a sombre reminder: climate change means that soon some of our favourite foods, such as bananas, cocoa and coffee could be harder to grow. And if that is combined with deeply unfair trade, then communities growing these crops will be pushed to the brink. This makes Fairtrade all the more vital – for all of us. You can help three ways during this Fortnight. First, why not join an online *Big Fairtrade Get Together?* Hear Fairtrade farmers and other experts explain what needs to change, for a sustainable future. Secondly, *let your friends know* of any Fairtrade event in your area, from a coffee morning to a quiz night. Thirdly, buy Fairtrade whenever you can, from flowers to coffee, clothes to teas, plus lots more. More info, visit <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk>



## Community Food Link – Autumn 2022 Newsletter (23) (Nov 22)



### We have moved



We had our annual general meeting at Basingstoke Baptist Church in August to thank all our volunteers. Here is a photo of many (but not all) of those involved with the invaluable work here at CFL. We are excited to announce that we have found new premises as of August this year. We are now located in Festival Place with the level access and space that we require. We are very grateful to Festival Place for providing us with this excellent location and making us feel so welcome.

### Hubs – CFL operate the following hubs:

- Monday – **Melrose Community Hall**, Popley (10:30 am)
- Monday – **Salvation Army**, Wessex Close (11 am)
- Tuesday – **Basingstoke Baptist Church**, Brighton Hill (11 am – 12 noon)
- Wednesday – **St Peter's Church**, South Ham (12:30 pm)
- Thursday – **Church of the Good Shepherd**, Winklebury (12 noon)
- Friday – **Oakridge Methodist Church** (1 pm – 3 pm)
- Saturday – **United Reformed Church (URC)** London Street (12 noon)

### Food pantries – Food Pantries – a small charge may apply

- **MCKS**, Crown Heights, RG21 7SY – Tuesday & Friday (10 am – 2 pm)
- **Popley Fields Community Association** – Wednesday (1 pm – 5 pm), Thursday & Friday (10 am – 2 pm)
- **Inspero Community Shop** – Tuesday (10 am – 1 pm)
- **Westside Community Pantry**, RG22 6QB – Tuesday & Thursday (10 am – 2 pm), Wednesday (10 am – 12 pm)
- **St Mary's Kingsclere**, Swan St, RG20 3RW – Thursday (2:30 pm – 4 pm)
- **Tadley Community Food Pantry**, RG26 4HN – Wednesday (9:30 am – 12:30 pm), Friday – Oakridge Methodist Church (9:30 am – 12:30 pm)

### HELP NEEDED

With the 'Cost of Living' Crisis ongoing we continue to welcome any new volunteers who can help us, even once a month. We welcome anyone who could drive the van (with a clean licence and under 70) or be a driver's mate (able to do some heavy lifting). Now we have level access to store the food, the heavy lifting is reduced. We are also looking for helpers to sort the food in the evenings from 8 pm - 10 pm in our Operations Room in Festival Place. We are also looking for one or two people who would be happy to take care of our vehicles (tyre checks and a clean once a week).

*cont'd.....*



Community Food Link – Autumn 2022 Newsletter (23), cont'd

## Meet the Team



“Hi My name is Maggie Chiverton and I have been part of the CFL team since 2020. I heard an appeal through my church that they were looking for more people to deliver a “meals on wheel service” as demand was rising due to the pandemic. However, on chatting to Penny, she saw me in a different role as they were starting to collect more food from the supermarkets and send it out via local hubs. As I have a background working for Hampshire Trading Standards, she wanted me to get the hubs up and running and trained in food sorting with particular regards to “Use By” and “Best Before” dates. I am still involved with the Melrose (Monday) and Oakridge (Friday) Hubs but I also sort (Tuesday), load (Thursday) and collect food from supermarkets (Friday). This gives me a really good allround understanding of how the organisation works from the food leaving the supermarkets to being put in the hands of those who visit the hubs. I am so proud to be part of a team which is doing such great work preventing food waste and feeding the hungry and thank all those who play their part. It is amazing how little food is actually wasted especially as we are seeing demand increase across the town.” **Thank you Maggie for all you do for CFL.** If you would like to become involved in any areas of this rewarding work please contact us by email at [volunteers@bcfd.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@bcfd.org.uk)

## Canon Paul Hardingham considers ‘What Showing Love’ can Mean in Everyday Life

**The Language of Love** – Valentine’s Day reminds us of the importance of expressing our love to those close to us. But how can we go beyond simply offering flowers and a card? Jesus says: ‘*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another*’ (John 13:34). How can we express love like Jesus in our everyday relationships to our partner, children, neighbours or work colleagues?

