

# *GoodNEWS* **MAGAZINE**

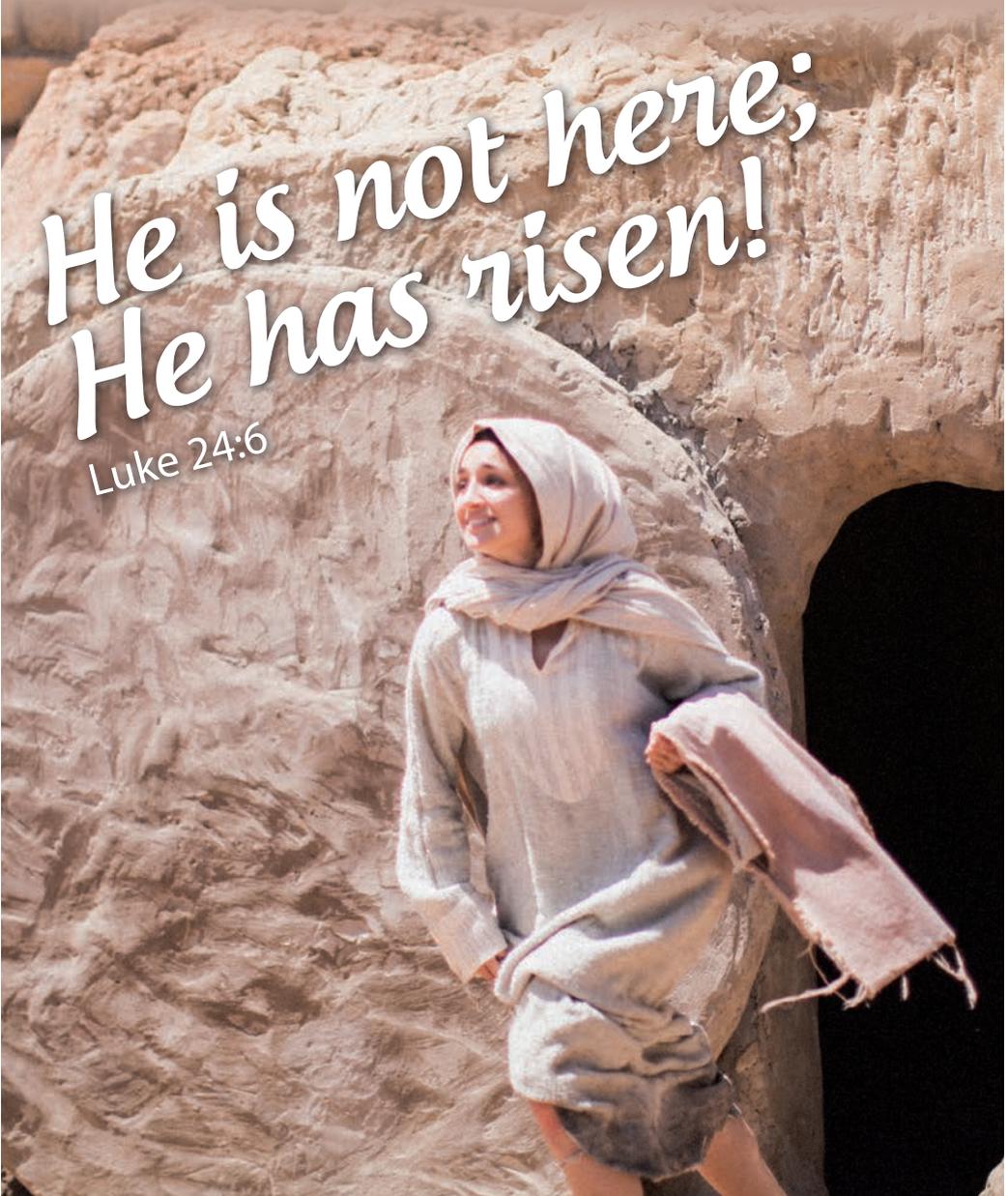
FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

April 2017

He is not here;  
He has risen!

Luke 24:6



# Bible verse of the month

“ As the father  
sent me, so send I  
you ”

John 20:21 NIV

Our verse this month comes  
from Rev Michael Davies.

For more information see  
page 25



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If you have a verse or article  
you would like to share in  
GoodNEWS email:  
[goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk)



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# Editorial

**H**ow lucky we are to have the most delightful display of crocus flowers on Lindfield High Street.

Easter will be with us so very soon. I hope you enjoy all the articles we have in Good News regarding Easter, which simply tells of the joy and wonderful message Easter brings.

We hope you will possibly be able to join us, in the big celebration. There are two Easter Day Services, one is very early in the morning which will be good for some, but there is also a mid morning service.

Our Magazine has some interesting articles which may both amuse and interest you. How lucky we are to have members of our congregation, who are so willing to put forward their ideas and their articles, we do thank them for their dedication.

We even have tips to help us in looking after our gardens! Thank you Stuart you are really knowledgeable on this subject!

I hope you enjoy our April magazine, and we look forward to sharing with you, all the joys of Easter.

God Bless you all,

*Anne*

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# Dear friends

As I step outside my home onto the High Street I am welcomed by a delightful sight of purple, yellow and white crocus flowers, which over the past month have come into full display. These give a beauty and brightness on what can still be grey and misty mornings. Other flowers too in the garden are coming into display, particularly daffodils with their great trumpets blasting out the message that winter is well gone.

A similar message is seen through a quite unwelcome growth spurt among the weeds, and the grass of the lawn is asking for its first mow of the year. It is clear that, although there is delight, there is also some work to be done.

It was in a different spring garden that a woman, found herself crying. She had a much deeper distress in her heart than could be caused by the state of a flower bed, or the length of the grass.

It was early Sunday morning, and she had gone to anoint the dead body of her friend, and Lord, Jesus who had been crucified on the Friday.

She has already suffered a distress that would not be relieved easily, but then, she has been dismayed to find an empty tomb and is fearful of what she thinks has happened.

Turning to the man next to her for help, whom she mistakenly thinks is a gardener, every fear is relieved for Jesus is risen.

