

GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

Summer 2018

I am with you
and will watch over you
wherever you go

Genesis 28:15



Bible verse of the month

“This is what the Lord says to you: Do not be afraid or discouraged for the battle is not yours but God’s”

2 Chronicles 20:15 NIV



Page 9



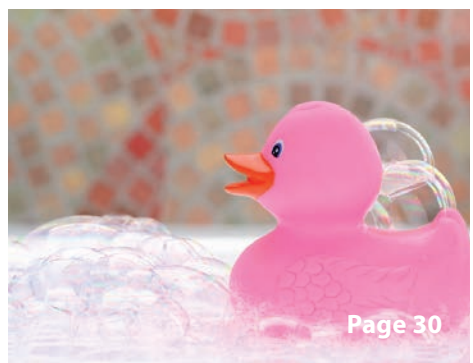
Page 10

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

goodnews@lindfielddurc.org.uk



Page 29



Page 30

Editorial

This month is the time when holidays are at the forefront, with the exams for the young people finished. This now can be a time of relaxation, when we can reflect on the ordinary things of life. We have some very poignant thoughts put before us in the different articles written by our Church members. A few important words that come to mind to keep saying is 'God Loves Us'.

Read how the Holiday Club, run by Danny our Youth Pastor and his helpers, was such a success. Many children were able to take part in the Holiday Club which had a theme of 'Building! Building!' There was a special song called 'Building Building' which all the children really enjoyed taking part in. This I feel sure could be heard in Lindfield High Street.

We have a book review which David has recommended us to share. Betty is looking forward to seeing you at her home for 'Afternoon Tea'.

I hope you will find interesting all the information from the Mission Group including 'Sharing One's Faith'. We remember Pat Waller and all those in hospital or housebound and pray that you will be helped to enjoy healing and peace.

Do share in all that is happening in our Church Family. Our 'Good News Team' hope you all have an enjoyable time reading 'Good News' and may we hope you all have an enjoyable peaceful summer.

God Bless,

Anne

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Dear friends

As I write this letter I am painfully aware that the “Good News” team are probably pulling their hair out that I am running a bit late at supplying it to them, and not for the first time. I am 4 days behind, and it is now the longest day as I put pen to paper, or rather fingers on my keyboard. Of course the day itself is not any longer or shorter than any other, it is still twenty fours, but for us in the Northern hemisphere at the solstice in June we experience more daylight, and less time without it, and so by the time you read, be it in July or August, each night will grow by a minute or two – and of course that will continue to happen until the week of Christmas, when the day light starts to grow again.

Time changes everything, the laundry basket I bought for a flat 25 years ago is starting to decay a little as the plastic becomes more brittle, photos of my children from the time we moved here make them look very young, and the episodes of popular comedy shows from barely ten years ago that are repeated on satellite TV channels now make uncomfortable viewing as words, phrases and attitudes once normal appear in current standing to be politically incorrect. However although I say time changes everything, there is something that is constant (and I don't mean Benjamin Franklin's assertion about “death and taxes”), I refer to God. The Lord is, was and is to come.

God predates time, which did not exist in our measurable understanding, before the creation.

God throughout the known universe, and outside the known too, remains constant in His power and character; all seeing, all knowing and all loving. Some people misread the bible and get weighed down by the battles in the old testament, or by the way even our biblical heroes and heroines get in a muddle and fall from the right path (David slaying Goliath, becomes adulterous with Bathsheba), but God's love is there in every instance. Although there can be tension when people stray, God's love for them never goes amiss. God called prophets to challenge the truth and redirect lives. He took the people to exile, but also brought them home. God the perfect Father loved the world that he sent his only Son, Jesus, and He continues to love the world today, calling upon each one of us to be agents of that love.

How will you over these summer months be sharing in God's eternal love for all people? What will you be doing that declares in word and deed that you have faith in the one who loves? Please be considering this, and acting upon it, for come September there will be exciting times as we engage with OM, and seek to share his Love with the people of Lindfield and beyond.

