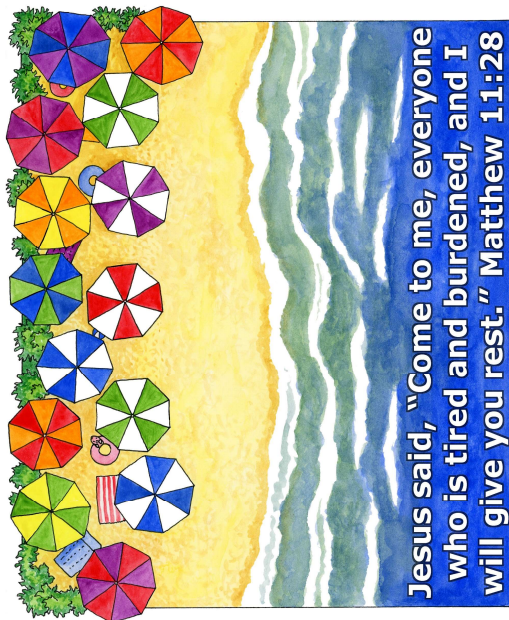




Trinity E-News



Issue 7 / 23 Trinity's email: trinity@basingstokecircuit.net September 2023



SERVING OTHERS
LOVING SERVICE
HELP SUPPORT
CARING ASSIST
PROVIDE FOR
The greatest among you will be your servant
SUPPORT LOVE
CARE SERVE
MINISTER TO
The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many

Our Minister is:
Revd Claire Simpson
 ☎: 01256 323103
 email:
revclaire72@btinternet.com

Trinity's Church and Building has now closed and Trinity and St Andrew's have now merged.

From 3 September, we will all be worshipping at St Andrew's Church, Western Way, Basingstoke.

Trinity E-News:
Deadline for October Newsletter – Monday 18 September

Trinity E-News is available on the **Basingstoke & Reading Website – link below.**

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

Thank you again, Hazel, Ed (☎: 01256-461375) & **email:** hazel@basingstokecircuit.net
 16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 1YQ

Link to Circuit Website:
www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk



<i>Inside this Issue</i>	
2	Pastoral Letter – Revd Claire Simpson
3	Welcome Service for Revd Claire Simpson
3	Northern Housegroup, JAM, Trinity Circle
3	
4-5	Sunday Services for Sept, Oct & Nov 23
5	Prayer by Jennifer Pitt
6	Why not go by Bus ?
7	MWIB Event
8	The Word is Onward
9	Boys Brigade Camp August 2023
10-13	Trinity's last Service
11	Oakley & Old Basing
12	Farewell Audrey
13	Silchester Retreats
14-19	Basingstoke Chaplaincy, Street Pastors, Community Food Link N/Letters
15	Methodist Heritage
20	Parish Pump Pieces
21	Recycling Last Chance
22-24	Puzzle Pages

Online Circuit Services can be found here:
<https://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk/worship-prayer>

September 2023

Dear Friends

It is wonderful to be amongst you as we settle into the Basingstoke manse and begin to get to know the local area. I wonder if this letter of greeting might be a good opportunity for me to tell you a little about myself and my family.

I was born in Doncaster, South Yorkshire and have been attending methodist churches all my life. I have one sister who is a couple of years older than me and she and her family and my parents live in the Northampton area. After schooling I went to Hull University and completed a joint degree in English and Philosophy before then training to be a secondary school teacher of English and Drama. I worked in secondary schools in Hull and Doncaster with a break of three years or so when I worked for Action for Children as a project worker in a Children and Family Centre in a deprived area of Doncaster.

I married John in 2000 and we have two children – Ben (21) and Sam (20 on the 1st September). They are both currently getting ready to go to university. I have a stepson Rob, who lives in Doncaster with his wife, Emily, and their two children Daniel (8) and Helena (6). John works in the NHS as a manager in community mental health based in Andover. He is also a local preacher and hopes to take appointments on the plan after we have settled in.

I have been a Methodist minister for fifteen years. I trained between the Urban Theology Unit in Sheffield and York St Johns and through my training I gained an MA in Theology and Religious Studies from Leeds University. As a probationer, I went into circuit ministry in Lincoln South circuit for five years and then we moved down to the south coast to Fareham in the East Solent and Downs Circuit and I have just completed ten years there before moving to Basingstoke. When not engaging in

ministry, I love to cook and bake; exercise and watch all kinds of sports; read fiction and poetry; oh and eat chocolate (the milk and white varieties, not the dark stuff that is actually good for you!!)

We are very much looking forward to serving the churches in the Basingstoke area. Recent past editions of this magazine have shared news of the merger between Trinity and St Andrews and the things that you have been doing to acknowledge this process and mark endings and new beginnings. So, it feels appropriate that we are encountering 'new' challenges and opportunities together. I am very eager to get to know you all and to work with you in encouraging one another, deepening our faith and in sharing God's love in mission to the communities and people we are called to serve.

With blessings

Claire

PS Sadly, my dad passed away just as we moved to Basingstoke and the funeral is on the 6th September. We are very grateful for all the expressions of sympathy that we have received from folk in the churches and wider circuit. Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated by myself and the family at this sad time, **Claire**

Now is the time to empty our Mission Charity boxes

*If you are in possession of a Mission Charity box – 'World Mission' or 'Mission in Britain', would you please bring it to St Andrew's Church during September. **Barbara Johnson** has volunteered to take your boxes from you. If it is difficult for you to come to Church, please let **Barbara** know. Thank you.*



Trinity Circle

Trinity Circle will now be meeting at: **St Andrews, Western Way.**

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 12 September at 7.30 pm** and we extend a warm welcome to everyone, (ladies and gentlemen), to come along and join us.

We are hoping that some more of our St Andrews friends will come along.

The Committee have decided this will be an evening of **"Getting to know you"**.

We would love to see you. Sonia

Northern Housegroup

Our next meeting will be on:

Tuesday 5 September at 7.30 pm at Sonia's home.

Our speaker will be –
Revd Jackie Case

We look forward to an enjoyable evening – **Edna, Hilary and Sonia**

Great News for Mortimer from Clive Williams:

Excellent News, we have achieved an Eco Church Gold Award an A Rocha Project.

Well done, especially to Don Graham for his dedication, hard work and commitment to this worthwhile project.

Thanks also to the team that supported Don. Our minister Revd David Shaw was so proud that our little Methodist church attained a Gold Award, only the 6th Methodist Church to do so in The Methodist Church GB.

Let us keep up the momentum and keep striving and encouraging to protect the environment and God's creation. Well done everyone.

Blessings, **Clive Williams**

Welcome Service for:
Revd Claire Simpson
at St Andrew's Church,
Basingstoke
at 4 pm on
Sunday 3 September 2023

(JAM) – 'Jesus And Me'

Meets: 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm,
usually on the 1st Sunday
of the month.



The Next 'JAM' Date is:
Sunday 10 September at
2.30 pm at St Andrew's

* * * * *

JAM – Children & Families will now meet at St Andrew's, usually on the 1st Sunday of the month to hear stories of Jesus, Craft, Singing & Tea.

All are very welcome.
Do come along and join us.