*“He is not here; He has risen!”*

*Luke 24:6*

Easter takes us from darkness and clouds, pain and death, sadness and sorrow, to the most wonderful dawn, an amazing hope of life, and great joyfulness of heart. Jesus has triumphed over the grave. He offers, to all who will follow, the promise of forgiveness of sins and an eternal life.

I hope that you may experience the delight of Jesus' presence with you this Easter, and ask that you may share the love and joy of Christ with your friends.

God bless

*Keith*

# Family News

## *Congratulations*

Congratulations to Jonathan Hall who recently got engaged, we send him and his fiancé Yuen our warm congratulations.

**Fo Tingley**

## *Prayer*

Please continue to pray for a number of folk within our Church Family who are unwell at this time; that each one might know God's healing hand upon them, and feel His love and strength upholding them.

**Fo Tingley**

## *The Fellowship*

The Fellowship next meets on Wednesday, 26th April, at 2.30 pm.

Our speaker will tell us about the wonderful children's hospice, Chestnut Tree House.

This meeting will be our "Charity Tea" and there will be an opportunity for you to support the work of this amazing organisation should you wish to do so.

**Pat Phillips**

## *Condolences*

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to Sonia Richards who's son has recently died.

A Church member here for many years, Gladys Muir, has journeyed home to her Lord. Last year she left Little Compton to live in residential care near to her family. Latterly Gladys had been in poor health and had spent some time in hospital. She will be warmly remembered for the active part she (together with her late husband, Andrew) played in the life of LURC. Our love, prayers and sympathy go to all of Gladys' family.

Pray for all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, that they would know God's comfort and peace within their hearts.

**Fo Tingley**

## *Lunch Fellowship*

Just a reminder that we meet for a meal together on April 5th at 12.30pm.

The outing this year will be to Snow Hill Garden Centre on July 5th, when coaches/coach will be available, please check your diaries and make a note of this date if you would like to be included.

Many thanks

**Sue Waller**

455047

# Family News

## *In Touch*

In February it was a pleasure to welcome Ron and Janet Goodenough who gave us a fascinating talk about their recent trip to India.

They spoke about the work that is being carried out in schools and hospitals in various parts of India and of their personal involvement with this and with the growth of many Christian churches there.

They illustrated their talk with some interesting slides and our thanks are due to both Ron and Janet for giving up their evening to talk to us and also to Richard who set up the projector for us.

Our next meeting is on April 25th when Ben Cross will be talking about Astroemerias and the cut flower Industry.

We hope that many of you will come and support In Touch that evening and everyone is welcome even if you don't regularly come.

Refreshments will be as usual before the talk at 7.45pm in the lounge.

**Janet Wade**

# Easter Services

There are a wide range of church services you may attend over the Easter period...

## *Maundy Thursday*

On Maundy Thursday, the 13th April, at 7.30pm Lindfield URC will be host to service where our friends from Lindfield Evangelical Free Church, and All Saints, will join with us for the Lord's Supper.

## *Good Friday*

We will carry a cross on Good Friday (14th April) on a joint walk of witness to All Saints, Lindfield. Please assemble at 9.15am by the car park on the Common, near the junction of High Street and Backwoods Lane. Our arrival at All Saints Church will be followed, at 10am, by an all-age service. All Saints assure us they will keep some seats reserved for those on the walk.

## *Easter Sunday*

On, Easter Sunday, the 16th April we will return to the common car park at 5.45am to praise God as the sun rises. At 10am we will have our family service in the church, and 6.30pm gather in the church lounge to conclude the weekend of worship.

**Keith Morrison**

# Words of Encouragement

This song helps to drive away my fears!

*“God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus; He came to love, heal, and forgive;*

*He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.*

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow; because He lives all fear is gone;*

*Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living*

*Just because He lives.”*

Many years ago, at a time of great anxiety, this song meant a lot to me. And now I am getting older this song means even more.

Sing with me!

“Because He lives I CAN face tomorrow.”

**Jean Gardiner**

Some thoughts after the discussions at the Morning House Group Meeting.

*“Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind do not matter and those who matter do not mind.”*

Some time ago my daughter-in-law Helen and I were talking about how difficult it sometimes was to say in conversation exactly what you felt about a certain matter being talked about, for fear of giving the wrong impression. The same thing applied whether it was in a meeting or just chatting informally. Helen gave me this snippet above and I carry it around with me all the time. It occurred to me during the discussions at the Morning House Group Meeting this was applicable to those discussions.

Another verse which I like to think about is:

*Every time I see a Church, I pay a little visit,*

*So when I'm carried in at last, the Lord won't say "Who is it?"*

I saw this verse carved in the stone porch of a little old Church in Romney Marsh and you could not avoid seeing it as you walked in.

**Gill Couchy**

# Knitvity

*It's not a spelling mistake, please read on!*

Mentioning Christmas preparations in April seems a little (or a lot!) too early but your help is needed to prepare for a special walking Christmas grotto depicting scenes from the nativity. The children and adults queuing to see Father Christmas on village night in December will have Christmas trees and nine nativity scenes to navigate to make the experience more enjoyable and to refocus the meaning of Christmas on Christ's birth.

The nativity scenes are going to be created out of 60 knitted figures, and, in this respect, we are setting up two, once a month, Knit and Natter groups.

One on Wednesday afternoon (4pm - 6pm) and one on Tuesday evening (7pm - 9pm). The starting dates are Tuesday 2nd May and Wednesday 10th May.

How can you help?

**Knitters** You can sign up on the sheet on the notice board for a Knit and Natter group or offer to undertake some knitting at home.

**Experts** You can offer to show people who can't knit, or who haven't knitted for a long time, how to get started.

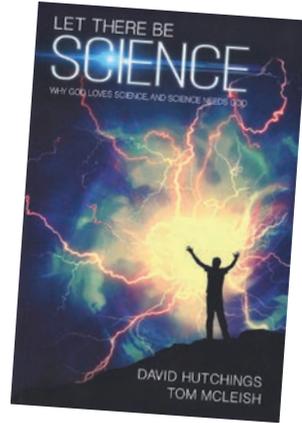


# Book Review

## *Let There Be Science*

**Why God loves science,  
and science needs God**

By Tom McLeish & David Hutchings



**Encouragers** You can invite family, friends, neighbours along to the groups - it should be a fun time and an opportunity, not only contribute to the nativity scenes, but also to form some new relationships. Open to young and not so young, men and women, churchgoers and non churchgoers - all welcome.