**Listening** – We need to listen to others, just as Jesus did. He asked questions of people and waited for them to process their answer. According to James, ‘*everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry*’ (James 1:19). How well do we listen to others? How often do we find ourselves already thinking of what we want to say before somebody’s finished speaking? Listening takes time; don’t rush it!

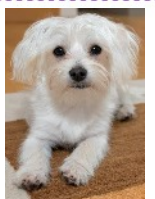
**Touching** – Jesus reached out to touch the untouchables in His world, including lepers, the sick and children. This was completely out of character for rabbis of His day. For us today, a warm handshake may be of value. Of course, it should always be an *appropriate* touch – helpful for the other person, not just for ourselves.

**Speaking** – Jesus’ conversation was always full of grace and truth (John 1:14). Do we speak words of *grace*, by offering comfort, giving encouragement or expressing care and concern? However, we should also be ready to speak words of *truth*, in asking for forgiveness, seeking reconciliation or addressing conflict. As Paul urges us, don’t avoid: ‘*speaking the truth in love*’. **Where is the challenge for us in expressing love this Valentine’s Day? (PP)**

### Lost & found (by Megan Carter, Parish Pump)

(A simple poem about a dog, but so often this can apply to us as well!)

Lost and found, what a wonderful sound to a little dog like me. I slipped my lead, I gave no heed It felt so good to be free. It’s getting dark, I’m lost in the park, it’s cold and starting to rain. I should have stayed and never strayed I’ll never do this again. Footsteps I hear, ‘please do come near’, on my collar they see my name. I’m put in a car, we’re travelling so far, will life be ever the same? A knock on the door, kisses galore, Cuddles and Pats on the head. No more will I roam, I’m now safely home and warmly curled up in my bed.



**Printed Programmes for Retreats 2023  
at Silchester Methodist will be available soon.**

The first one will be on **Saturday 11th February** entitled "**Dear Lord and Father**" from 10am-3pm. Refreshments from 9.30am.

**Journeying with  
God at the  
beginning of the  
year**



**"Let us .....  
rise up and  
follow thee".**

Come and join us for a day of refreshment and reflection. Our retreats are to enable you to explore and experience meeting with God; to be explorers and journeyers.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Hot and cold drinks, including cup-a-soup provided.

Cost per person: £10.

For enquiries or to book for this Retreat Day please contact Angela Hiscock at [angela.hiscock@btinternet.com](mailto:angela.hiscock@btinternet.com)

Numbers are limited.

**It's all in the VALENTINE**

For God so lo V ed the world,  
That He g A ve  
His on L y  
Begott E n  
So N  
T hat whosever  
Believes I n Him  
Should N ot perish,  
But have E verlasting life."

**John 3:16**

**Breath deep** – Now here's a trick that you probably haven't tried before: next time you forget something, try taking some deep breaths. It seems that inhaling stimulates our brain, creating electrical activity where emotions, memory and smells are processed. In a recent American study, individuals were able to identify a face two seconds more quickly if they were breathing in through the nose, rather than breathing out. The study was carried out at Northwestern University in Chicago, and it may also explain why we breath rapidly when afraid. "If you are in a panic state, you spend proportionally more time inhaling. .... Faster breathing could have a positive impact on brain function and result in faster response times."

## Blister Pack Recycling (Update)

Many thanks to all of you donating your empty pill packs and to those who are collecting them from others too. I am overwhelmed at how many have appeared for me to recycle. It makes me realise how many went into land fill before we started collecting them.



I have now taken the equivalent of **70** “bags for life” of tablet packs into Superdrug. I was filling their recycling box with one visit, so I have now been given my own supply of large plastic bags by Superdrug. I am sure that the help that Marie Curie is getting from these is welcomed and of course it is helping to take care of the planet for future generations.

Many thanks to all who donate.