* * * * *

3 Minute Prayer for Later in Life , by various authors, Kevin Mayhew, £6.99

These are searching, uplifting and encouraging prayers, each with an accompanying Bible reference; an honest expression of daily faith and life, addressing insecurity, fears for the future, retirement, health, changing role and status. They speak of a surprising God who hasn't finished with us because of a few grey hairs and wrinkles. There's no retirement home with God, simply different plans and new ways of being, always plenty in store. Abundant living certainly doesn't grind to a halt in later years and 'on the scrapheap' will never feature in God's vocabulary. So, dismiss the notion that it's all downhill from here. We are all beautiful in God's sight, accepted, loved totally and unconditionally, and **He** delights in us. *PP*



Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson

**Sunday Worship at St Andrew's & Trinity
and our Basingstoke Churches**

Plan for Worship – Sept, Oct & Nov 2023

Enquiries – Joint Senior Stewards:

Diane Bath ☎: 01256 320429 or email dianeath51@gmail.com

Linda Hoe ☎: 01256 417219 or email lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk



Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – Sept 2023

Dates	3 September	10 September	17 September	24 September
St Andrew's & Trinity 10.30 am	Welcome at 4 pm Revd Claire Simpson, St Andrew's	Revd Claire Simpson, S, Cov	Revd Ruth Midcalf, HF, P	LA
Kempshott 10.30 am	LA, Zoom	Revd Dr J Mather, Zoom	Revd Jenny Dowding, Zoom	Mr Jonathan Skeet, Zoom
Oakley 10.30 am	Welcome at 4 pm Revd Claire Simpson, St Andrew's	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	LA	Revd Valerie Fisher, S
Oakridge 10.30 am	Welcome at 4 pm Revd Claire Simpson, St Andrew's	Mr Stephen Appiah	Revd Claire Simpson, S	LA
Old Basing 10.30 am	Welcome at 4 pm Revd Claire Simpson, St Andrew's	Mr Symon Turner	Revd Valerie Fisher	Revd Claire Simpson, S

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – Oct 2023

Dates	1 Oct	8 Oct	15 Oct	22 Oct	29 Oct
St Andrew's & Trinity 10.30 am	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Ruth Midcalf	Mr Symon Turner	Mr Peter Frank
Kempshott 10.30 am	LA, Zoom	Mr Symon Turner, Zoom	Mr Peter Frank, Zoom	Mr Stephen Appiah, Zoom	Mrs Sarah Whithorn, Zoom
Oakley 10.30 am	Mr Symon Turner	Revd Claire Simpson	Revd Valerie Fisher, S	LA	Mr Chris Marsh
Oakridge 10.30 am	Mr Tony Bell	Mr Peter Frank	Mrs Paddy Jose	Mr Terry Rowell	Revd Claire Simpson, S
Old Basing 10.30 am	LA	Mr Stephen Appiah	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Valerie Fisher	Mr Stephen Appiah

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – Nov 2023

Dates	5 November	12 November	19 November	26 November
St Andrew's & Trinity 10.30 am	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Claire Simpson, S, P	LA	Mrs Linda Hoe
Kempshott 10.30 am	LA, Zoom	Revd R Midcalf, Zoom	Mr T Bell, Zoom	Revd Claire Simpson, Zoom
Oakley 10.30 am	Mr T Rowell	Mr S Appiah	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Revd David Jenkins
Oakridge 10.30 am	Mrs L Hoe	LA	Revd V Fisher	Mrs S Whithorn
Old Basing 10.30 am	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Mr Terry Rowell	LA	Mr Chris Marsh

Holy Communion

Humbled to receive
Of Your sacrifice
Loved Poured out
Your gift to us

Comfort is here

Our Souls find rest

Mindful of Your love

Make us open to others

United with others in love for You

Neighbours no matter of distance

Ignite in us a flame

Of outward looking love

Nurturing all in Your name.

By Jennifer Pitt

**The Secret of Living**

The secret of living is learning to pray –
It's asking our Father for strength for the day!

It's trusting completely that His boundless grace
Will overcome care and each problem we face!

It's walking by Faith
Every mile that we plod
and knowing our prayers bring us closer to God.

Anon PP

*Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend –
Martin Luther King*

In Common – I was the supply teacher for a class that was learning about groups. In one exercise, pupils were asked to label a group of items according to their common characteristics. Pictured were onion rings, doughnuts, and party biscuits. The correct answer would have been that all the items have holes in the centre. But one health-conscious boy pointed out: "All of those things contain far too much cholesterol."

Come and Enjoy

'Fellowship with Friends'
after Morning
Worship at
St Andrew's
on Sundays along with an
*'enjoyable Coffee, Tea,
Biscuit and sometimes
even cake' !*



When Autumn Comes

Should we be sad when autumn comes and
winter looms ahead?

Is it so bad that days grow short and
verdant leaves grow red?

We'll miss the sun and long, hot days
we'll miss the sea and sand;

But soon will come the starry nights
and wintry landscapes grand!

Perhaps it's best that nature sleeps
and things no longer grow;

We get a rest from vibrant weeds
and grass we need not mow.

So celebrate the equinox the autumn season's here!
It is a date to mark, with joy, the turning of the year.

by Nigel Beeton, PP

Why not go by Bus?

We are all familiar with the Stagecoach advertising, **"For a greener Basingstoke go by Bus"**, with all the advantages of a carbon free healthier environment. I support this too, and also Stagecoach's plan to introduce more frequent services in and around Basingstoke making bus transport more user friendly. Those of us of a pensioner age too, have the advantage of free bus passes. This coupled with savings on our car running costs not to mention not having to pay expensive parking in the town centre, make this a very attractive option.

But there is an even more attractive advantage to **"Go by Bus"**. This is being able to be part of our community life, and to look at life and people around us without pressure or constraint. Most importantly we are in an environment where we can communicate with others around us. It may be with friends that we meet for a tea or coffee, but also it gives us the opportunity to say a few words to a complete stranger that we meet at the bus stop, on the bus, or in our town centre destination. Ask your bus driver what sort of day he is having? It will bring a smile to his face and to yours too! A casual word in the shopping centre, or street market will always produce a response and make someone's day more enjoyable. Remember, there are many lonely people out there who rarely have the chance to meet or greet others! Take the opportunity to reach out and make their day!

Our Basingstoke town centre has many tea shops and café's that are comfortable and friendly where you can relax and enjoy a friendly atmosphere. My preference is the 'Willis Museum Cafe' in the Market Square, friendly and comfortable, with probably the best prices in town.

Take the Bus and have a day to remember, and make someone else's day too! Enjoy life to the full!

Martin Frost, 19 August 2023



Eastrop Park – Good News – a new local council was elected in May, so all charges for parking at Eastrop Park have been suspended, we think permanently.

The Closing of Trinity

As we close Trinity's building for worship services at the end of August, we are taking the necessary steps to close the accounts and to deregister Trinity as a Charity.

To that end, the existing bank account will be closed in September. If you currently have a Standing Order to Trinity, please could you alter it with effect from:

1st August to the St Andrews bank account which is:

Account name:	St Andrews Methodist Church
Account number:	81781448
Sort code:	40-09-18

By moving your Standing Order at that time, you will make the process of closing the accounts simpler.

Trinity handles Gift Aid differently to St Andrews. We expect the new Church to process it as St Andrews does now. To that end, you will be asked to complete a new Gift Aid declaration in due course.

We thank you for your financial support of God's work at Trinity over the years and trust that you will continue to support the new Church meeting in the existing St Andrews building from September.

If you have questions or concerns about this, please contact **Tony Pitt** (organista@btinternet.com) or one of the Church Stewards.

Southampton District, 'Methodist Women in Britain' Invite you to a:

Celebration Day

New Horizons

to be held on

Saturday 23rd September at

Salisbury Methodist Church,
St Edmund's Church Street, SP1 1EF

10 am for 10.30 am to 3.30 pm

Speaker: Maggie Woods

Co-Chair of Methodist Women in Britain (South)



**Methodist Women
in Britain**

for women, for justice, for Christ

Website: mwib.org.uk

**Tea & Coffee
provided**
**Please bring your
own packed lunch**

Worship & Fellowship

Afternoon Workshops

The Word isOnward

‘When a knight won his spurs, in the story of old,
He was gentle and brave; he was gallant and bold.
With a shield on his arm, and a lance in his hand,
For God, and for valour, he rode through the land.