**Donators** You can donate or buy double knitting wool in a variety of nativity character and stable animal related colours. Also knitting needles sizes 3mm, 3.75mm and 4mm.

If you are interested in joining in the fun come along to one of the groups or sign up on the sheet.

**Jacquie Odell**



**W**hy is it that science has consistently thrived wherever the Christian faith can be found? Why is it that so many great scientists – past and present – attribute their motivation and their discoveries, at least partially, to their Christian beliefs? Why are the age-old writings of the Bible so full of questions about natural phenomena? And, perhaps most importantly of all, why is all this virtually unknown to the general public?

As authors Tom McLeish and David Hutchings examine the story of science, and look at the part that Christianity has played, they uncover a powerful underlying reason for doing science in the first place. In example after example, ranging from 4000 BC to the present day, they show that thinking with a Christian worldview has been intimately involved with, and sometimes even directly responsible for, some of the biggest leaps forward ever made.

**Parish Pump**

# Jesus said

*“Because I live, you will live too”*

“*Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Allelujah!*”

These are words which reverberate round the world every Easter – from the great Orthodox churches of the East to the evangelical and Pentecostal gatherings of the South – and even in the more staid worship centres in the North.

“Jesus lives!” – That’s the Easter message - what the Gospel is all about.

When Rosemary & I went off to Switzerland in 1990, people commented “what a wonderful place to live”. They had an idealistic, picture postcard idea of what Switzerland was like in winter – skiers swishing down crisp, white pistes under beautiful clear, blue skies.

As often happens, the truth was somewhat different. Where we lived, beside Lac Léman, there was no more snow than we have in Sussex. In fact Geneva had sold off its snow ploughs to save money, which brought a typical British chaos if an inch or two of snow did fall! And for much of the winter, a cotton wool blanket of cloud settled just overhead right across the lake, which meant that you did not see the gleaming white caps of the Alps and Jura mountains for weeks on end. It was rather dull, oppressive and depressing.

But then, just around this time of year, the thick cumulus would suddenly dissipate, the long lost sun would reappear and Mont Blanc would be there in its dazzling pinky white. The trees would bud, the blossom would burst out, the birds would sing and life was very different. Spring had come!

It is, perhaps, a happy accident of the calendar that we, in the northern hemisphere, celebrate Easter at this time of year when new life shouts at us at every turn.

Jesus lives! What does that mean?

First, Jesus is “Emmanuel”, which means “God with us”. Resurrection freed Jesus to be right here with us, now. Easter is all about the immanence of Jesus.

Human beings have many different concepts of God – for many religions he is a remote, austere and judgmental figure. Our God is a living God, a God who has visited his people, suffered and died alongside us. Jesus final words in Matthew’s gospel were “I shall be with you always, to the very end of time”.

“Jesus lives” means we can rely on him, lean on him, trust him – because he is alongside and ready to share the burden.

Do you remember that lovely story of a man walking along a beach with Jesus and looking back he sees two lines of footprints in the sand. But sometimes there is just one line and he complains to Jesus "Why, at some difficult times did you leave me?"

'My precious, precious child' the Lord replied, 'I love you and will never leave you. When you needed me most, you will only see one set of footprints, because it was then that I carried you.'

It's a lovely picture isn't it – Jesus carrying us piggy-back along life's beach when we cannot cope. That's what Easter is about.

But secondly, it's not just Jesus being with us – doing something for us. Easter means that we change.

We hear the phrase "born again Christians" often enough, but it leaves us feeling a bit uneasy. Maybe it's a bit of our British reticence showing through!

One of the things my time with the World Council of Churches taught me was that we here have become a bit too inhibited about our faith. I spent time in Harare, planning the Council's 8th Assembly, in 1998. On Sundays we used to be taken to local congregations – often worshipping in Shona rather than English, so we did not get too much of what was said.

But the atmosphere, the sense of a community of living faith, certainly got through.

Jesus was right there - he had changed these people. They think and act differently. They try to make the Gospel relevant in daily life, in the way they do their work and relate to their families.

New life means Jesus replaces self at the heart of things. As Paul put it so graphically to the Galatians (2:20) "It is no longer I who live, but Christ, who lives in me".

"As the Father sent me, so send I you" (John 20:21). So the risen Christ continues to call us in his service – to be his body, to love as he loved us, to reflect that love and new life into a desperately needy world. That is the Easter Day calling of the Church of the living Christ.

May Jesus' words ring in our ears... "Because I live, you will live also". Let your light so shine before others that they may see the good that you do and given glory to your Father, who is in heaven.

**Rev. Michael Davies**

# Spring has sprung!

Things are really on the move in the garden. If you love gardening, that is really good news. If you don't, here a few tips that might help.

Do you feel that your garden seems to be getting longer or steeper these days? For some of us reading this it could be because we're getting older and less mobile! Don't worry help is at hand. There's quite a lot that you (or someone else) can do to make your life just that little bit easier.

For example, you could make mowing your grass a bit less of a chore by filling in any little annoying beds that are cut out in the lawn (and you don't have to edge them either!).

It may be obvious, but you may like to extend your patio : after all, if you are retired, you will have more time to sit outside and enjoy a cuppa. If you have room, you can easily brighten up this area by having a few colourful containers of plants which need little maintenance and can be moved about on wheels.

If you are not particularly keen on gardening, you might like to consider ground cover plants that smother those wretched weeds. Good examples include Hedera (Ivy). Vinca (Periwinkle) and the lesser know Pachysandra, all of which are available with plain or variegated leaves. Ericas (Heathers) need little maintenance and give you good colour.

Finally, just take time to look around you at God's marvellous Creation especially the seasonal bluebells, daffodils and other bulbs which never fail to appear each Spring no matter how harsh or wet the Winter may have been.

This is a wonderful example of His faithfulness to us all.