**Jennifer Pitt**

## Recycling of Plastic Milk Bottle Tops –

If you have plastic milk bottle tops (*only milk bottle tops*) and are not already recycling them and would like to, Pamela has a contact with a collector for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Tops can be given to Pamela or ring the Bishop family on ☎: 01256 467702. Thank you, **June Bishop**



## Trinity Collections

As you will expect, Trinity's income has been severely reduced over the last 2 years, partly because hirers stopped meeting during lockdown and church services also ceased. Nevertheless, much of our expenditure continued – almost half of our outgoings go to the Circuit to pay for, among other things but to a major extent, Circuit staff, both ordained and lay.



**Since we restarted worship in church, there is always a collection plate on the right as you leave church each Sunday.**

We would like to express our thanks to those who contribute by Standing Order, and those who have made contact to continue their regular giving via monthly envelopes. We would like to remind you all that there are a number of ways that you can contribute financially to God's work at Trinity and we would particularly welcome any donations at this time. If you need more information as to how you can give to Trinity, please contact:

**Tony Pitt** (Gift Aid & Envelope Secretary) – [organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com) or ☎: 01256816314

**Nigel Beeton writes:** “The season of Lent begins this month. In times gone by it was observed very strictly, on pain of excommunication. Maybe these days we don't pay it such attention, but taking a bit of extra time with God during Lent is time that He will richly repay:”

## Lent

The monk, within his monastery, the ploughman and the lord;  
Would keep the Lent time patiently and keep a simple board.

Rich food nor meat could touch their lip just plain and simple fare;  
Dried bread in sauce they could not dip – or face the Parson's glare!

Today, such things don't tend to be we've left them in the past!  
Just those within that monastery who keep the Lenten fast.

But all should come to love anew the treasured time of Lent,  
And spend more time with Father, who rewards such time well spent!



**(Parish Pump)**





**UPDATE at 21.01.23**

**web:** <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/givehelp/donatefood/>



**WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR ANY DONATIONS DURING JANUARY DUE TO YOUR AMAZINGLY COMPASSIONATE AND GENEROUS SUPPORT THIS AUTUMN. THANK YOU.**

**WE CURRENTLY HAVE NO SHORTAGES.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH**

**We always welcome monetary Donations and promise to use them to provide help for local people in crisis.**

**Thank you for your continued support.**

**The Foodbank was 10 years old!** October was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Basingstoke Foodbank. Every year since 2012 it has fed around 3,000 people in crisis in the Basingstoke & Deane area, including 800 children. Since 2012 a total of over 42,900 people have been fed and 488 tonnes of food distributed. “While we are immensely grateful to the people and businesses of Basingstoke for their support over the years, and for the sterling efforts of over 100 volunteers, we’re sad that in 2022 there is still a need for a foodbank in our town” said Phil Thomas, Chair of Trustees. “The current economic crisis means demand for our services is growing again and until the benefits system in this country is reformed, there will continue to be people and families in crisis with not enough to eat”.

The Foodbank provides a threeday supply of food to anyone in crisis who is referred to it by over 120 different agency teams across the town. There are now believed to be more foodbanks in the UK than there are branches of McDonald’s. The foodbank’s work is a massive achievement and a reflection of the fantastic effort by a dedicated group of volunteers from churches and the community across Basingstoke. The whole community of Basingstoke & Deane generously provide crisis food for some of the neediest people in our town” *said Phil.* (taken from *One Church Basingstoke*)

**Our foodbank Relies on Your Goodwill & Support. Monetary Donations big or small also gratefully received.** Over 90% of food distributed by foodbanks in **The Trussell Trust** network is donated by the public – that’s why your food donations are absolutely vital to enable us to give everyone referred a balanced, nutritious 3 day food supply.

Our **Basingstoke Centre & Warehouse at Houndmills** remains open for donations of food & toiletries including fresh veg, bread & eggs during regular opening times **10 am – 3 pm, Mon to Frid**. If you would like to donate items, please look at the Foodbank website or previous newsletters where you will find fuller information – you can **‘Shop and Drop’** goods into the permanent crates provided by our supporting supermarkets – **see website.**

**A Typical Food Parcel Includes:** breakfast cereals; soup; pasta; rice; pasta sauce; tinned beans; tinned meat; tinned vegetables; tinned fruit; tea or coffee; sugar; biscuits; snacks; toiletries; household items; limited supply of fresh bread, fruit & vegetables.