No charger have I, and no sword by my side,
Yet still to adventure and battle I ride,
Though back into storyland, giants have fled,
And the knights, are no more, and the dragons are dead.

Let faith be my shield, and let joy be my stead,
Gainst the dragons of anger, the ogres of greed.
And let me set forth with the sword of my youth,
From the castle of darkness, the power of the truth.’

(Jan Struther, 1901-1953)

Quite recently, I shared this hymn with some folks who are, let us just say, ‘getting on.’

It is a children’s hymn. In the spirit of everyday being a new beginning, the joy of singing together, brought back, all those wonderful memories of days past. Yet, as I looked around, I could see in my companions’ eyes, a twinkle.

In their desire to keep going, courage and purpose.

Aside from the walking sticks, the specs, the hearing aids, the white hair, or no hair on their heads at all, despite the wrinkled faces, for a while. Youth was renewed.

The psalmist says, in Psalm 103, **‘Thy youth shall be renewed like the eagles.’** A bird noted for its strength and bravery.

The Lord leads the way as we go forward.

May he bless each one of us.

Margaret Garland

Feel the Tug

Have you ever wondered how you can be certain about who and what God really is? One Christian put it this way: “I’m reminded of the story of the little boy who was out flying a kite. The wind was brisk and large billowing clouds were blowing across the sky. The kite went up and up until it was entirely hidden by the clouds. Then a man came by and asked the little boy what he was doing, staring up at an empty sky. “I’m flying my kite,” he replied. The man replied: “What kite? How can you be sure it is still there? You can’t see a thing.” The little boy agreed that he could see nothing, “but every little while I feel a tug, so I know for sure that it is still up there and is connected to me!”



When it comes to God, you don’t need to take anyone else’s word for it. You can find Him for yourself by inviting Jesus Christ into your life. Then you too will know, by the warm wonderful tug on your heartstrings, that though you can’t see Him, He is up there, and that He lives in you. You are connected! *PP*

Boys Brigade Camp August 2023



The Boys Brigade from St Andrews, along with two companies from Southend, set off for their annual camp this year, back to the Isle of Wight with sixteen boys. There had been quite a lot of rain in the previous weeks so by the time the mini-buses arrived at the camp site the field was already very wet. One mini-bus got stuck in the mud getting into the field and it ended up with the farmer coming along with his tractor to help it out. All was safely in and the fun of finding our tents and getting unpacked began albeit it in the rain! Then in the evening all the boys went off swimming where they had the pool to themselves.

Sunday came and although overcast we were able to have part of our Church service outside. We were looking at Moses and the Children of Israel crossing the Red Sea which we acted out on the field.

The rest of the day and week were filled with activities on and off site. The rain still hung around at the beginning of the week but with tweaking the programme slightly we were able to do all that had been planned.

There were sports and craft activities and cooking.

Evening devotions, we acted out Jonah and this went down well and the boys were very attentive. One night they were all crew members tossing Jonah over the side.

On the Wednesday we all went off to The Needles for the day. There we climbed down the cliff to the beach. There are a lot of steps! Once on the beach we boarded a boat which took us to see the Needles close up and around the bay. This trip lasted about 20 minutes and it was nice to have a different viewpoint. We could see all the steps we had climbed down and would have to climb up again! Viv and I chickened out and got the cable car back.

Traditionally on the last day, Friday, we have 'Hunt the Officer'. Some of the officers dress up and the boys have to find them. So Sandown was invaded by a shepherd, a shark, a hippie, a tourist, a lady, a land girl, a monkey and others. Great fun for everyone.

The camp finishes with a camp concert on the Friday evening. Viv and I did two sketches and our boys and officers closed the concert with Dancing Queen – I don't think we will be asked again!! Great fun. If you wish to hear more, come along to the BB Presentation evening in September.

Having recovered I am now looking forward to next year's camp in Norfolk.

Linda

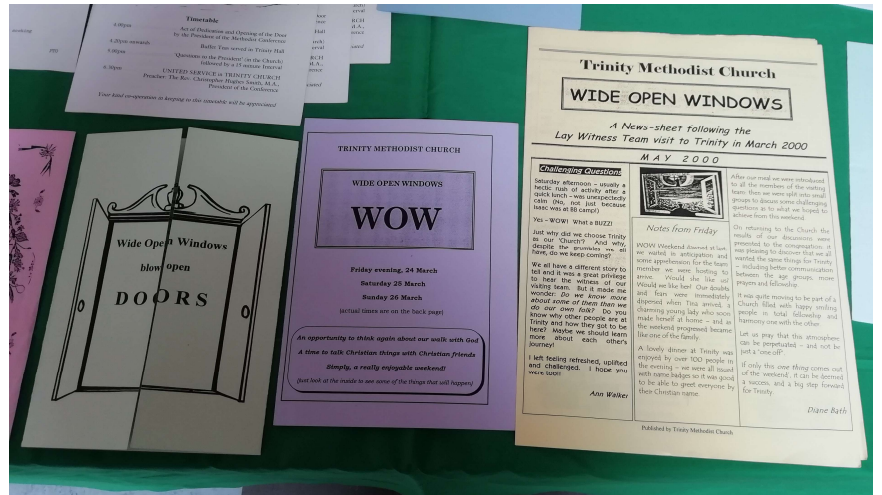
And some BB Camp photos



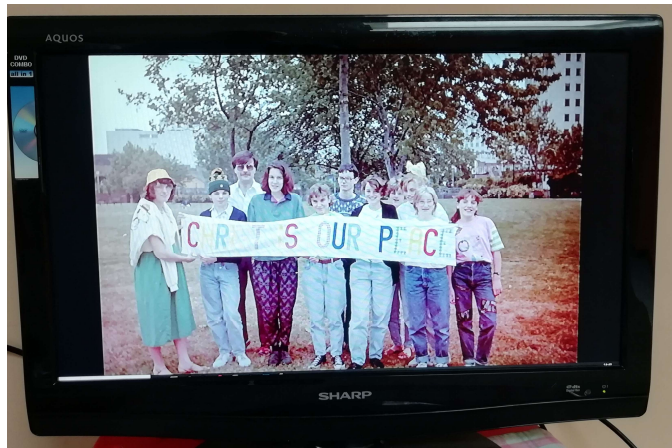
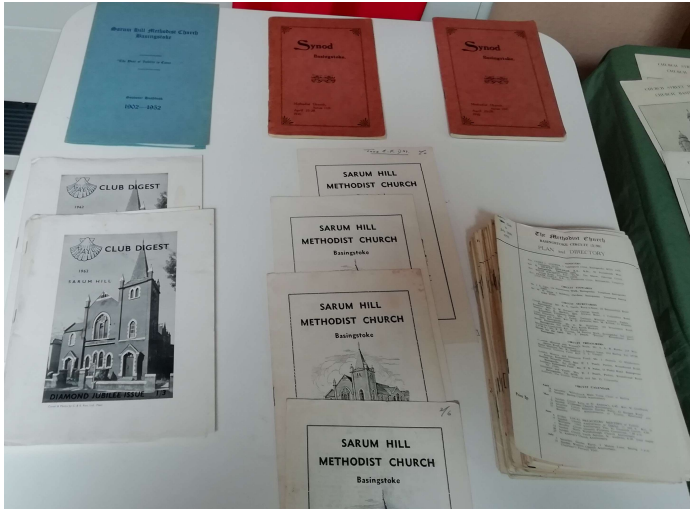
Trinity's Final Service of Thanksgiving – Sunday 27 August 2023

Some photos taken by Peter Harris and David Webb of our Final Service and the lovely display and video put together by David Webb in Room 2. Also the beautiful cake made especially for this day by Frances Hammond. Thank you to everyone who prepared and led our final service and for the delicious lunch. Also a couple of memories of Trinity over the years, one read during the service.