**Stuart Marsh**

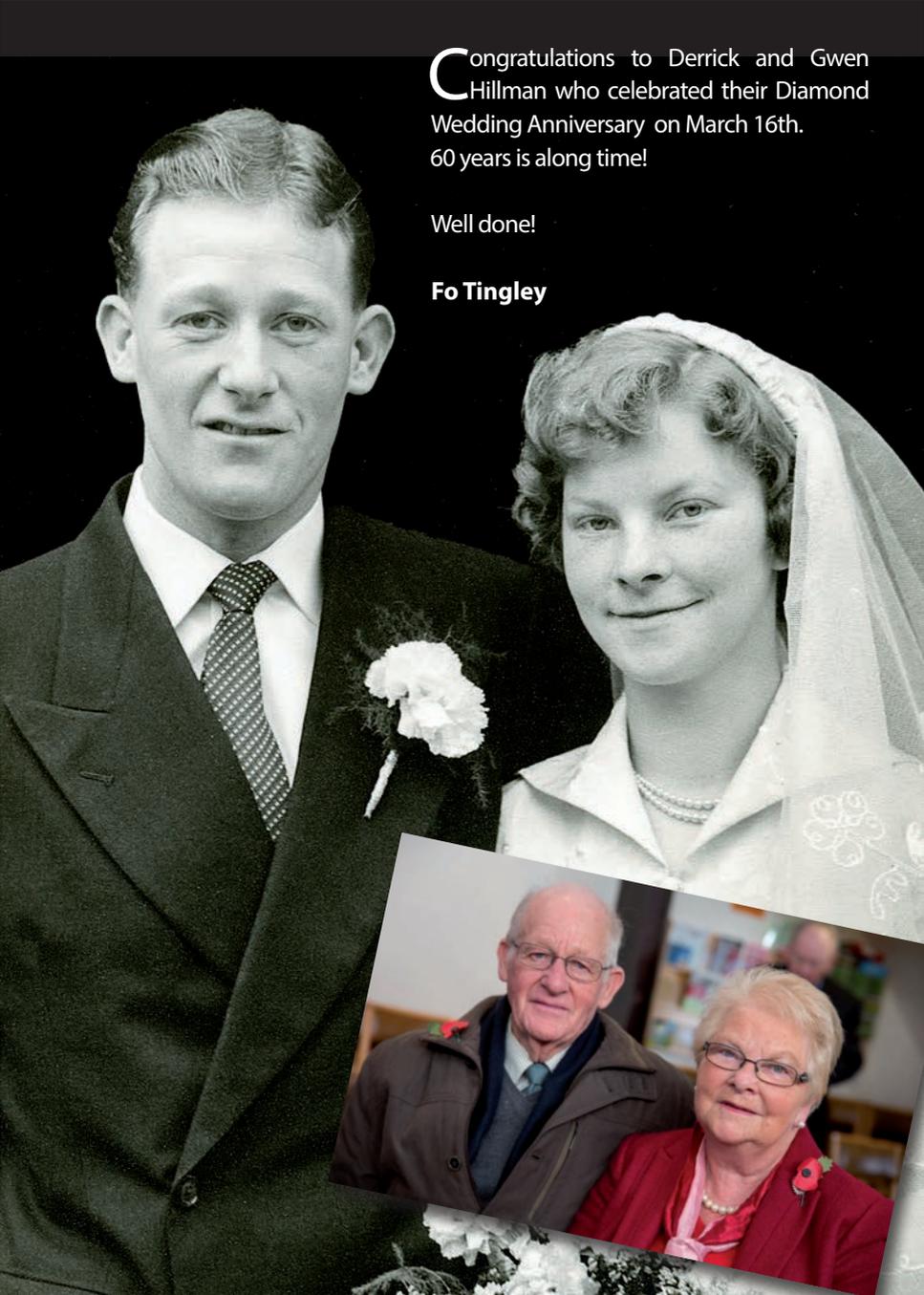


# Congratulations

Congratulations to Derrick and Gwen Hillman who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on March 16th. 60 years is along time!

Well done!

**Fo Tingley**





## Statement on the United Reformed Church Past Case Review

We have all made mistakes and we want to learn from those mistakes.

People have been hurt by bullying or abuse in churches in the past. Things went wrong and people may be carrying the hurt inside them. We want to learn from the past and do better in the future. The Past Case Review is a way for the United Reformed Church to listen and to learn.

We truly want to hear about any behaviour which may need challenging, or if you have been hurt in the past by anyone in the United Reformed Church.

If anyone who has had any connection with your church wishes to share something that has happened to them within any United Reformed Church, we would ask them to get in touch with the Past Case Review team.

We want our churches to be safer places, where people can grow without fear.

Telephone: 020 7916 8682

Website: [www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review](http://www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review)

Email: [pastcase.review@urc.org.uk](mailto:pastcase.review@urc.org.uk)

Further resources and information are available online at [www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review](http://www.urc.org.uk/past-case-review)

# What's so Good?

**A**s we approach Easter our Diary has two dates – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, but to those outside of the church there must be a sense of “what strange names”, and particularly a question of why we use the word “Good” in connection with the day Jesus, the Son of God, died in agony upon the cross, but first let us think of “Maundy” because Thursday does come before Friday.

Much of the language of the church used to be in Latin. This would include prayers, some singing, and the reading of the Bible. On the Thursday of Holy Week, the day before we remember the crucifixion, the worship service would recall the last supper and how Jesus washed his disciple's feet.

A song would have been sung similar to “A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you” (Author unknown) based on the teaching of Jesus in John 13. The opening word of the Latin song was “Mandatum”, which has the meaning “commandment”. From Mandatum we get Maundy which became the name of the religious ceremony of foot washing on that day. Maundy Thursday is a day to remember to Love with a servant heart.

There are at least three different understandings of “Good.”

The first is that Good has an archaic meaning of being Holy, it is a special, Holy Friday.

The second is that “Good” is a lengthening of “God”, it is therefore God's Friday, a special day.

The third way it is understood, a way it is often taught to children, is that through dying for our sins Jesus has done a Good thing, because of that Friday we can be forgiven and become a hopeful people.

Whatever our level of Latin, or our understanding of what “Good” means, what we should remember from these two days is the Good News that the love of God was revealed by Jesus to his disciples, and to the world. He was blameless, we are not, but through his sacrifice our price of punishment was paid.

The story does not end stood at the cross, or with the sealing of the tomb. Easter Sunday allows a celebration because our Heavenly Father raised his Son from the grave and revealed to believers that death is not the end, we may know eternal life.

