

FREE MONTHLY

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

September 2013



Back to Church Sunday

Join us September 29th at 10:30

Prison Fellowship

Grace, Hope and Help for HMP Lewes

Can you hear us?

How the audio edition of
GoodNEWS is produced

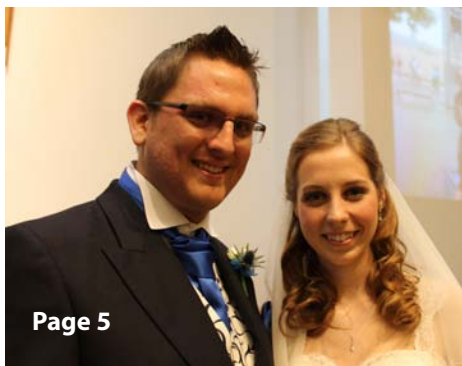
Bible verse of the month

**"The Lord is my shepherd,
I lack nothing.**

**He makes me lie down in
green pastures, he leads
me beside quiet waters, he
refreshes my soul.**

**He guides me along the
right paths for his name's
sake."**

**Psalm 23
NIV**



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**If you have a verse or article
you would like to share in
GoodNEWS email:**

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Editorial

Life at our Church seems always to be busy. We have some of our young people going to Romania in August. We wait to hear all about their encounter with the young people there.

We are welcoming our Moderator Revd Robert Bushby, who has written a letter introducing himself. Our 'In Touch' ladies have an interesting programme for all ladies. Do read about this, if you would like to join us on the Quiet Day there is information in the Magazine. There is a very happy group of ladies, who are always welcoming, so if you need friends 'come and join us'.

We have the Boys Brigade who always seems to be so active, again read about their activities. In September life will be getting back in the normal routine of school university and work, I hope our Magazine will help you know where you can find friendship, fellowship also how and where you can learn more about Jesus. He always says 'Seek and you will find'.

God Bless,

Anne

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Dear friends



As I write this, we are enjoying the best summer for ages, with some nice warm sunshine and long may it continue. No doubt, though, it will come to an end and autumn will be upon us and the start of a new era of waiting in the life of Lindfield United Reformed Church.

Charles and Jenny Martin have moved away and we begin the process of calling a new pastor. It is my job as Interim Moderator to guide you through that process.

Briefly, for those of you who do not know me, I have been a pastor for 29 years and am, at present, at All Saints, Burgess Hill and South Road, Haywards Heath. I also have the role of Co-Leader of the Central Sussex United Area working alongside a Methodist colleague. I look forward to working with you as we seek God's will for the future.

As we wait for the call of a new pastor, the work of God in His Church continues as we seek to witness to Jesus Christ in Lindfield. There is a sense in which we are all called to this work, whether we preach, teach, pray, make the tea or dig the garden. Paul writes to the Corinthians: "... whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31). God bless you as you seek His guidance and continue to glorify His name.

Robert Bushby

Rev'd Robert Bushby

Sad News

One of the most treasured and long term members of our Church Family, Joan Durrant, died suddenly earlier in the summer.

Joan was well loved and respected in the village too, having been involved in a number of organisations over the years. Perhaps, by some at least, she will be most remembered for starting Durrant's Coffee Shop which she ran for some years. It was very popular with visitors and local folk alike.

Over a period of time many Church folk worked there and hold fond memories of the happy and relaxed atmosphere, both for staff and customers. Joan was always smiling, always such a happy Christian lady, (despite failing health recently), and she will be sadly missed, not only by her family, but by many, many friends in our Church and in Lindfield.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Anne and Martin and their families.

We were also sorry to hear of the death of Mary Robertson, an

Family News

active member of this Church back in the '90s. Her funeral took place here in July.

Another past friend and member of the 11.15am congregation, Audrey Day, has died recently, having spent a few years in Forest View Nursing Home. She will be well remembered for riding her bicycle around Lindfield well into her old age!

Thank You

I send my grateful thanks for all the prayers, cards, flowers and plants during my recent illness which I am sure aided my recovery.

Love from Val Lane

John, Carol, Simon and Helen Merrett would wish to thank the URC for their prayers, love, cards and good wishes on the recent loss of John's Mum, all of which were greatly appreciated.

John Merrett

Sincere thanks for all the kind thoughts, prayers, cards and flowers I received in my recent bout of shingles. They were all very much appreciated.

Rosemary Davies

I continue to receive so much love from everyone in the Church and am very humbled by the compassion at this time: 'Thank You' seems so inadequate but I am grateful for the prayers and flowers that I have received.

Bereavement brings so many thoughts about not having done enough or the best for the loved one. I hope I am not the only one who has thought 'what is the point of going on at my age.' Something can happen that changes everything. In my case it is the news that a third great grandchild is due in January, hopefully next year I look forward to my grandson's wedding. The Lord is helping to fill the gap in my life and I am certain that your prayers on my behalf have been answered and I will be strong enough to look to the future - thank you.