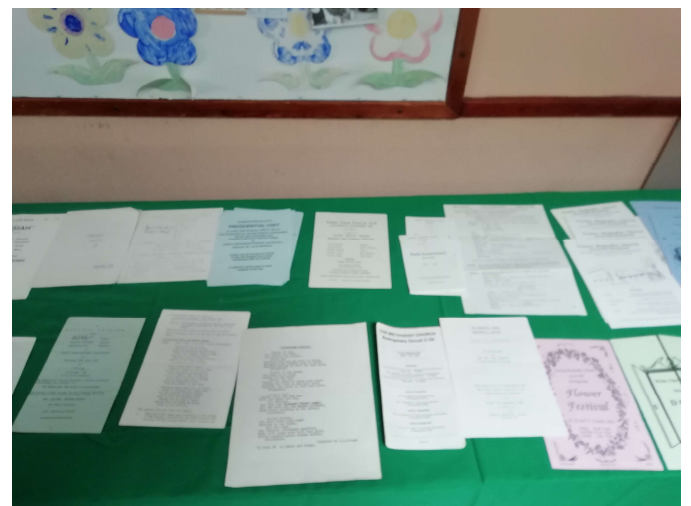
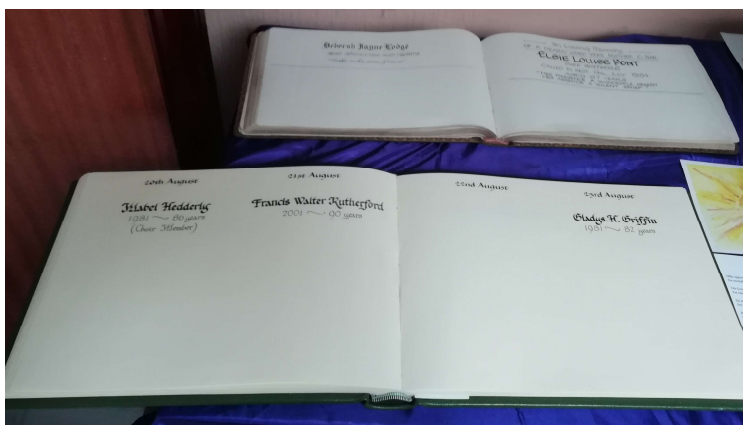




Above the WOW Weekend and the Methodist Youth Conference. Some photo albums (by Freda & Les). The beautiful cake by Frances Hammond.



Some photos of the young people on the video and also of the 'not so young folk' too. Below the Remembrance Books from Trinity.



Trinity Flower Ministry (*Angela Smith*)

From the start of the Flower Club in the early 1990's, the cost of flowers was covered by donations from church members and friends, often in memory of loved ones, special dates etc. The congregation enjoyed the flower arrangements displayed in church on Sundays and for special services.

The flower ministry was started as a way of sharing that enjoyment of flowers with those unable to be at church, showing that they were remembered in our thoughts and prayers, by distributing bunches of flowers to people at home, including those in need, unwell or celebrating a special event or who were house-bound. The origins of this flower ministry are unclear but it is thought that Revd John Rowland & Norman Ashworth were involved, along with those who delivered the flowers such as Yvonne Houston, Rosie Taylor, Heather Shepherd, Diane Bath and other members of Flower Club, and in earlier days, before the Flower Club, by members of the congregation.

Another aspect of flower ministry was in the provision of a small posy of flowers when there was a baptism in church, which Joan Thomas would often arrange. Special occasions at Trinity were celebrated with flowers, for example, the decorating of the Easter floral cross which was decorated by many of the congregation during the service then taken outside to be displayed for everyone to see as a statement of our faith and belief in the Easter message of hope and resurrection.

There was also an Easter Garden scene complete with an empty tomb that was created by Jean Nunne that was displayed within the church either on the font or in the front entrance. Harvest festival weekend was a time when the church would be decorated by the Flower Club and other church members in preparation for the Sunday service where further food items were brought forward to be donated to those in need. I always remember the harvest sheaf made by Yvonne Privett that was used in that display. The harvest produce and bounty was then taken out into the community to those in need on the Sunday afternoon by Junior Church and also on the Monday.

The words of a hymn (Hymns & Psalms 333 verses 1 & 2) seem appropriate:

For the beauty of the earth, For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies:
Gracious God, to thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light:
Gracious God, to thee we raise This our sacrifice of praise.

Reflections of Door Stewarding at Trinity Methodist Church (*Peter Harris*)

I can't remember exactly when, but I was approached by Eddie Treacher in the mid 1980's and asked if I would like to become one of the door stewards. I've no memory of how long I thought about it but I did accept, not realising that it might be a job for life as I was still carrying out the roll for Trinity's last service. Eddie Treacher was a quiet and unassuming person and a delight to work with. He later asked me to take over the running of the Door Stewards around the end of the 80s and Eddie himself passed on in 1993 at the age of 87.

We arrived in Basingstoke in March 1983 and our memories of the 80s are of Trinity being a thriving church and for many services, particularly parade Sundays, we had to put out extra chairs at the back and in the aisles – 200 plus in the congregation. We also had 4 door stewards for morning services and 2 for evening services. Occasionally the Preacher's selection of hymns together with communion meant we had to give out 3 books and additional sheets. At times quite a physically demanding job particularly as we had to go round the church after the service to retrieve books etc left in the pews. Times changed over the years, the number in the congregation declined so we went from 4 to 2 Stewards for mornings and 1 for the evening services and when Covid hit it all changed again. When we restarted services – no books were allowed, so only welcoming and opening doors.

It's been a pleasure to carry out the door stewarding and I must thank ***all those, present and past members of Trinity, you know who you are,*** for all your assistance and help on the door.

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



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 serve: *home-made cakes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches & tea cakes.*
- Menu is subject to change. **Last Orders for hot food at 1 pm.**
- Takeaway Available. Credit Cards Accepted.

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

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

We look forward to welcoming old & new friends.

The Mug & Biscuit Team



South Ham Churches Lunch Club



The three churches on South Ham run a Lunch Club **every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month** welcoming people at St Joseph's Church, St Michaels Road, South Ham at 12.30 pm.

For the over 55's at £5 per head, you get a main meal which can be vegetarian followed by a hot drink, cake and biscuits and if you are a diabetic, a diabetic pudding.

Bob Lock



A.S.A.P.

Have you ever considered the abbreviation A.S.A.P. (As Soon As Possible)? Generally, it brings even more hurry and stress into our lives. Yet there is another way to think of **A.S.A.P.**, a way which might help us deal with those difficult times in our daily lives.

When there's work to do, and deadlines to meet, and your colleagues are rushing around, here's what you can do to help: **A.S.A.P. – Always Say a Prayer.** When your worries mount up and you don't know how you are ever going to cope with what is coming at you: **A.S.A.P. – Always Say a Prayer.**

God knows how stressful our lives can be, and He wants to ease our cares. In the Bible He promises to respond to our calls for help.

So – call Him! A.S.A.P.!

Ukraine War: Help Support the Church in Ukraine with Bibles



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

- Letter from your bank – Roses are red and violets are blue; please come and talk to us – you overdrew.
- It is easier for the generous to forgive, than for the offender to ask forgiveness – James Thomson
- People say 60 is the new 40. The policeman who just pulled me over didn't agree.

Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:

Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson

☎: 01256 323103 / email: revclaire72@btinternet.com

* * * * *

Church Contacts: Joint Senior Stewards:

Diane Bath – ☎ 01256 320429 /
email: dianebath51@gmail.com

Linda Hoe – ☎: 01256 417219 /
email: lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk

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St Andrew's Bookings: Contact – Bob Lock
email: robertlock1@virginmedia.com

* * * * *

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Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:
www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk

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

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

- 25 years ago, on 4 September 1998, Google, the internet search company, was founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, both students at Stanford University in California. The company was originally based in a friend's garage at Menlo Park.

Oakley Methodist Church



Coffee Morning in Sept
10.30 am – 12 noon
On Tuesday 12 September
Just One Coffee Morning in September

£1 for a bottomless tea or coffee & biscuits

Also paperbacks available at 30p each

Oakley Methodist Church

A 'Date for your Diaries'

Oakley Christmas Fayre

Saturday 4 November
10 am – 12 noon

Lots of Stalls, but also Stalls supporting – St Michael's Hospice; one for Bluebells and Sebastian Action Trust.

More info to follow

Old Basing Methodist Church

CAMEO – Tuesday 19 September, 11.30 am - 1 pm

An opportunity to 'Come along & meet each other'

A Light lunch will be served, please bring along any crafts or puzzles.

'Time to Talk' – Tuesday 26 September, 2.30pm.

An opportunity for people to come along & talk about their news good or bad, share any celebrations, worries or concerns.

The meeting will end with a prayer.

Gillian Smethurst





This cake was made by Frances Hammond, especially for the Farewell Service for Revd David Shaw, Revd Audrey D Browne and Mary Ludlow on Sunday 23 July.



Above and to the left are pictures from Audrey's last service with Trinity and St Andrew's on 2 July, when a presentation was made to Audrey along with flowers and of course a cake for everyone to enjoy afterwards. These photos were kindly taken by Bob Lock.

Silchester Methodist Church – Retreats 2023

Full details can be found in the March 2023 issue of Trinity E-News OR on the Basingstoke & Reading website

The Silchester Retreats will be held on the following Wednesdays & Saturdays during 2023 from 10 am – 3 pm:

- **Saturday 23 September – ‘Glimpse of Glory’ and lastly –**
- **Wednesday 22 November – ‘Watching & Waiting’**

Refreshments from 9.30 am

- Come and join us for a day of refreshment & reflection.
- Our retreats are to enable you to explore & 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 one of the Retreat Days, please contact Angela Hiscock at: angela.hiscock@btinternet.com or phone Angela on ☎: 01256 850432
- Numbers are limited.
- Car parking and entrance to hall at rear of church

**RETREAT CENTRE
SILCHESTER RG7 2NY**



web: <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

For fuller information, check out their Website

At 26.09.23 the Foodbank Urgently needs:

- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Meat (Hot, eg Chilli, Hot Dogs, Stewing Steak)
- Tinned Spaghetti / Ravioli
- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Hot & Cold Desserts (not rice pudding please)
- Ladies & Gents Deodorant
- Ladies Shampoo & Conditioner
- All Household Cleaning Products
- Washing Pods

At 26.09.23 the Foodbank Urgently needs:

- Reusable Shopping Bags
- Cleaning Sprays & Surface Cleaner

We Have PLENTY of:

- Pasta
- Rice
- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Beans
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tea & Coffee
- Hot & Cold Cereal
- Baby Food & Formula
- Non-Dairy Milk
- Dog food

We Are Running Low on:

- Cooking Sauces
- Hot Chocolate
- Instant Mashed Potato
- Sweet & Savoury Spreads
- Peanut Butter
- Toilet Rolls
- Tinned Veg
- Tinned Carrots
- Sweets, Chocolate & Other Sweet Treats
- Washing-up Liquid
- Nappies (Size 6)

• *To me, old age is always 15 years older than whatever I am – Anon*



Chaplaincy Prayer Letter

July 2023

We want to give thanks for Malcolm Read, a chaplain from the start of the chaplaincy in Basingstoke, who has died. His thanksgiving service in Winklebury was a joyful occasion, remembering all the blessings he brought to people and, in particular, his dedication to being a chaplain. He will be greatly missed in the bus station and a number of drivers and managers came to the service. He also had a lot of friends among the shopkeepers and stall-holders at the Top of the Town. Please remember his wife Barbara, as she adjusts to life without him.

The Magistrates' Court has many people in it, witnesses, victims, supporters and staff, alongside those who are called to attend the Court. Chaplains help people understand what is happening in the courts and to cope with the situations they find themselves in. They often speak of forgiveness and repentance. Staff often have to manage people expressing strong emotions, distraught or fearful, and hear unpleasant things. Chaplains can support them too. Pray for chaplains in the Court on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, that they will wisely support people and share Good News.

Pray for the Chaplains' ministry to all who make the town centre function, especially the bus drivers, shop assistants, security staff and cleaners. Chaplains meet many of them as they visit shops and talk to people in the streets.

The Discovery Centre (the library) hosts a range of activities and we will be joining at least one of the discussion groups in July. Pray that we can encourage people and draw them to Jesus.

We need more chaplains! Please pray that God will challenge people to join; consider whether you could be a chaplain, or suggest it to someone in your church to consider. We provide taster sessions and we give training and support.

As you pray that others are blessed, may you be blessed too.

John, John Hayward, Chair of Trustees

- To entertain some people, all you have to do is sit and listen – *Anon*



Judith at the
Discovery
Centre



Please give thanks:

- for the life of Malcolm Read and remember his family in this time of loss.
- and pray for those who keep the town centre functioning, safe and clean.

And pray:

- for wisdom and the right words for Chaplains in the Magistrates' Court.
- for opportunities to share God's love and to draw people to Jesus.
- for Christians in Basingstoke to see what Chaplains do and consider whether God is calling them to reach out to others.

Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy

Suite 1, Paddington House, Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7LJ

admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk

basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk

☎: 01256 842232

From the Methodist Archives

Introducing Jon Purcell, Liaison Officer for Methodist Archives
Caring for our modern records and historic archives.



The role of the Liaison Officer for Methodist Archives is one that ensures the care of our modern records & historic archives that tell the story of the Methodist Church. This voluntary post works with a network of district archivists – supporting churches at the local, circuit and district level to best care for their records, as well as advising people how to conduct research into Methodist history.

There are two Methodist archives in Great Britain: the Methodist Archives and Research Centre at the John Rylands Research Institute & Library in Manchester and the Methodist Missionary Collections at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. The former is the main repository of Connexional records and the latter holds the largest collection of Christian missionary archives which includes the Methodist Missionary Society (MMS).

In future newsletters we will be sharing stories and treasures from the archives but for now it's *Hello from Jon!* Two places of interest are shown below:

The Museum of Methodism & John Wesley's House, London – What's On – Open throughout August with family friendly trail and children's corner...complete with dressing up costumes! Explore the **collection online** or in person this summer at City Road, London.

John Wesley's New Room, Bristol – What's On – Visit the **Kingswood 275** exhibition, until 7 October, marking the 275th Anniversary of the first Methodist School. With **singing sessions, origami workshops & children's stories activities** – there's something for everybody this summer at John Wesley's New Room



Summer 2023

Basingstoke Street Pastors

Maria Miller MP



We were delighted to welcome Maria Miller, MP for Basingstoke, who joined a Friday night patrol in March where she was able to observe the team led by George Edicula. Maria was able to see first-hand the support that we give to revellers enjoying a night out. She praised the work of Street Pastors saying "Celebrating 15 years in the town is

an immense achievement, the Basingstoke Street Pastors are a true asset for our town, they provide help to anyone – the extremely vulnerable, someone who's had their drink spiked or when they've been separated from friends during an evening out." In turn we wish to thank Maria for her support for Basingstoke Street Pastors.