## SAD NEWS FOR OUR RECYCLING



We can no longer collect **Baby Food Pouches & Kids Yoghurt Pouches**, and no longer collect **Crisp Packets**. The reason given for closing these recyclable collections is Supermarkets are running their own recycling schemes. This is good news for the planet but not for our charity and I am very sad that we will not have as much to give to 'Pillars'.

**However, we are still collecting cake & biscuit wrappers, flexible packaging bags** used for dishwasher tabs and detergent capsules, packaging of household wipes like Flash or the antibacterial ones, plastic air fresheners, tinted fabric conditioner bottles or the tinted plastic boxes used for home cleaning products. So please continue to support our scheme by recycling these with us.

Thank you, **Hazel Green**

Email: [malandhazel@hotmail.com](mailto:malandhazel@hotmail.com)

☎: 07776 442529



**Coffee Shop**

**Gifts &  
Cards**

**Shoemakers Environment**

CHRISTIAN BOOKS & COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesdays – Saturdays – 9.30 am – 4 pm

**Church  
Supplies**

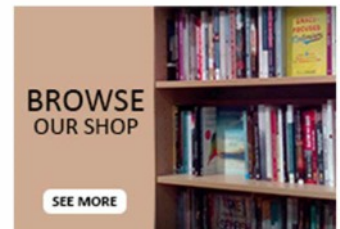
**Bibles, Bible Notes, Books,  
Children's Books & Kid's Corner**

**Shoemakers Christian Bookshop, The Arcade, Market Place, Newbury,  
Berkshire, RG14 5AD**

**New Website for Shoemakers Bookshop:** [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk)

**Shop with Shoemakers** – You can shop in the following ways:

- **In Person** – Shop **OPEN**: Tuesdays – Saturdays, 9.30 am – 4 pm
- **By Phone** during opening hours as above on: ☎:01635 37836
- **Online** anytime at: [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk)
- **By email** anytime – [office@christophershoemaker.org.uk](mailto:office@christophershoemaker.org.uk)
- **Coffee Shop is OPEN**: Fridays & Saturdays, 9.30 am – 4 pm
- **Facebook** messenger at: [www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks](http://www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks)
- **Click and Collect** available.
- **Orders can be posted or delivered to you.**



**And may Romans 8:3739 encourage us all**

### Come reign in me

Oh God, who made the world so fair, and formed the earth, the sky, the sea;  
Who gave us ears, and eyes, and minds, to hear, to see, to know all love is thee.

Oh God, who in the Lord Jesus, gave us a light to light our way;  
Let our life's lamp be lit by Him whose strength will see us safely through each day.

Oh God, whose Spirit gave us birth, and holds all life secure, e'en mine;  
Take all I am, and all I have, Bless and redeem them for they both are Thine.

Oh God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, three in one;  
Blessed be thy name, come reign in me, and in me let thy will be done.