**Keith Morrison**

# Sunday Services

The **10.00am** 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 (4th Sunday)

Coffee is served after the morning service.

Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

**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
Thur	8.00pm	Church Prayer Evening 'Engine Room' (4th Thursday)
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 blue book on the concourse table.

## Regular Activities

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Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)

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Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages

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Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
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Thur	10.00am	Pop-In Coffee and a chat
	8.00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thur)

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Fri	5:00pm	Rooted
	7.30pm	Pulse (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)

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Sun	7.30pm	18-25 Group
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The church is open on Tuesday (Concourse) and Thursday (Pop-In) 10.00am - Noon.

# April Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	<b>16th</b> Easter Sunday	5:45am	Son-Rise Service Lindfield Common
				10:00am	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison
<b>2nd</b> Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison			
			22nd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
5th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	<b>23rd</b> Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
6th Thursday	11:00am 8:00pm	House Groups: & Journeying with Jesus		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	25th Tuesday	7:45pm	Ladies In-Touch Group
<b>9th</b> Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison	26th Wednesday	2:30pm	The Fellowship
	6:30pm	Communion Rev Keith Morrison		7:45pm	Elders' Meeting
<b>13th</b> Maundy Thursday	7:30pm	Ecumenical Service with Communion URC	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
			29th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
<b>14th</b> Good Friday	9:15am	Walk of witness from Common Car Park to All Saints	<b>30th</b> Sunday	10:00am	Morning Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	10:00am	All Saints Service		6:30pm	Joint Service Evangelical Free Church
15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC			

# YOUTH PAGES

*Hello!*

As I sit down to write this, the Southern Synod Youth Executive have just finished meeting for the day. We have spent the day thinking up many different ideas for 'Re-Unite', the youth event that runs alongside Synod Together in October.

We have decided to run with the year's theme of 'Feasts and Festivals'.

We also met a few weeks ago in Wimbledon with the Thames North Youth Executive. We met then to evaluate Youth Assembly that ran at the end of January, as well as discussing how we can better work together as two Synod Youth Executives.

We also had our third Messy Church yesterday, where we had 28 children plus adults come along. This month's theme was 'Love Your World', which completes the linked series of 'Love God', 'Love Your Neighbour', and 'Love Your World'. As you can see from the photos, we played lots of fun games, made ourselves using fruit, and made bowl bugs! It has been great to open our doors to so many new people within our community. Our next Messy Church is on 19th May, please keep praying that new people come along and we can share the message of the Gospel with them.



On the 8th to 13th April, a number of us will be travelling to Somerset, to attend Spring Harvest once again. Those who attended last year could not wait to go back again, and so we are all looking forward to going.

This year's theme is 'One for All'. We will be learning how to be One People, God's people, in His world.

Next month, I hope to have some people write up their experiences from Spring Harvest, and how they have learnt to be 'One for All'.

Finally, HMS Adventure will be running from Tuesday 30th May until Friday 2nd June, from 1.30pm til 4.30pm. I know it is a few months away yet, but if you would like to know more about it, please do talk to me. Also, keep an eye out for flyers that you can hand out to all those you know who could come along!

Thanks

*Danny*



# Who am I?

Can you identify this month's mystery person?

Where were you born?

*South London near Putney Bridge.*

What was your favourite subject at school?

*Science and any subject where we could do practical work in a lab or outside.*

What is/was your job?

*I worked in an office, as a postman at Christmas - I was also a stable "lad" in some racing stables and I nearly took a job with Scotland Yard as a Forensic Scientist. I eventually ended up teaching in a Field Centre!*

What's your favourite food?

*Probably Fish and Chips.*



What's your favourite sport?

*Swimming and Hockey*

What is your favourite hymn/worship song?

*There are so many, but I like many of the songs by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, especially "In Christ alone my hope is found..."; as those words sum up everything anybody needs in their life.*

Are you a half-full or half-empty sort of person?

*Definitely Half Full.*

What was your first Church?

*Dawes Road Baptist Church.*

If you could go anywhere on holiday where would it be?

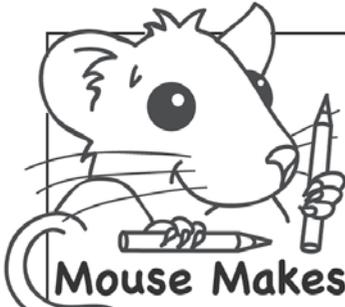
*I would love to go to Antarctica.*

What makes you laugh?

*The antics of animals.*

What would be your best round of questions in a pub quiz?!

*I am hopeless at any Quiz, especially in Geography. You would be greatly disadvantaged if I was in your team!!!*



Colour in the cross, cut out and glue onto card to make an Easter card.



HAPPY  
EASTER  
+  
JESUS  
IS ALIVE!

Read the Easter story  
in Luke 22-24



“God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in Him may not be lost, but have eternal life.”  
John 3:16



+ THE CROSS +  
is a symbol of  
**DEATH**

It reminds us how God’s Son, Jesus, was put to death by being nailed to a cross.

+ THE CROSS +  
is a symbol of  
**LIFE**

It reminds us that Jesus has risen from the dead and is alive with God in heaven.



+ THE CROSS +  
is a symbol of  
**LOVE**

It reminds us God loves us so much that through His Son Jesus we can become God’s children too.

+ THE CROSS +  
is a symbol of  
**HOPE**

It reminds us that as God’s children we will one day be with God in heaven.

# ABBA

*Church Weekend Away 16th to 18th June 2017*

## ABBA Knowing Me Knowing You

It is now less than three months until our church weekend away at Pilgrim Hall near Uckfield on the 16th to the 18th June.

The programme for the weekend is being prepared and will be led by Lorna and the Reverend David Bedford from Dorking United Reformed Church.

As the theme of the weekend David explains that Jesus used the word 'Abba' (Aramaic), a very intimate title best translated 'Daddy' to speak to God: come and renew your intimacy with Him, with your brothers and sisters, and in the light of such a dynamic relationship share the hope in your heart with others. Jesus says "Lay all your love on me": come and discover what it is to be loved by God and by His Family, and to become a channel of His Love to others.