Town Chaplains & Street Pastors Get Together

There are many great Christian ministries that serve the town of Basingstoke. We enjoy good relationships with any of them. Recently some Street Pastors spent a Saturday morning with some Basingstoke Town Chaplains at their suite of offices in Festival Place. It was good to be able to

renew acquaintances and make new friends as we talked about the work that we do.

Although we operate at different times of the day we found that there were many similarities in what we do: listening, caring and helping the people that we meet in our respective roles. We both wear distinctive uniforms that mean that we stand out in the community and find that this helps break the ice when speaking to members of the public. Both teams count it a privilege when a caring conversation becomes an opportunity for us to talk about our love for Jesus. We also face a similar challenge in that we are both always looking for volunteers. Please pray that both teams will find the new recruits they need in order to be able to fill all their schedule shifts.



A Place to be Proud of Winners

Earlier this month Basingstoke Street Pastors were nominees in three categories of the Destination Basingstoke annual awards ceremony. David Grant represented the team and collected the Place To Be Proud Of Volunteer of the Year Group Award which was presented to him by Beaufort

Financial who sponsored the category. The citation for this award commended all the Street Pastors who have served faithfully week by week, for the last 15 years, whatever the weather on Friday and Saturday evenings. Congratulations to all Street Pastors, past and present, on this well-deserved recognition. Congratulations also go to Stella Gibbons, one of our Street Pastors, who won the Above and Beyond Award for her work at Queen Mary's College where she has worked since September 2010. She has ensured that all members of QMC and the local community feel equal and valued, naturally going above and beyond her everyday duties. Well done Stella!

Cont'd....



Prayer Points

- Pray for our teams going out on patrol to be able to serve the public and venue staff well by demonstrating the love of Jesus to them. Pray that they will be kept safe.
- Give thanks for the faithfulness of all our Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors. Please pray for people to volunteer to fill the gaps by those

who have retired from the team. We are looking for 10 new Street Pastors and a similar number of Prayer Pastors.

- Give thanks to God for his financial provision for Basingstoke Street Pastors. Please pray that we will continue to receive all the funding we need to operate in the coming year. Please pray that the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner will continue to look favourably on our grant applications.



Street Pastors Need You

Volunteers are the life blood of Street Pastors. Without them there would be no patrols and no ministry. We are so grateful for the dozens of people who have volunteered faithfully for so many years and continue to do so. So, if you are reading this and have been wondering whether this might be a calling for you, please get in touch we would love to explore this idea with you. A really good

place to start is to join one of our teams for an evening and see what happens first-hand. We are confident that you will be pleasantly surprised by how enjoyable and rewarding this ministry is. We will not pretend that it is glamorous, and it certainly has its yucky moments. However, the warmth of the welcome we receive from the public and from the venue staff more than make up for that. Plus, knowing that we are where Jesus would be, and showing his love to people in danger or distress brings an eternal reward.

As well as volunteers to go out on the street as Street Pastors, we also have vacancies for people willing to be Prayer Pastors and pray for us while we patrol. Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors connect at the start of the evening to pray using a WhatsApp video call. Then during the evening, the team will send in updates and prayer requests for the Prayer Pastor. For more information or to join us an observer one evening contact:

basingstoke@streetpastors.org.uk or ☎ 07900 494662.

Donations

Although we keep our overheads as low as we possibly can, Basingstoke Street Pastors has an annual budget of around £10,000. God has been good in providing the finances we need from various sources but we are pleased to give you an opportunity to partner with us by making either a one off donation or a regular gift. If you are a UK taxpayer you can make your gift go further by completing a Gift Aid declaration form.

Cheques: BStoke Street Pastors, United Reformed Church. 20 London Street, B/S RG21 7NU. **Bank transfer:** Basingstoke Street Pastors, Sort Code 20-05-00; A/C 0328 5286.

Recycling of Plastic Milk Bottle Tops –

If you have plastic milk bottle tops (*only milk bottle tops*) & would like to recycle them, Pamela has a contact with a collector for Hants & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

Tops can be given to Pamela or ring the Bishop family on ☎: 01256 467702. Thank you.

June Bishop



Community Food Link

Summer Newsletter 2023



CFL is a volunteer led project based in Basingstoke & Deane. We collect fresh food that cannot be sold from our partner supermarkets and sort, repack and deliver it to our distribution partners, charities, schools and playgroups to help the most vulnerable in our society.

Spring and Summer at CFL

We have had a busy few months continuing to collect and deliver to the local hubs and schools around Basingstoke.

We recently had a visit from MP Maria Miller which was a great opportunity to share the work we do with her. On Twitter she writes:

"It is great to see [#Basingstoke](#) Community Food Link working closely with local supermarkets. As a result of the work they do, over five tons of food a week finds its way into Basingstoke family fridges rather than being consigned to waste in a biodigester or incinerator."



Thank you again to all the volunteers who work tirelessly to collect and deliver food around Basingstoke and beyond and keep the vital work of CFL running week in week out.

Flowers

As well as food, almost every day CFL collects flowers from the stores. These are given away to people in the bus station, Dr's surgeries, schools, care homes or our normal Hubs. Sometimes we give them to people hosting special events. They always bring joy to those who receive them and we enjoy the chance for a quick conversation as well. We never take money for them and for us it is a real joy to be able to give these beautiful flowers away free of charge.



Destination Basingstoke Award

We are pleased to share that Penny (CFL Project Leader) has recently won a Destination Basingstoke Award for all of her hard work running Community Food Link. Well done Penny! Here she is with the team at the awards in June. What a great recognition of all the hard work Penny and the team have put in to running and maintaining this vital community project.



CFL Hubs – June 2023

Monday Melrose Community Hall, Popley—10.30am

Monday Salvation Army, Wessex Close—11am

Tuesday Basingstoke Baptist Church, Brighton Hill—10.30am

Wednesday St Peter’s Church, South Ham—12.30pm

Thursday Church of the Good Shepherd, Winklebury—12noon

Friday Oakridge Methodist Church—1pm

Saturday United Reformed Church (URC), London St—12noon

Food Pantries—a small charge may apply

Popley Fields Community Association—Wednesday – 1pm to 5pm, Thursday & Fri – 10am to 2pm

Inspero Community Shop—Tuesday – 10am to 1pm

Westside Community Pantry, RG22 6QB—Tues & Thurs – 10am to 2pm & Wednesday – 10am to 12pm

St Mary’s Kingsclere, Swan St, RG20 3RW—Thursday 2.30pm to 4pm

Tadley Community Food Pantry, RG26 4HN—Wednesday – 9.30am to 12.30pm & Friday – 9.30am to 12.30pm

If you are interested in volunteering or want to know more please contact: admin@bcfd.org.uk



Donate here

Community Food Link is proud to be registered with FareShare and Neighbourly.

Details can be found at:

www.fareshare.org.uk

www.neighbourly.com



The Community Food Link Project is run by a group of volunteers based at Festival Place, Basingstoke and is part of Starfish Enterprise Trust Ltd, Basingstoke.

Community Food Link Basingstoke

www.bcfd.org.uk

Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on Spiritual Disciplines: Service

'Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.' (John 13: 14-15).

We are all familiar with those requests for more to 'serve on a team' at church, whether the coffee rota or with the children. However, these can hinder our understanding of the spiritual discipline of service.

The discipline of service involves learning from Jesus' example, when He washed the disciples' feet. Like His disciples, we are all called to take the place of a servant and be willing to serve those around us. Richard Foster in *'Celebration of Discipline'* contrasts 'self-righteous service', human effort wanting to impress others and be rewarded, with 'true service', which is rooted in our relationship with Jesus and delights in the service itself.