Daphne Collins

Welcome

It is always a pleasure to have new folk to our Church Family. A number of people have begun worshipping with us in recent months and we do warmly welcome them and hope they will quickly feel 'at home'.

Also, we were very pleased to celebrate with Elissa and Steve Pette as their two Sons, Ethan and Isaac were baptised on July 14th.

Congratulations

There have been a number of folk from our Church Family who have celebrated 'Land mark' birthdays during the summer. To save any embarrassment I will not mention any names, but we do congratulate each of them.

Belated but sincere congratulations to our Youth Pastor, Josh Thomas and to his Wife, Hannah who were married in June, and we pray every blessing on them both for their future life together.



In Touch

In July our annual walk and quiz was based in Fletching; a lovely old village mentioned in the Doomsday Book. Once the Quiz was completed everybody returned to the church ready for supper, which was much enjoyed by all especially as we were able to eat in the garden due to the lovely weather.

Our In Touch Quiet Day will be held on Sat. 14th September from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm in our church. The cost will be £11.50 which includes a hot meal prepared by the "Garden Chef".

Our leader this year will be Daryl Sinclair, and we hope that many of you will be able to join us for what is always a challenging and interesting occasion.

Please confirm your wish to attend by paying a £5 deposit to Sue Waller or Janet Wade as soon as possible.

Everyone is always ensured of a warm welcome and we look forward to seeing our regular and hopefully some new faces at our 'Quiet Day' and at our regular monthly meetings in future.

Janet Wade

Wednesday & Friday Lunches for over 60s

Lindfield United Reformed Church provides a tasty hot meal with a choice of sweets together with Tea or Coffee at a cost of £3.00 per person

Come and join us and make new friends and enjoy fellowship.

September Wednesday 11th
Friday 13th

October Wednesday 9th
Friday 11th

November Wednesday 13th
Friday 15th

December Wednesday 11th
Friday 13th

If you wish to attend please telephone in advance, either Sue Waller on 455047 or Anne Parker on 473519, giving us

your name, and to let us know which day you intend to join us for lunch. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sue Waller

The Fellowship

After the summer break our meetings begin again on Wednesday, 25th September, at 2.30 pm. We start the meeting with a short AGM. Jean Gardiner will then tell us about the role the Elders play in our Church – and what we can do to support them.

There will be the usual Bring & Buy stall, together with a cup of tea after the talk. We extend a warm welcome to all who come.

Pat Phillips

Choral Society

Ardingly Choral Society welcomes new singers of all ages and Experience.

Our new term starts on September 5th at 7.30pm, in the Recital room at Ardingly College.

We will be singing Mozart's Requiem this term for the Remembrance Concert, and the St John Passion for the Easter 2014 concert.

Simply come along to a rehearsal!
Further details from the Secretary Shirley Ventham on 01273 831264

New Testament

I am planning to repeat the New Testament Introduction Course that I gave over eight weeks in 2002. Except that this time, it will be spread out, occupying eight Sunday evenings over autumn and winter programme.

This course delves a little deeper into the scriptures than we normally have time for in church groups; it will be more theological and less obviously devotional. But it might whet your appetite for deeper study in the scriptures (and you can rely on me to recommend some good books!) We shall be looking at questions like:-

- *What does "New Testament" mean?*
- *How did it come to be written?*
- *The world of the New Testament.*
- *The people of the New Testament.*
- *Jesus and the Gospels*
- *Why so many letters?*
- *What to make of Revelation?*

If the idea of doing a bit of serious theological study appeals to you, make a note of the first date, 22nd September, when we shall be asking "Why Call it the New Testament?"

Mike Gardiner

Pastoral Vacancy

David Walters continues his explanation of the process ahead for Lindfield as we follow the United Reformed Church procedures for Scoping and calling a new minister.

The next stage in the process is for the church to be scoped to see what percentage of a minister is warranted. (Lindfield has not had 100% of a minister for many years as a small percentage was allocated to Balcombe). The pool of Ministers is not very large and most Ministers serve more than one pastorate.

A Scoping Team has been appointed by the Synod and CSUA to review the life of Lindfield URC. They will meet with the Interim Moderator and Elders/Pastorate Call Group to work through the Synod 'Mission Criteria'. This is quite a searching process. In addition to looking into our 'mission', items such as finance and membership are taken into account. We have to provide detailed information before the visit and as a church we are well on the way to getting all the information together. This has been the main purpose of our working through the life of the church in our Buzz groups at Church Meeting. This review should take place during the autumn.

Once the scoping has been agreed the Synod Moderator will meet with the Elders/Pastorate Call Group to hear what our expectations are with regard to ministry and to inform us of the current situation in the wider church. Once this meeting has taken place our church will be 'Declared

Vacant'. If all goes smoothly this could be by the end of the year.