**by Sam Doubtfire (Parish Pump)**

For the Young & Young at heart

PUZZLES

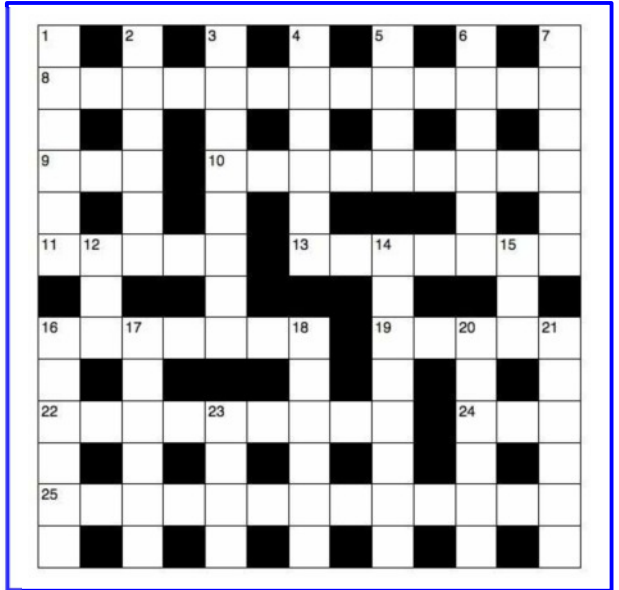
Crossword

Bible Bite

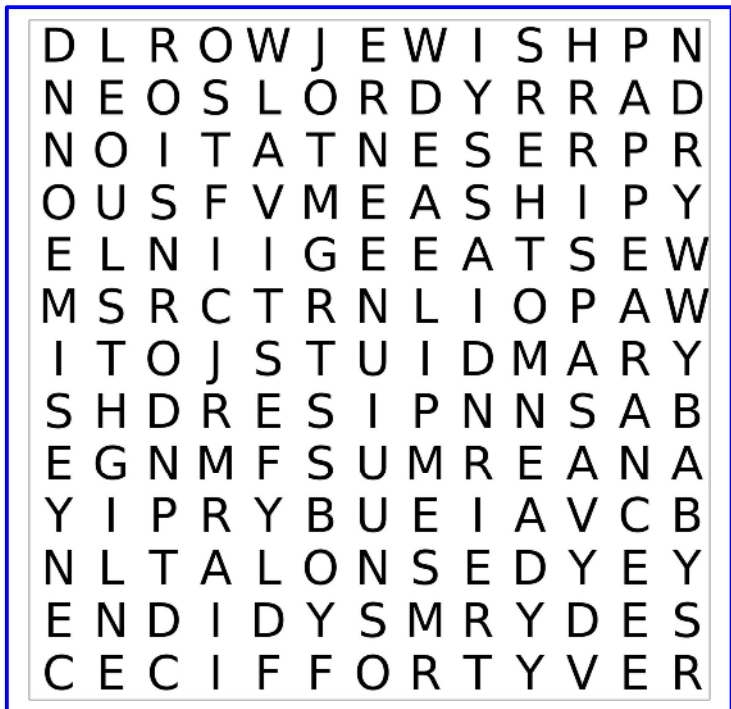
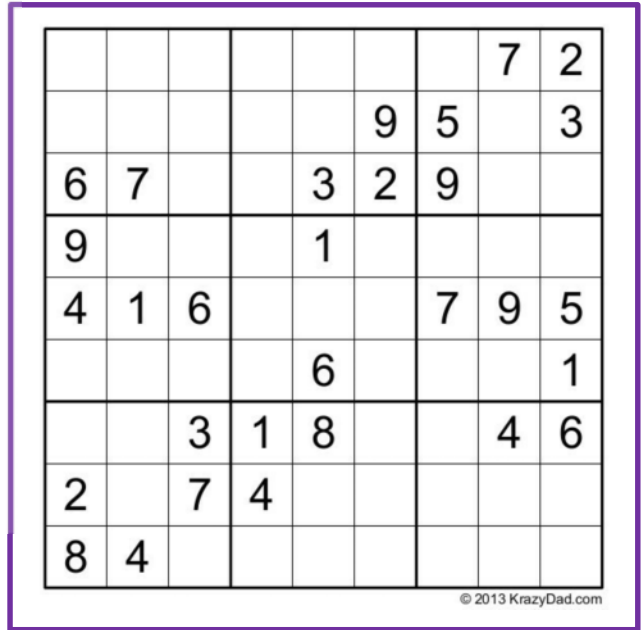
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew chapter 18 verses 21-35

Jewish teachers used to say you only had to forgive people three times before getting revenge, so Peter asked Jesus...



Sudoku

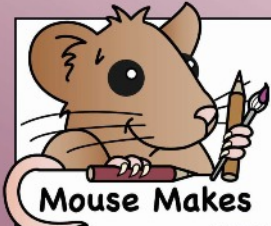


**Wordsearch Clues – February 2023**

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child – to 'present him to the Lord'.

Forty	Appearance	Jesus	Light
Days	Mary	Purified	World
Baby	Jewish	Present	Simeon
Boy	Mothers	Lord	Nunc
Public	Temple	Festival	Dimittis
Office	Presentation	Evening	Prayer
West	Candlemas		





**Mouse Makes**

What did Jesus give thanks for and share?  
Matthew 26:27


What did Jesus say this represented?  
His \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 26:27-28



What was the special meal Jesus was preparing to eat?  
Matthew 26:18


What did Jesus take, bless and break?  
Matthew 26:26

What did Jesus say this represented?  
His \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 26:26


Jesus instructed his disciples to continue to break bread and share the cup "in \_\_\_\_\_ of me."  
1 Corinthians 11:24-25