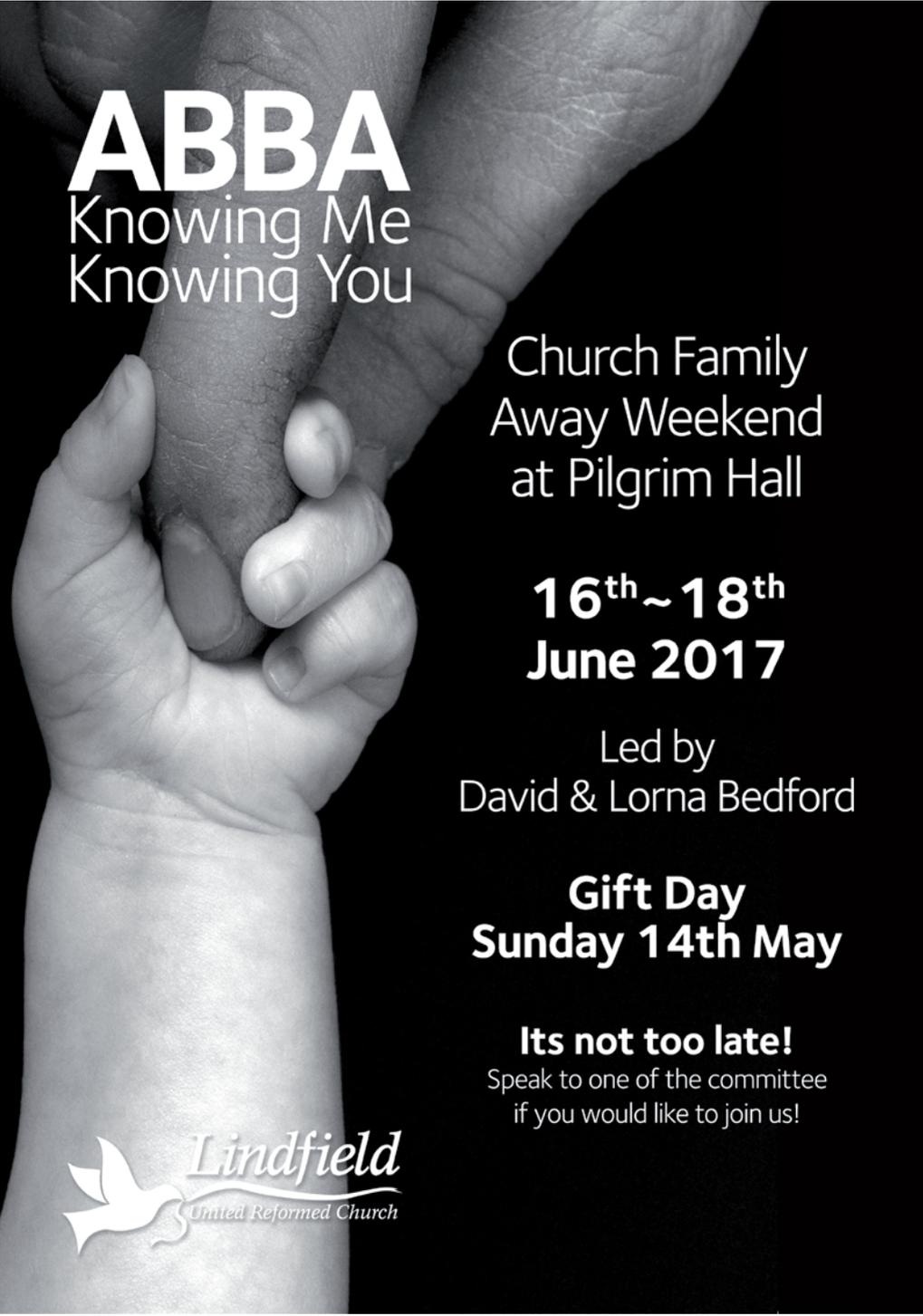
Throughout the weekend David and Lorna will lead teaching sessions. There will also be activities for children and young people, worship and time to grow together sharing this special time over meals and whilst relaxing.

We are encouraged by the number of our church family who have confirmed they will be attending. Our desire is to share this time with as many of you as possible and are pleased to confirm that you can still book your place. There is an opportunity for you to join us a resident for the weekend or to attend during the day. The accommodation includes disability friendly bedrooms and transport will be available to Pilgrim Hall. If we can assist with any additional needs please let us know.

We are blessed that our recent gift day raised 50% towards the £10,000 estimated cost of the weekend. There will be second gift day on Sunday 14th May.

To ensure the weekend is accessible to all we are not setting a price we ask you to give as you are able, please consider prayerfully what your contribution may be. If you would like to give over a number of weeks or months please do speak with Paul Bloxham.

Please feel welcome to come along, it is not too late to book your place. If you would like more information please speak to a member of the committee; Jeremy Campling, Zoe McQuillin, Danny Goodall, Paul Bloxham, Laura Sykes or Mike Odell or email [weekendaway@lindfieldURC.org.uk](mailto:weekendaway@lindfieldURC.org.uk)



# ABBA

Knowing Me  
Knowing You

Church Family  
Away Weekend  
at Pilgrim Hall

**16<sup>th</sup> ~ 18<sup>th</sup>  
June 2017**

Led by  
David & Lorna Bedford

**Gift Day  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

**Its not too late!**

Speak to one of the committee  
if you would like to join us!



# Round & Round

## *Lighthouse*

Early in my working life I was trained in an engineering company that among other things produced the sweeping beams of light without which a lighthouse would have little purpose. To see up close the full lighthouse optics which was made of huge gleaming cut glass prisms that had been ground and polished, set in a cast pedestal which weighed 6 tons was inspiring. To an enquiring mind the application of this mass of glass and metal raised a number of questions but did not cause me to doubt the design really worked.

**Q:** *How can friction be reduced so that this structure can rotate its beams of light across the sea?*

**A:** *Float it on liquid metal.*

**Q:** *How come the light beam can be seen miles away?*

**A:** *Install a light bulb with the equivalent brightness of one and a half million candles or more.*



Around 2009 I was involved for a year or so in a UK government sponsored initiative about offshore wind farms. This involved working with a cross section of industry, a power company, a university together with small and large enterprises and, of course, a government monitor who attended our monthly meetings. Our task which created a lot of questions was to propose a viable solution to remotely monitor the integrity of structures on offshore wind farms so that maintenance was carried out in a timely manner and catastrophic failure avoided. This meant we had to establish the information required, how it would be measured, collected and then be available where and when it was needed. The latter was my part in the project.