In parallel with this the Pastorate Profile, giving a detailed picture of the life of the church and our vision for the future, will be prepared together with a one page summary document. When the church is Declared Vacant the summary document is posted on the URC web site for Ministers to view. Copies of the full Profile are kept by the Synod Moderator for issuing to any Minister who, having seen the summary information on the web, may be interested in considering a move to Lindfield. The thirteen Synod Moderators meet monthly (except August) and at their meeting Ministers C V's and Pastorate Profiles are reviewed to see if any suitable links should be followed up.

From this point on we wait expectantly for Ministers to show an interest in our pastorate and once they do our Interim Moderator will receive a copy of the C V for the Elders/ Pastorate Call Group to prayerfully consider. CV's for more than one candidate may be received but only one can be followed up at any time. If it is felt to be right to proceed with one of the candidates the prospective Minister will meet with the Interim Moderator and Elders/Pastorate Call Group to discuss and discern if this is the right way forward for both Minister and Church.

If it is felt right to continue the next step is for the prospective Minister and family to visit the Church and the Minister 'Preach with a View' This normally takes place over a weekend where there will be opportunity for the whole church to meet informally with the candidate and also ask more formal questions. The candidate can also get the feel of the church through informal conversations.

The prospective Minister will then preach at the Sunday services. The Church and the prospective Minister are required to follow up without delay but not immediately after this weekend. Time is needed for all parties to reflect and discern the Lords will. A Special Church Meeting will normally be called after a few days. The Interim Moderator will inform the prospective Minister of the results of the Church Meeting and if the Church feels this is the right person and the vote ratifies this by a unanimous or very substantial majority the Minister will indicate their feeling and make a response. If either party are not sure then we would not continue along this route and start to process again by receiving further CV's.

If both parties are positive we move on towards the final stages. Synod concurrence is required before final acceptance of the call and a number of administrative and other matters including a Criminal Records Bureau disclosure need to be finalise. Ministers are normally required to give three months' notice in their previous post and Ministers with children at school do not normally want to move mid-term or even mid-school year. The Manse also has to be

prepared for the incoming Minister and family.

The Interim Moderator works with the Church, newly called Minister, Synod Moderator and the CSUA in the planning of an Induction Service. This service usually takes place as soon as practical after the minister has taken up residence.

Of course for all this to work the whole process needs to be surrounded in prayer by the whole church. We are not just appointing someone to be chairman of our club or society we are about seeking Gods will for the future church in Lindfield.

David Walters

Flower Power

We have been encouraged recently in our Sunday Services to try to get out of 'Our Comfort Zone'! Have you thought about providing the flowers in our Church on a Sunday? It does not necessarily have to be an arrangement just a pretty vase of flowers. Our flowers are sent on the Monday to those who may need a bit of cheering up.

Please see me, Betty Billins and I will tell you more about it.

Betty Billins

Fond Farewell

Sunday 14th July 2013 was another memorable day in the life of Lindfield United Reformed Church. We said goodbye to our Minister – after 41 years in the Ministry, the last five of them being with us. Some 150 people joined us at the 10.30am service, which included the baptism of two of our young boys. Charles preached powerfully about new beginnings for all of us.

Having met with Charles most Thursday mornings since he came to us, and him being so very supportive, encouraging, occasionally frustrating, but always loving and caring, I was very apprehensive

about keeping my emotions in check on an occasion such as this.. But I need not have worried; God had seen to that, the message that Charles gave us was that he was sure and certain of our future with God for this Church. So whilst sad to be losing a friend, I felt powerfully that God was confirming new beginnings here at Lindfield and for Charles and Jenny, in a positive and buoyant way.

After the Service we enjoyed a Buffet Lunch in the Hall. During that time presentations were made to Charles from Fo Tingley, on behalf of the Church and





Dawn Walters on the Children's behalf. Flowers were presented to Jenny by me, along with words from visitors from previous churches where Charles had served also messages from the other Churches in the Village.

At 2.00pm we re-entered the Church for a period of Praise and Thanksgiving for half an hour and the day at the Church ended at 2.35pm.

So, many many thanks to all those who contributed in any way to making this a memorable day. This was not only for Charles and Jenny but also for us, as a Fellowship going into a Pastoral Vacancy period, in a very positive and buoyant manner. Let us carry this forward with words of encouragement being the key

factor. May it show in the way in which we speak to one another and let us encourage everyone with his or her walk with the Lord. This is something we all need, wherever we are at this point in our Christian Life, We all have a responsibility to one another to notice when things are not good for a person and to help in whichever way we can. If you feel you can pray for that person, then do so, one of the greatest gifts from God we have, is his attention to our prayers, He is always ready to listen if we are ready to pray.