In his book, Richard Foster highlights the value of small, everyday sacrificial acts of service which flow from the place of being a servant: *'service is not a list of things to do, though in it we discover things to do. It is not a code of ethics, but a way of living.'* He goes on to highlight a number of acts of service, including: hiddenness (working behind the scenes); small acts of service; guarding the reputation of others; being willing to be served ourselves; practising hospitality; listening and bearing the burdens of each other. We need to pray for wisdom and discernment, so that we know when to say 'yes' and 'no' to serving. If we say 'yes' too much we can easily find ourselves becoming bitter or burned out!

Why not make it your prayer each morning: *'Lord Jesus, if it would please You, bring me someone today who I can serve?'* (Parish Pump)

God can use Everything we give Him

The story is told of a man in charge of building a great church, who was pestered by an apprentice who wanted to design the glass for one of the windows. Finally, he agreed that the apprentice should be given one very small window. BUT – the apprentice would have to provide all the materials himself. Undaunted, the apprentice carefully swept up all the stray bits of coloured glass that had been discarded and set to work. Slowly, and with great care, he pieced together a window of rare beauty. When the church was finally opened, many people stopped to stare in wonder at his small, but so beautiful, iridescent window. Our lives can be like that – no matter how small we may feel, or that we have only scraps to offer to God, He can still help us use every bit of time and energy and love we do have, to build a life that is beautiful, and which will reflect the glory of God to others. PP

**Church
Supplies**

Shoemakers
CHRISTIAN BOOKS & COFFEE SHOP

**Gifts &
Cards**

Shop Open: Tuesdays – Saturdays – 9.30 am – 4 pm

Bibles

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

**Books,
Children's
Books**

- **Website:** www.christophershoemaker.org.uk (for online orders)
- **Email Orders** – office@christophershoemaker.org.uk or *Pop in*
- **Phone your orders** – during opening hours ☎: 01635 37836
- **Facebook messenger at:** www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks
- **Click and Collect available** and Orders can be **posted or delivered to you.**
- **Coffee Shop IS CLOSED BUT – the Shop is remaining open until 16.09.23**

LAST CHANCE TO HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR FUTURE PILLARS ZAMBIA!



As many of you know, Trinity has been raising much needed funds for Future Pillars Zambia. It was the charity that the Girls' Brigade supported through various fundraising events and they even went out to Zambia to see the work that was being done. The recycling was started not long after this and I wanted to give the money raised to go to help the work of the Girls' Brigade. They decided they would like to put it into their funds raised for their charity. Back then the charity was called CONTESA.

CONTESA, was founded in 2005, when a Zambian lady, living in England, visited her family in Kabwe, Northern Province, Zambia. Coming out of church one morning, she saw someone sitting under a tree teaching children basic arithmetic, using the sandy earth and her finger as paper and pencil.

On her return to UK Esnat had a 'vision' of a school and feeding centre on that large site. She told her dying Zambian friend, Connie, and when she died she left money to launch a charity to feed and educate the extremely vulnerable children living (existing?) in the three shanty compounds surrounding the church site.

In 2016 the founding trustees decided that, for various reasons, the charity should be wound up and suggested that the remaining trustees inaugurate a continuing charity. By then an ablution block, teaching blocks, and dining hall (Family Future Community School) and Skills Centre (Future Pillars) had been built.

Dr Margaret McDermott worked tirelessly to found and chair Future Pillars Zambia along with four other trustees.

(Future – looking forward, in both School and Skills' names. Pillars – pillars stand strong and supportive.)

In June 2017 Future Pillars Zambia was registered with the Charity Commissioners.

Our Girls' Brigade continued to support the project in Zambia, now called Future Pillars Zambia. After the Girl's Brigade closed Heather and I decided we could still send the money raised from the recycling to Future Pillars. Now sadly, that is coming to an end, with Trinity closing and less opportunity for us to turn our rubbish into cash as Supermarkets are taking on so many different recycling collections.

Our recycling bin will be emptied for the very last time on **SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER**. Please help us to make the last shipment a bumper one. **We need:**

BISCUIT and CAKE WRAPPERS. We also need the FLEXIBLE PACKAGING from DISHWASHER TABLETS, DETERGENT CAPSULES, and HOUSEHOLD WIPES. TINTED CONDITIONER BOTTLES and TINTED TUBS, PLASTIC AIR FRESHENERS, CARTRIDGE CAPS & PLASTIC CAR AIR FRESHENERS.

For the remaining time I will put a box in St Andrews. I am hoping the blue bin outside Sarum Hall can remain there. If anyone would like me to collect from their house just give me a call.

Many Thanks, Hazel Green
 (malandhazel@hotmail.com)
 (☎: 07776 442529)



For the Young & Young at heart

PUZZLES

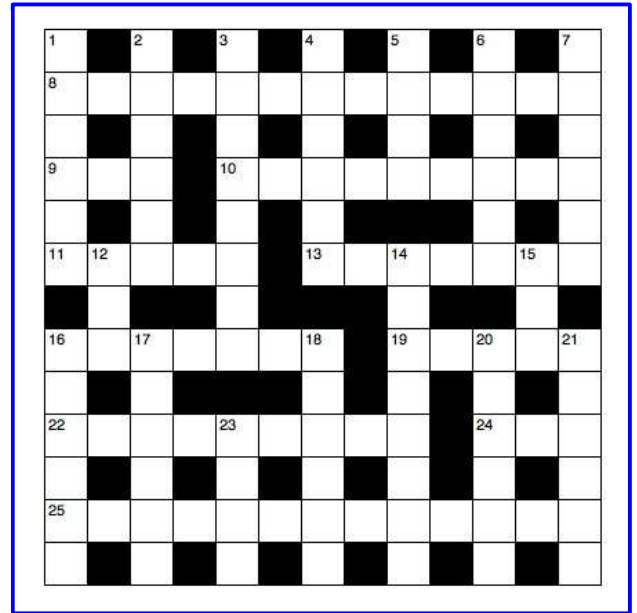
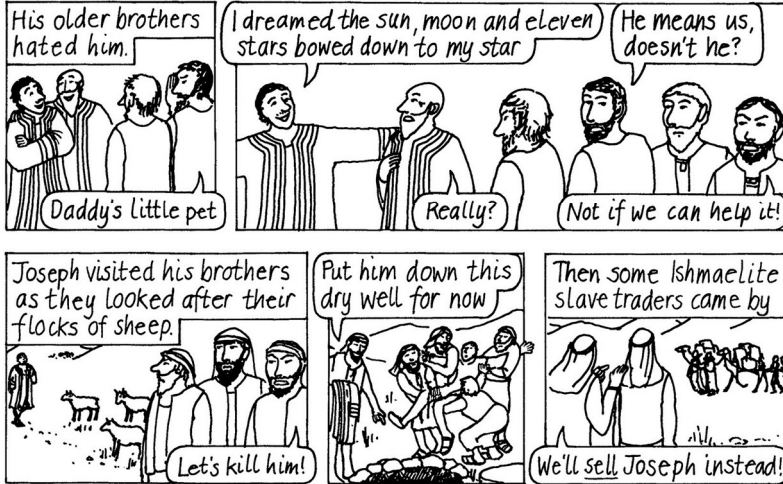
Crossword