Both of these work experiences remind me that there are always questions to be asked. It is a real issue however if we do not know what we do not know, so questions are not asked and therefore not answered and we find ourselves stuck when we need answers to questions that suddenly really matter to us.

Not all big questions have stock answers but what is needed is a firm foundation, values on which to build our life at work and leisure, with family, friends and colleagues. There are plenty of pitfalls in life some of which superficially look like a good idea and may be seem harmless,

but is that really the case? Mindfulness for example when promoted as developing life skills is not sufficient. For me being mindful of the powerful beam of light was not sufficient. It was necessary to ensure I was not in this light beam as I knew what would happen. In that and many of life's scenarios, informed judgments need to be made.

You are welcome to discover for yourself the firm foundation and Christian values that are sufficient for life and its fullness. Join us next Sunday in church, no booking required.

**Henderson McEwan**

## Bible Verse

“*As the father sent me, so send I you*”

John 20:21

So the risen Christ continues to call us in his service – to be his body, to love as he loved us, to reflect that love and new life into a desperately needy world.

That is the Easter Day calling of the Church of the living Christ.

**Rev. Michael Davies**

# Mission Update

March-April 2017



## Operation Mobilisation

House of Joy – Peja, Kosovo

During March and April this year our Mission Focus is on Operation Mobilisation (OM) and the work they are doing in Peja, Kosovo (The House of Joy). Here is an extract from a recent prayer newsletter received from one of the UK families which are members of the multi-national OM team working in Peja:

“Kosovo is a very poor country. Youth unemployment hovers around the 60% mark and Kosovo is consistently in the bottom two poorest countries in Europe. It manufactures almost nothing and the economy is based on aid and nationals working abroad and sending money back. Almost every family has someone working abroad. The ones that do not, often struggle.

Kosovo has poor women's rights (rates of violence against women are high). The House of Joy, which we run, is a centre for victims of domestic violence and human-trafficking and their children.

When we talk about trafficking we generally mean girls from Kosovo being pushed into prostitution within Kosovo, normally by someone they know. It is a long-term work as the women have endured years of abuse and are deeply damaged with absolutely no one to care for them. Another branch of this ministry is a trade skills training centre which works with teenagers at risk of becoming victims or abusers. We are blessed with a good relationship with local authorities.

Please pray for us in this work. Your role is vital and we have often felt so strengthened and encouraged by the knowledge that people at home are supporting us in prayer.”

There is more information on the Mission Board and in the March Good News.

As always, if you would like to give to the work in Kosovo please use the special envelopes and place your donation in the offertory at any Sunday Service, completing a Gift Aid form if appropriate.

If you would like to be included on the distribution list for either, or both, of the prayer newsletters we get from the Kosovo team, and from Simon and Becky Lunt, with OM in London, whose work Lindfield URC also supports, please ask a member of the Missions Team: Jean Gardiner, Helen and Alex Hall, Lesley Sparks and Terry Oliver.



You will have read about the famine crisis in East Africa, included the situation in your prayers and may wish to contribute to its resolution. Tearfund has launched an immediate response to do more as part of the National Disasters Emergency Committee appeal, an initiative that brings together 13 leading UK charities in times of crisis.

If you would like to contribute, through the Church, you will find specially labelled envelopes by the offertory boxes and on the Mission Table. Put your donation in an envelope and place the envelope in an offertory box at any Sunday Service, completing a Gift Aid form if appropriate. Please make any cheques payable to Lindfield URC.

Food shortages have now become critical in East Africa – 16 million people are in urgent need of food and safe water.

Famine has already been declared in parts of South Sudan, and Somalia is likely to experience famine this year. Parts of Kenya and Ethiopia are rapidly heading towards crisis stage.

Extreme drought conditions, often worsened by conflict, have left millions on the brink of starvation and it will only get worse if we don't act quickly.

Tearfund are providing malnutrition treatment for approximately 50,000 mothers and children in South Sudan, as well as food support and clean water to thousands of others in South Sudan and Somaliland. Their teams in Ethiopia and Kenya have been helping communities cope better with the challenges of drought and have plans to respond to this crisis as soon as funding is available.

*Please give and pray now for people suffering in East Africa.*



*Following Jesus where the need is greatest*

# A Bible and a bus ticket home

On one trip to Mexico in the mid-1990's I frequently worked late in my hotel room counting flies on traps (as you do!) and I listened to music videos on the TV to help the time pass. One very catchy song that I heard many times, "That's my story", was by a US country singer, Collin Raye, and so I bought the album it came from, "Extremes", when I returned home.

Wikipedia says that Collin Raye was "... raised as a Southern Baptist but became a Catholic when he was 23 years old. On February 17, 2016, Raye performed at the "Two Nations, One Faith" celebration at Sun Bowl Stadium in El Paso, Texas, prior to the stadium's simulcast of the Mass performed by Pope Francis just across the Mexican border in Ciudad Juarez." The biography on his website says that he has consistently used his stardom to advance social causes and in 2001, at the Country Radio Seminar, he was presented with the organization's Humanitarian of the Year award in recognition of his issue-oriented music and his tireless charity work. On the "Extremes" album is a song called "Little Rock", an anthem for those struggling with addiction recovery. When it hit the charts in 1994, its video led to over 100,000 phone calls to Alcoholics Anonymous from people seeking help with their addictions.

Also on the "Extremes" album is a less well known, simple but profound song about letting your children go with all they need for the future, written in 1993 by Craig Wiseman and James Dean Hicks. A reviewer of the album wrote: "the warm-hearted tale of a mother's farewell gift of 'A Bible and a bus ticket home' to a teenager leaving home with Nashville dreams, is tenderly sung and a definite highlight".

In the acknowledgements he wrote for "Extremes", Collin Raye thanks God and he also says how he is "Forever grateful to my Mama". Clearly God and his family are very important to Collin Raye and the song is essentially reflecting that – all we really need to get on in life is a Christian faith and knowledge of the love and support of family and friends.