ORFBROKEJHOLYCR  
ROOMBCUPTOKEH  
LORDRUBAWGDJAR  
TEGJESUSEERETI  
MUIANESLVISOS  
LCVCDECOVENANT  
BHEOCINVENKBIB  
LANMWATERILLGO  
OREMEMBRANCEHD  
OISUPPERIGOSTY  
DSSNMUGIVENSHD  
ETDISCIPLESINS  
BSTOGETHERWNA  
THANKSKLAMBG



SUPPER  
LAMB • LORD  
DISCIPLES  
TOGETHER  
EVENING  
ROOM • JAR  
WATER • TWELVE  
JESUS • CHRIST  
NIGHT • TOOK  
THANKS  
BLESSING  
BROKE • GIVEN  
COVENANT  
DRINK • EAT  
FORGIVENESS  
SINS • HOLY  
COMMUNION  
EUCHARIST

Find the words from the questions too!

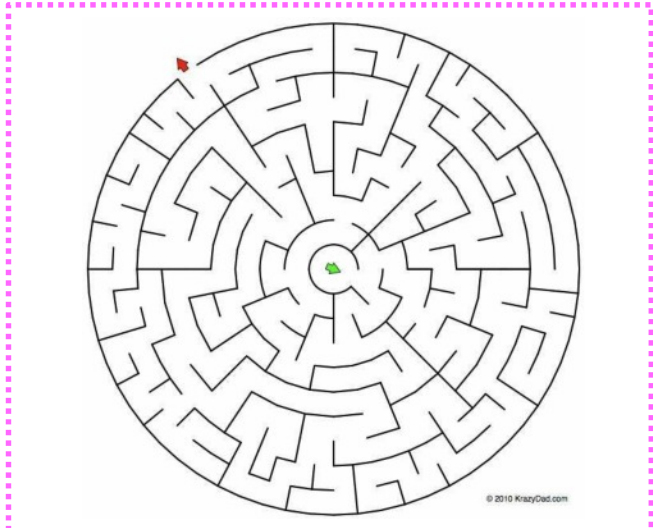
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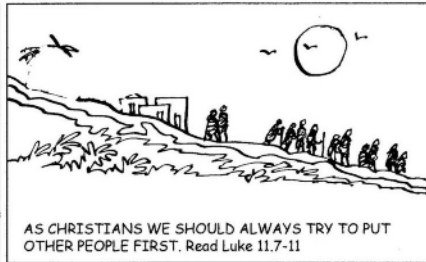
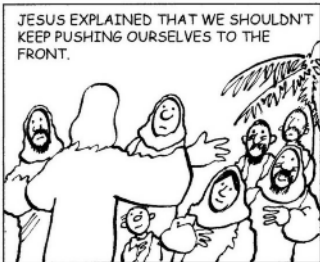
- Crossword Clues – Across**
- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (58)
  - 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
  - 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
  - 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (32)
  - 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
  - 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
  - 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
  - 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
  - 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1)
  - 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Anyone can do their best, but we are helped by the spirit of God to do better than our best – *Commissioner Catherine BramwellBooth*



- Crossword Clues – Down**
- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
  - 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
  - 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
  - 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
  - 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
  - 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
  - 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
  - 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
  - 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
  - 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
  - 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
  - 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
  - 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
  - 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
  - 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
  - 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)





**Puzzle Pages Solutions**

**Across:** 8, Crossexamined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Scifi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

**Down:** 1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

**Sudoku Solution**

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

u	h	d	e	b	t	r	g	s	f	s	p
n	c	u	g	i	e	h	t	i	m	e	s
d	o	n	n	v	b	n	r	b	a	v	e
m	i	w	l	d	u	q	p	e	t	e	r
k	n	i	f	o	r	g	i	v	e	n	s
d	s	x	c	m	s	e	r	v	a	n	t
u	b	c	n	h	i	s	d	g	c	j	o
c	a	n	c	e	l	e	d	h	e	r	
o	d	u	f	a	m	i	l	y	e	s	y
u	m	o	n	e	y	m	p	i	r	u	b
n	h	m	j	f	v	g	t	g	o	s	u
t	l	c	a	s	p	r	i	s	o	n	t



King	Much	Money	Story	Peter	Cancelled	Times
Three	Million	Prison	Forgiven	Family	Teacher	Seven
Hundred	Coins	Now	Servant	Jesus	Count	Bad
Accounts	Debt	Silver				