I would ask that you carry on praying for your Elders and our Interim Moderator Revd, Robert Bushby as they continue the process of seeking a new Minister for our Church.

God Bless
Sue Waller

New Beginning

Retirement - what lies ahead for Charles and Jenny?

When I sit in my rocking chair, my slippers warming by the fire, a cup of cocoa in my hand and a blanket over my knees, I shall suddenly wake up and realise, to my great relief, that I've been having a nightmare. If you know Jenny and me at all, you will also know that if retirement is going to be anything, it won't be an excuse to take our ease.

We'll both be available for preaching where there is a need, but we also want to be fully involved in whichever local church we join. After forty-one years of being a pastor, it will be wonderful to have a pastor and we will do our best to

encourage him or her. However, there are one or two things I have in mind to absorb whatever free time I may have and one of them is prison visiting. I have already made contact with Highpoint Prison in Stradishall, just over the county boundary in Suffolk, and offered myself to be used in whatever way I can.

Jenny would love to be a volunteer in a National Trust property and there are one or two within reasonable distance from Halstead. On my way to the prison, I can drop her off at a stately home! Of course her major concern, with which I will try to help her as much as I can, is the networking of her book "The Garden of Sparkling Delight". Some people write books for pleasure or gain, but this one has been written to highlight the



crime of people trafficking, so there will be work to be done to make sure the book is circulated as widely as possible. All proceeds will be given to charities working to end the exploitation of vulnerable people, especially children.

All that is in the future; now I want to say a word about the past. There are three days I shall always remember and for which I shall thank God. One is the day I got married. The other two are when my ministry began in 1972 and that wonderful farewell you gave me on July 14th this year. To be honest, I wasn't looking forward to it because I didn't want to say "goodbye". Neither was I relishing the toe-curling embarrassment of listening to Fo (bless her) eulogising about me, but I shouldn't have worried. Everything she said was sincerely meant and the whole day was full of joy and praise, because we were able to focus on what God has done and His amazing grace in all our lives

Of course I must say "thank-you" for the overwhelmingly generous gift you gave us. One thousand, one hundred and seventy pounds is overwhelming and it's just one more example of God's provision for our needs, so once again "thank-you".

The book of pictures and the Junior Church banner with photographs of all

the children and young people will be especially treasured, but I have to say what are most precious to me personally, are the letters and cards in which so many people wrote of their gratitude to us both. It is we who should be grateful for the opportunity of letting God use our lives to bless His people.

So, I leave you in the hands of Josh, the Elders and your Interim Moderator, my good friend Robert Bushby (who at one time was in charge of the funds at Lee Abbey and ever afterwards known as "Rob the Bank"!) Of course as capable their hands are, the real hands that hold the church are the hands of Jesus – wounded hands, but hands that can still work miracles if we give the Holy Spirit the chance.

Five years and three months was all too short a time to spend with you, but it was a wonderful way to end my full-time ministry. As the Master of the Feast said to the Bridegroom at the marriage at Cana in St. John chapter 2, "You have saved the best until now." The best that God saved for me, was Lindfield URC.

Charles Martin

Sunday Services

The **9.30am** service is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities (including crèche). Lighthouse (Junior church) is for children and young people up to age 14. Holy Communion (1st Sunday)

Coffee is served between the morning services.

The **11:15am** service is a more traditional service than at 9:30. Holy Communion (4th Sunday) Where there is a fifth Sunday in the month, normally a joint service is held at 10:30am

At **6:30pm** it is sometimes a celebration, sometimes a quieter ministry time and sometimes an open communion service or something quite different!

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

Healing services as announced

Personal prayer is available after every service. We can also offer personal prayer ministry at home or in hospital.

We do not take up an offering during the services, those wishing to give are invited to place a gift in one of the bowls at the doors before or after the service.

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

Prayer Meetings

Mon	9.30am	An Hour of Prayer
Wed	9.45am	Short Service of Intercession
Thur	8.00pm	Church Prayer Evening (As announced)
Sat	8.45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting. Venue rotates between the three churches

Prayer requests and brief statements of praise for answered prayer can be put in the red book on the concourse table.

Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	10.00am	Pop-In Coffee and a chat
	8.00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thur)
Fri	7.15pm	Zest (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	Youth Fellowship

The church is open most mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm

September Church diary

1st Sunday	10:30am	Joint Communion Service Josh Thomas	16th Monday	House Groups Meet this week
	6:30pm	Evening Worship		
2nd Monday		House Groups Meet this week	21st Saturday	LEDs Away Weekend 8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting at All Saints
5th Thursday		Start of Term	22nd Sunday	LEDs Away Weekend 9:30am Morning Worship 11:15am Communion Mervyn Weeks 6:30pm Evening Worship
7th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting at All Saints	24th Tuesday	7:45pm Note: No In Touch (See 14th)
8th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm	Progression Service Morning Worship Matthew Skirton Healing Service with Communion	25th Wednesday	2:30pm Afternoon Fellowship 7:00pm Elders' Meeting
11th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	26th Thursday	8:00pm Church Prayer Meeting
12th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting	28th Saturday	8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting at All Saints
13th Friday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	29th Sunday	Back to Church Sunday 10:30am Joint Service Dan McQuillin 6:30pm Evening Worship
14th Saturday	8:45am 10:00am -4:00pm	Three Churches Prayer Meeting at All Saints In Touch Away Day at Lindfield URC		
15th Sunday	9:30am 11:15am 6:30pm	Family Worship Morning Worship Alex Jeffs Evening Worship		

Further details and a full updated Church Calendar is available on our website:
www.lindfieldurc.org.uk

Hello, by the time you are reading this edition of Good News, our team will have gone and come back from their trip to Romania, you will get the chance to read all about this in the October magazine as well as see photos and hear from the young people themselves as they tell us all about their experiences during the visit.



**Josh
Thomas
Writes...**

It is fair to say all of them are feeling a mixture of emotions as we enter the final weeks before the trip, mainly the feeling is an excited one as we know the conference we will be attending is of such good quality, both in terms of content but more importantly those we will be sharing our time with, both Romanians and the team from Catford (the Cascaid team).

The other feeling within the group however is one of a slight nervousness, for Johanna this trip represents her first time going abroad and for both Alex's it will be something quite unlike anything they have experienced before. As you read this we will have returned so I'd like to encourage you to have a chat with someone who has been on the trip and hear all about it firsthand!

Watch this space regarding a presentation evening in the very near future, dates and details of the event will be available shortly and it would be fantastic to see as

many of you there as possible.

As I write this article we are well in to the summer holidays, a time for planning for the new year. This is a time of visiting various camps and activities happening within our synod and a time for reflecting on the year that has been.

The 2012/2013 academic year has been varied, it has seen a lot of interaction with our local schools where I have been involved in the leadership of Christian unions, assemblies and RE lessons. This has been really exciting and next year looks set to be even busier with even more interaction with our schools.

Zest and Boys Brigade are doing well; we have a steady number of young people who seem to really enjoy the sessions. From September we will be using new resources for Zest and we will be looking at how the organisations can remain sustainable after I finish in my ministry here in Lindfield. We expect some changes from January 2014 so please pray about this and those tasked with leading the groups forward.

The 2013/2014 academic year looks to be an incredibly exciting one with so much happening and I hope to bring you more information in the not too distant future.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Josh

Boys Brigade

The BB operates in relaxed mode during the summer, with much of its programme out of doors. One particularly enjoyable evening was spent playing aeroball at Blacklands Farm. Our juniors couldn't get enough of their aeroball session, and were disappointed when their hour of bouncing on the trampoline came to an end! The 2012/13 session was concluded with games, barbecue, and a pizza for the older lads.

The two Boys who were reported in the previous issue of Good News as receiving their Silver DOE Award, Wesley and Tom, are now working for Gold, and went off for another training expedition lasting several days in wild country. They hope to complete this award next year, just before they finish their time as Boys in the BB at the age of eighteen.

Camp at Glynde, which is on a new site this year, was attended by 5 Boys.

We would like especially to thank all those who donated Active Kids Vouchers: folk were most generous. We are now awaiting the item of equipment for which our points qualified us: a full size play parachute.

We welcome Boys of all ages, of course, but would particularly like to have Boys of 5 to 8 years join us when we re-start in September. Please encourage parents with Boys in this age group to bring them to our Anchor Section which meets early on a Monday evening, or put parents in touch with me (my mobile number is 07810340787) if they need information.

Geoffrey Cocksedge



Uganda

Many of you may be aware that this summer I visited Uganda as part of a school trip. The mission was to raise £10,000 in order to build an extension to the existing foster home in the small rural village of Kabbubu.

It was an incredible experience which I shall never forget and it really taught me the value of everything we have and how so little to us is an infinity to others.

The build was successful and the finished foster home should be open before Christmas. On top of building we were also given the opportunity to teach in the local primary school, the pupils'

enthusiasm and love of learning will remain with me for many years to come.

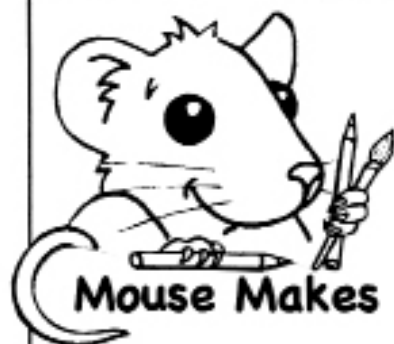
It was especially great that we were in such a Christian community, it was incredible to feel Gods power in even the worst of situations. I'd like to leave you with a Bible quote from Galatians 6:9

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap the harvest if we do not give up”

I hope in this case the harvest is a bright future for the orphans of Kabbubu

Millie McQuillin

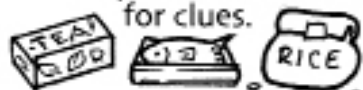




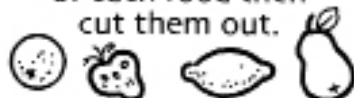
Where in the world
does your food
come from?