## Martin Hall

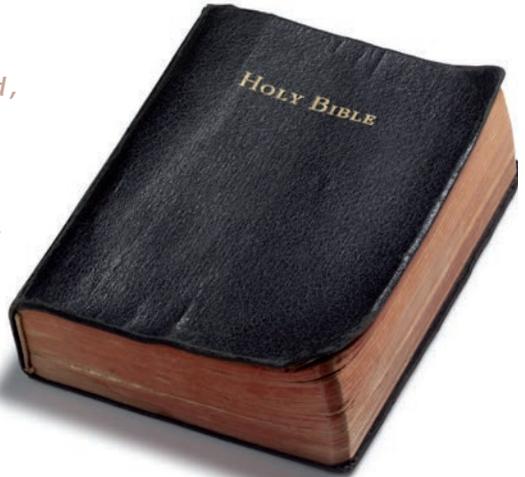


Lyrics to "A Bible and a bus ticket home"

*Momma's tears fell so easy,  
Daddy's handshake was strong,  
Then I climbed aboard that Greyhound,  
Eighteen and glad to be gone.*

*Took a rented room on Broadway,  
And as I unpacked everything I owned,  
I found a note my mama left me  
With a Bible and a bus ticket home.*

*It said,  
"One will get you where you're going,  
When you haven't got a prayer,  
And one will bring you back, son,  
If your dreams ain't waiting there.*



*You're out on your own now,  
We won't be there to fall back on,  
But you know we're never farther,  
Than a Bible and a bus ticket home".*

*The years have come and gone and  
taken,  
The only things in life I ever counted  
on,  
But I'm going back tomorrow,  
To lay flowers at their stone.  
I can almost hear my mama calling  
saying,*

*"Son come back where you belong,  
You've got all you need to get here,  
A Bible and a bus ticket home".*



# The Wider World

## *Romania*

There are many protests taking place in Romania at present. The main candidate for Prime Minister, Liviu Dragnea, was accused of stealing money from the government. His party then passed an emergency law decriminalising offences by government officials which involved sums of £40,000 or less, thus enabling Dragnea to become Prime Minister, which he couldn't do if he was judged for acts of corruption!

This is when the protests started, which are the largest seen in Romania since the revolution in 1989. So far, the demonstrations have remained peaceful which is in stark contrast to the last time when many people died. The protesters want to show that they are a very different country nowadays, and they long to make Romania better.

Romanian Christians have been responding with the power of prayer. Many young people in the evangelical churches in the larger cities have been gathering together after the protests have finished to pray for the country and the people in power that they will rule in a godly manner.

Operation Mobilisation has been working in Romania and they want to equip the Romanian Church to be a launch pad for widespread spiritual change in the name of Christ. We ask God to bless this ministry.

## *The Middle East*

Two Christian pastors working in the Middle East were recently arrested and accused of blasphemy against Islam. Locked up in a secret jail, they were severely beaten by the brutal prison guards and then informed that would soon meet an horrific death.

After a night of torture, they cried out to the Lord and prayed to Him for forgiveness and salvation. The following day a Muslim prison official came into their cell. The two pastors thought that they were about to receive their death sentence.

To their utter surprise, however, the official sat down with them and told them that he had dreamt about Jesus Christ for three consecutive nights, "He was sitting on a throne with an orb of light rotating around him", he said. On the third night Jesus told him, "My children are being tortured in your prison. They are the apple of my eyes." The dream had such a powerful effect on the official that he had rushed to the jail in order to release them. In another amazing twist, he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour and Lord, asking the two pastors to baptise him, which they gladly did.

It is reported that many other Muslims in the Middle East have had similar visions, transforming their lives. We rejoice in this and pray that many more people come to Christ in this way.

# Phonebook

## Keith Morrison (Minister)

Telephone 01444 484791  
Email kmorrison@lindfielddurc.org.uk

## Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office 01444 487607  
Mobile 07443 438970  
Email dgoodall@lindfielddurc.org.uk

## Church Secretary

Sue Waller 01444 455047  
Email waller.s@sky.com

## Treasurer

Terry Ward 01444 482986

## Boys' Brigade:

Keith Morrison (Chaplain) 01444 484791

## Flowers

Betty Billins 01444 484494

## Hall Booking Secretary

Shirley Anton 01444 482819

## In Touch

Sue Waller 01444 455047

## Lunch Fellowship

Sue Waller 01444 455047

## Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

## The Fellowship

Pat Phillips 01444 484507

## Stepping Stones

Zoe McQuillin 01444 484364

## Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

## Lighthouse (Junior Church)

### Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

## Flower Rota

	Arranging	Distributing
<b>April</b>		
2nd	Betty Billins	Jo Bloxham
9th	Anne Parker	Iris Bingham
16th	Easter Flowers	Heather Swann
23rd	Easter Flowers	Fo Tingley
30th	Janet Wade	Liz Cantwell
<b>May</b>		
7th	Boys Brigade	Iris Bingham
14th	Fo Tingley	Heather Swann
21st	Carol Walters	Fo Tingley
28th	Carol Marsh	Liz Cantwell

If anyone would like to be involved with distributing the church flowers on Monday morning at 10.30am please contact Heather Swann

# Around Lindfield

## Saturday 1st April

2.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall  
Spring Show of Flowers and Produce

## Wednesday 12th April

12.00 noon Tiger Arts - Lunch in The Tiger

1.00pm Concert in All Saints Church : Shona Knight (Soprano)

8.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall  
Talk : 'Alstroemeria' by Ben Cross, he will be bringing plants for sale

## Good Friday, 14th April

7.30pm Sacred Concert in All Saints Church  
New Sussex Singers, All Saints Orchestra and Soloists

## Saturday 15th April

In All Saints Church : Saltmine Theatre Company presents  
'Darkness Falls', a remarkable re-imagining of the Gospel of St. John

## Wednesday 19th April

8.00pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall  
AGM followed by 'Snippets from Sussex Archives  
(with Margaret Nicolle)

## Thursday 27th April

7.30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall  
'Lion' (PG) starring Dev Patel & Nicole Kidman  
Tickets available from Tufnells