Bible Bite

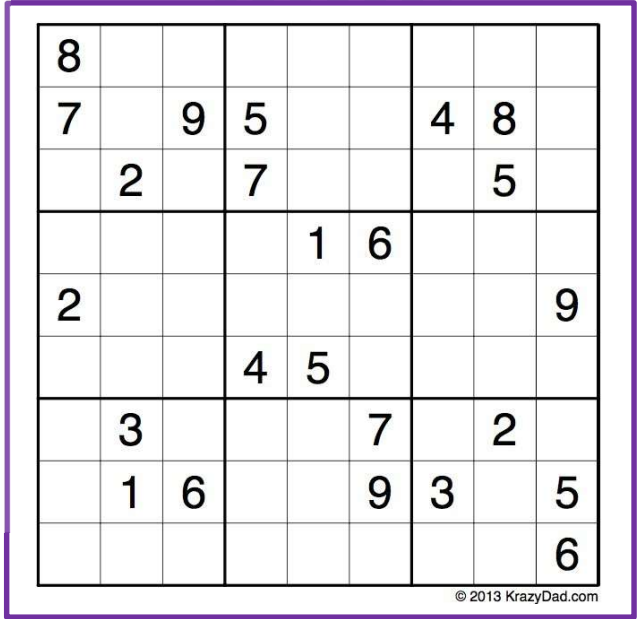
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chs. 37:1-36, 39:1-20

Jacob had 12 sons but his favourite was Joseph, his beloved Rachel's son. He even gave him special clothes to wear...



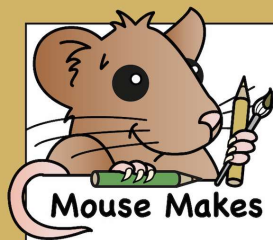
Sudoku



PP Wordsearch Clues and Answers

Angels, have intervened for the good in human affairs guarding the Garden of Eden, leading Lot away from Gomorrah, helping Gideon, stopping Balaam, closing mouths of lions for Daniel, the archangel Gabriel sent to tell Mary she would mother the Messiah.

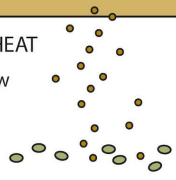
- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|------------|------|
| Thanks | Intervene | Messengers | |
| Angels | Garden | Mouths | |
| Church | Eden | Lions | |
| Feast | Danger | Daniel | |
| Michael | Gideon | Archangel | |
| Gabriel | Mother | Revelation | |
| Mary | Teaming | Lot | All |
| Genesis | Balaam | God | Sent |



THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

What did the enemy sow amongst the wheat?

Matthew 13:25



At harvest time the weeds are gathered, bundled then



READ

the parable in Matthew 13 v24-30, and v36-43 but the wheat is stored in the Matthew 13:30

Who sows the good seed?

Matthew 13:37

What does the field represent?

the _____ and who is the good seed? The people of the _____

Matthew 13:38

Who sows the weeds?

The _____

Who are the harvesters?

Matthew 13:39

"He who has ears, let him _____"

Matthew 13:43



PARABLE • HEAVEN • SOWED • GOOD • SEED • FIELD • ENEMY • WHEAT • GRAIN
GROW • TOGETHER • TIME • HARVEST • GATHER • BUNDLE • TIE
PEOPLE • DISCIPLES • JESUS • EXPLAIN • EVIL • FIRE • END • AGE • EARS

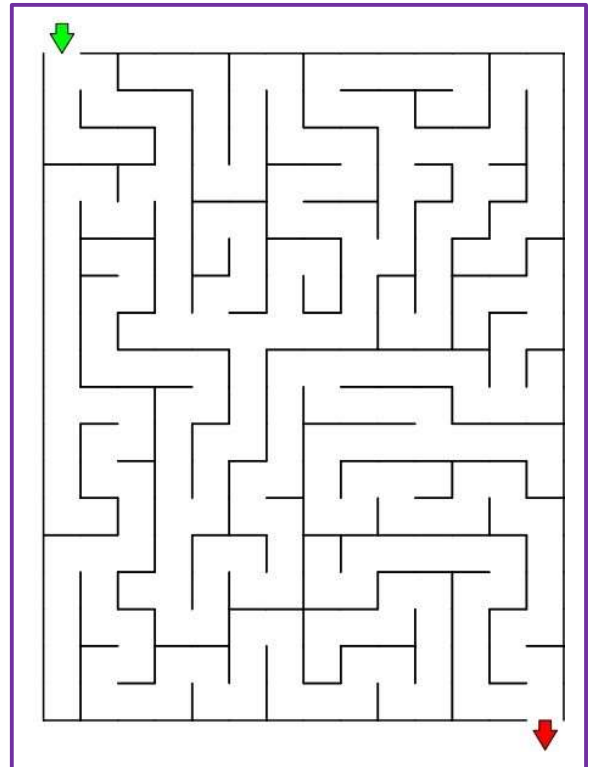
Find the words from the questions too!

Crossword Clues – Across:

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14–17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have —' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the —' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Crossword Clues – Down

- 1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- 2 See 24 Across
- 3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus —' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14 Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17 Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18 — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)



- 21 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

Last Few Clues above

The tale of the Wheat and the Weeds

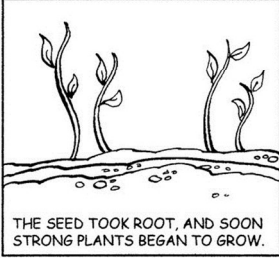
JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO SOWED SEED IN HIS FIELD.



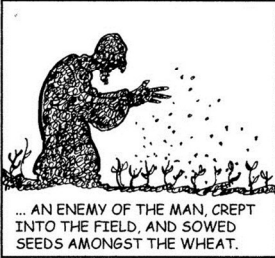
THE SEED TOOK ROOT, AND SOON STRONG PLANTS BEGAN TO GROW.



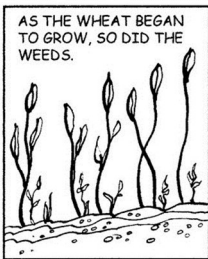
BUT ONE NIGHT, WHEN EVERYONE WAS ASLEEP...



... AN ENEMY OF THE MAN, CREEPT INTO THE FIELD, AND SOWED SEEDS AMONGST THE WHEAT.



AS THE WHEAT BEGAN TO GROW, SO DID THE WEEDS.



WHEN THE SERVANTS SAW THE WEEDS THEY SUGGESTED RIPPING THEM OUT.



NO, LET'S LEAVE THEM UNTIL HARVEST TIME!



IF YOU PULL THEM UP NOW, YOU MIGHT KILL THE WHEAT TOO. WE'LL SORT THEM OUT AT HARVEST.



WHEN THE WHEAT WAS READY, IT WAS HARVESTED INTO HUGE BUNDLES.



BUT THE WEEDS WERE BURNED IN A LARGE FIRE.

THE PARABLE TELLS US THAT ALTHOUGH WE LIVE ALONGSIDE BADNESS, WE CAN KEEP SEPARATE FROM IT.



Puzzle Pages Solutions

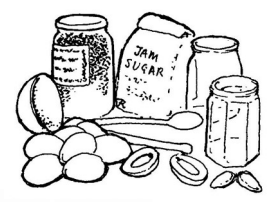
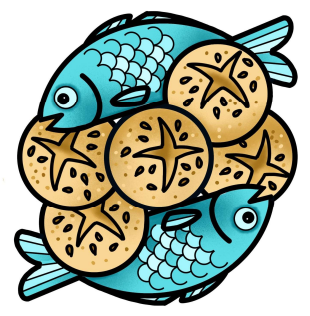
Across: 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

Down: 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

Sudoku Solution

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

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



Brothers	Dry	Coat	Hate	Captain	Sheep
Traders	Animal	Well	Goat	Joseph	Ishmaelite
Jacob	Sold	Dream	Bad	Tricked	Stories
Wife	Slave	Prison	Sons	Work	Household