Look on the labels,
boxes, packets and cans
for clues.



Draw small pictures
of each food then
cut them out.



Stick your food pictures
onto a map of the world
over the country
they came from.



TO MAKE the harvest banner
Colour in then cut out. Hang
up in the kitchen or attach
to your harvest offering



Every
good
thing
comes
from
GOD



Thank you LORD
for the HARVEST

House Group Service

On June 30th our House group led the 10.30 service on the theme of the calling of Jesus' followers, and using the gifts they have been given in working for Him. We opened with the Sunday Morning Singers who sang, "Thou art before me," to the tune of Highland Cathedral.

Betty Billins involved the children, first showing them the flower pedestal, in memory of Edna Gerardts, a former Church Member who was specially gifted in flower arranging. Betty said how encouraging Edna had been to her and pointed out that we all need encouragement when using our gifts.

The Bible Passages were read by Jessie Green and Roy Billins. These were Acts 6 v 1-8 and 1 Corinthians 12 v 27 – 30.

After another song Graham gave examples of well-known biblical characters called to use their gifts. How Moses led the Israelites towards the Promised Land, how Ananias could not believe it when he was asked to welcome Saul, the one who had come to Damascus to harm the followers of Jesus - what would have been the result if he had not obeyed that call!? Often they had been called out of their "comfort zones." Graham emphasised that whatever our gifts, they must be used in the spirit of love, and fellowship – parts of the same body (1 Corinthians 12 and 13).

What other gifts can we bring, particularly during the pastoral vacancy? We are all able to bring something.

Mies led prayers of intercession which ended by asking God to help us all in identifying in ourselves and others, gifts that can be used in His service.

Prayers of Intercession

Our heavenly Father, we thank you for bringing us together here this morning to praise and worship you. We ask that you will be with those not here today.

We bring before you, Lord, those who are going through a difficult time, perhaps because of ill health, being lonely, having relationship difficulties or unemployment. We pray that they will know that Jesus loves them as their friend and comforter.

Give strength, courage, and wisdom to all who help in difficult situations.

We are, of course, pleased for those having happy times – we thank you for fun & laughter and when we are enjoying ourselves.

Lord, there are those of this fellowship that we especially want to bring before you.

In a few moments of silence we pray for those we know personally who are in need of our prayers.

Bible Verse

We pray for this unsettled world in which we live, that you will guide the nations in the ways of justice, liberty and peace; that you will give those in positions of power and authority the wisdom, compassion and grace they need to do their work well. May they use their influence, not in obtaining more power or wealth, but in bringing about love and peace.

We bring before you, Lord, all Christian churches, near and far, and ask that all your people will look to you for guidance. Help us to keep our eyes on Jesus, our Lord, who loves us, each and every one. Help us too, to use the gifts He has given us in His service.

This morning we remember the outstanding gifts you gave to Nelson Mandella and the devotion and courage he displayed in using those gifts – how he held his dignity in spite of upsets to his personal life.

We pray for our minister Charles Martin as he and Jenny prepare for their retirement. We pray for all who carry responsibility in this Church – help us to support and encourage them in all they do.

Trusting that all we say and all we do will be in a loving, Christian way, knowing that you will hear us when we pray in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ

Amen.

Graham Campling

THE LORD IS MY ...

A few years ago, I was at a Retreat, and the leader invited us to spend an afternoon meditating on Psalm 23. He suggested that as shepherds and pastures didn't seem to have much to do with urban life today, we might like to write our updated version, substituting some less rural image for "shepherd" and writing a fresh psalm along the following lines:-

verse 1: who God is in relation to you (2 phrases) "The Lord is my ...; He ... /I ..."

v2: where he puts you (2 phrases)

v3: the walk you have with him (2 phrases)

v4: potential danger and his protection (3 phrases)

v5: God's provision (3 phrases)

v6: your future with God (2 phrases)

. I found it a great blessing, and the card with my rewritten Psalm remains in my Bible to this day.

A suggestion – and a challenge to readers. Why not try the exercise yourself, and send it to the Editor of Good News. You don't have to keep rigidly to the above pattern, but you'll get the idea.

Anne has agreed to publish one "New Psalm 23" per month.* There are no prizes - just the blessing of reflecting on God and all that he means to you.

Mike Gardiner

September Mission

This September we shall again be supporting Crawley Prison Fellowship (PF) with Angel Tree and Sycamore Tree programmes at HMP Lewes.



Angel Tree

Angel Tree which we have supported for a number of years, provides Christmas presents for prisoners' children.

Each gift is sent as though it is from the parent in prison, who is also able to write a personal message to his/her child. The immediate effect is the delight of the child who receives the Christmas present. Angel Tree is a wonderful link between a child and their Mum or Dad in prison. It is a big help in maintaining family contact, one of the most important factors in reducing re-offending.

“Thank you so much for the thoughtfulness and generosity towards my family this Christmas time. It is very touching to know that others are thinking of us during these difficult times.”

The wife of a prisoner.

Sycamore Tree

Sycamore Tree is a six-session programme taught in prison in which the effects of crime on victims, offenders, and the community are explored.

The most powerful element of the programme is when a victim of crime comes in to talk through how crime has impacted their lives. Offenders have an opportunity in the final session to express their remorse - some write letters, poems or create works of art or craft.

Each course is directed by a PF leader together with a number of PF volunteer mentors from local churches.

“taking responsibility for my actions, I stopped thinking about myself and started thinking of others.”

A young offender

In spite of budget cuts, HMP Lewes funds some courses whilst money raised by Crawley PF, including contributions from Lindfield URC, enables more to be run. As PF Head Office said:

“These opportunities of sacrificial giving will sow seeds in up to 40 learner's lives. How wonderful it is to know, that the whole team at PF Crawley have offered, to these

Happy Heart

learners, the opportunity of engaging with the transformative power of God in their lives. ”

(The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost: (Luke 19:10))

Since last year's Mission Giving, the Government has introduced the "Rehabilitation Revolution", which is aimed at reducing re-offending. The success of Sycamore Tree, in changing offenders' view of crime, has resulted in the programme at HMP Lewes being much more integrated into the pre-release preparation of those prisoners who take part.

Crawley PF, with members from many Central Sussex churches, is one of over 120 PF prayer groups in England and Wales. Like many other groups, its volunteers are involved in activities within prisons including taking part in services, leading Bible studies and implementing, locally, Sycamore Tree and Angel Tree.

More information is available at the Mission display area on the concourse.

If you would like to give towards this work please use the special mission-giving envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any of the Sunday services. Please complete a Gift Aid slip if appropriate. Cheques should be made payable to Lindfield URC.

The Missions Group

A thought about how to keep a 'Happy Heart'.

This is my example of how I manage to keep a happy heart, I always try to look on the bright side.

I recently had to get my windscreen replaced and that experience made me realise how important it is to laugh at things.

The man came to replace the windscreen, I being polite, asked him if he wanted tea or coffee. He said he wanted a coffee. I realised immediately that I do not have any coffee. When I told him that he said, "a tea would be fine." I went home to prepare the tea, however the electricity was not on, because a workman was repairing a plug. I went back to him and I explained the situation. He also being very polite said "no problem". Meanwhile the workman had finished repairing the plug, and the electricity was turned on, the tea was ready and the windscreen was replaced!

Luckily all is well that ends well. I was then able to enjoy the rest of the day amused about what happened and certainly with a 'Happy Heart'!

Vera Amos

Sound Seminar

Can you hear me at the back?

Last month, we looked at what the technical team do during the week to provide support for the mid-week activities, and to maintain the technical infrastructure of the church. This month, Richard Walters looks at something rather closer to what you are hearing (or reading if viewing the print version of this magazine). How does the audio version of GoodNEWS come about?

If you are reading the print version of GoodNEWS, you may not have realised that an audio version of the magazine is produced each month. It is available in both CD and cassette tape format to borrow from the GoodNEWS rack at the back of the church next to the tape library. If you know of anyone who finds it difficult to read the print version and would find it easier to listen, then do encourage them to pick up the tape or CD.

GoodNEWS CD

Well, the process starts about a week before publication, by which point the print version is about ready for printing, and the final proof is sent though, together with the basic versions of each of the articles submitted. All the articles are then read through to ensure that they will work in the audio version. For example, in the June edition, a comment was made in one article, which referred the reader to photos on the next page. Since listeners cannot see the pictures, the reference to them also needs to be removed. In some cases, lengthy sentences will be split to make them easier to read and bullet point lists rearranged to make them easier for the listener to understand.

Once all the articles are read for reading, they are each printed on a separate page

in a nice large font and we all gather, usually at the home of Jessie Green, on the Tuesday before publication, for the reading session.

It is only a small gathering, because the reduction in workload of having more readers needs to be balanced against the increase in background noise, but we have space if one or two more would like to join us. You'd be more than welcome!

On arrival, Richard will set up the equipment, including his portable recorder, microphone and a music stand to act as a lectern to read from. Jessie will then furnish us with tea and biscuits, and the articles will be divided among the readers.

The readers will then take it in turns to read articles. Those who listen, will notice

that one voice you don't hear is Richard's. He acts as the engineer, monitoring the quality of the recordings, and picking up any bits where the readers have stumbled, or there are noises off, and so will need recording again. In general, the readers are very proficient at reading, but even so, we still encounter a good range of 'It'll be alright on the night' moments. These range from the mispronounced word, or the sudden inability to pronounce a word, to the perfectly harmless phrase or sentence which suddenly becomes highly amusing.

During each recording, Richard will mark up a second copy of the article, to identify edits required and with other notes. Once the recording session is finished, the recordings are then all transferred on to the PC, where they can be edited and checked. Any mistakes or stumbles can be cut out and replaced- hopefully in such a way that the listener will not notice. Once this is completed, the CD and tape

are produced. Whilst producing the CD is reasonably straight forward, in order to produce the tape, the computer has a tape deck attached to it and the audio is literally played out of the PC and recorded onto the tape. The covers are then printed, and the tape and CD placed in the rack alongside the newly published magazine. Incidentally, in case you are wondering, yes, all the most amusing out-takes are safely stored away. Who knows, one day, we might put them together as an out-takes special!

We have probably covered most aspects of the audio life of the technical team, but that is not the only aspect of the work of the technical team in the life of the church, in October, we will look at the work of the projector operators during the 9.30am service, and how the notices appear on the screen every Sunday.

Richard Walters

A few years ago the Good News magazine had an article asking for people to help record the magazine every month.

That was about 30 years ago and I am happily still recording every month! We used to record in the kitchen in our Church but it got too noisy. We now meet at my house and I have the tea and coffee ready and it has been a privilege to be involved

Jessie Green

Book Launch

So it's over. The book is launched and dedicated and we have been reminded of the evil of sexual and economic slavery once again. All that is now just a blur in the memory and a host of other things have come in to occupy our minds in the meantime.

However, if you have read 'The Garden of Sparkling Delight', either in paperback or on Kindle, you may want to join us in what in reality is an ongoing project. Here is what you can do.

If you remember the book is published with Deborah Varen as the Author. Many dedicated people gave their time and expertise to make publication a reality so in effect Deborah is a sort of corporate personality to which you too can also belong in what is now the post publication phase. You can get involved in a number of ways, may be beginning with accessing the blog associated with the book at — Debvaren.blogspot.co.uk

Here you will find several cameos which fill in some of the details not in the story. We would like you to develop the story either by writing more of these or taking the story on from where it finished. Also there is scope for back story writing as well. In this way the story will continue to develop and attain a life of its own so keeping the purpose of the book which is campaigning against sexual slavery, alive.

We are also looking for people who would like to suggest other creative ways of expanding the Deborah Varen 'brand' may be with original illustrative graphics or music that reflects themes from the book so it can evolve with multi media to reach a wider audience. All your suggestions should be channelled through Deborah's e-mail address debvaren@gmail.com. If you are unable to access the net, all is not lost just talk to or pass your ideas on paper to Henderson.

Most importantly, please recommend the book to as many people as you know, young and old and in as many countries as possible. Their are 400 leaflets available and while in London recently there was no problem when asking in a coffee shop for permission to pin one on their notice board, so why not give this type of promotion a go.

Please pray, that God will use this tool and then put your prayers into effect by using it too! God bless.

Jerry Martin and Henderson McEwan



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Lunch Fellowship

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Friday:
Anne Parker 01444 473519

Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

The Fellowship

Chris Comber 01444 482641

Stepping Stones

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Zest Co-ordinator

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

September

1st	Audrey Saunders	Jan Foreman
8th	Mies Campling	Barbara Shepherd
15th	Janet Wade	Jo Bloxham
22nd	Zoe McQuillin	Iris Bingham
29th	Carol Marsh	Heather Swann

October

6th	Harvest Festival	Janet Sanderson
13th	Jessie Green	Fo Tingley
20th	Barbara Shepherd	Sue Tester
27th	Heather Swann	Jan Foreman

Around Lindfield

Wednesday 11th September

12.15pm: Tiger Arts - Lunch in the Tiger

1pm: Richard Durrant - Concert Guitarist

7pm: Lindfield Preservation Society in KEH

"Orders of Chivalry" - talk by Simon Langton

Thursday 19th September

7.30pm: Film Night in KEH

Check local Posters - tickets can be obtained from Tufnells in the High Street

Saturday 21st September

7.45pm: Haywards Heath Music Society at St Wilfrid's Church HH

Pavlos Carvalho & Ensemble Reza play Tchaikovsky's 'Souvenir de Florence'

Further information from Christine Colbourne: HH 456227

Sunday 29th September

10.30am: Back to Church Sunday - Lindfield United Reformed Church