With every blessing.

Keith

Family News

Thank You

I would like to thank my loving Church Family for your prayers, concern and care while I have been unwell. It has meant a lot to me, and I have felt very upheld. I'm so grateful that our Lord has brought me through that time once again, and restored me to health and strength.

I am looking forward to 'normal service' being resumed in the near future! God bless you all!

Fo Tingley

Condolences

We extend our love and prayers to the Odell family as Mike's mother died recently, after a long illness.

Heather Swann

Car Outing Tuesday 7th August 2018

Please note the above date for our Annual Car Outing this summer.

Invitations to follow later.

In Touch

Our last meeting was on the 22nd May when Jean and Mike Gardiner came and told us about their visits to Thailand. We were treated to a fascinating insight into life and sights in Thailand and their talk was illustrated by some lovely slides. We are very grateful to Jean and Mike for coming and sharing their experiences with us.

Our final meeting before having a break for the summer is on July 24th when we will be holding a bring and share supper. A sign up sheet will be posted on the notice board later. We will meet after this on September 25th when Jeanne Bishop will be telling us about the history of Franklands Village. As usual everybody is welcome to join us in the lounge at 7:30pm.

Janet Wade

The Fellowship

The last meeting of The Fellowship year will be held on Wednesday, 25 July at 2.30 pm. This will be our afternoon tea with a quiz.

There will be no Bring & Buy stall at this meeting. All who come will be made most welcome.

Our new programme starts on Wednesday, 26 September – but more of that nearer the date!

Pat Phillips

Family News Contd...

Tea in the Garden

Betty invites you to come and have Fellowship and Afternoon Tea at 72 Meadow Drive on

Saturday, 21st July, any time between 2.30 and 5.30pm. Hopefully, it will be fine and we can enjoy the garden. There's no cost but donations towards Church funds would be really appreciated.

Look forward to seeing you!

Betty Billins

Thank You

Thank you so much to all the garden owners, helpers, bakers, advertisers and growers for your contribution to the Lindfield Garden Trail.

Together we managed to raise over £6,400 for the hospice. Altogether at the 13 gardens we had 621 paying guests plus numerous children and helpers. The total amount collected was £900 higher than last year, a remarkable achievement in our second year. Everyone seemed to have a really good day.

Once again, many thanks.

Sue and Jim

Thank You

Thank you so much for the love and kindness extended to me for my 90th birthday including beautiful cards and flowers. I appreciated it all so much and feel very blessed being part of such a warm and caring church family. Thank you all so very much. "How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it!"

Jessie Green

Lunch Fellowship

Lunch Fellowship will meet as usual on the 1st Wednesday of July (4th) and in August (1st) we will be going to Paradise Park Garden Centre in Newhaven for tea and some shopping if wanted. Please do sign up for this at the latest at the July lunch and also bring £10 to pay for the transport and tea if you have not already paid.

Please telephone Jenny Machell for the July lunch on 01825723142.

Or for the Outing Sue Waller on 01444 455047 thank you.

Don't also forget the Wednesday Worship at 11.30am on those days

Sue Waller
455047

Tunes and Tea

*7th July in the church
at 3-00pm*

Our theme is a Taste of America. We may be able to find some Candy Bars but otherwise it is Tea and cake with the emphasis on America in song and words presented by the Sunday Morning Singers.

The concert is admission free and if people care to give a donation it will help the work of the Air Ambulance.

Prior to this event, the singers will entertain the Fellowship lunch on Wednesday 4th July which is Independence Day.

We are looking forward to some fun events.

For more information and if anybody has some USA bunting, please contact:

Peter Swann

Village Day

On Saturday June 2nd the green was packed for a gloriously hot and sunny Village day 2018.

Many thanks to all who helped prepare and serve a record 1,000 cups of lemonade and gave out hundreds of 'goodie bags'. Most importantly we met lots of wonderful people and shared the love of God with the village.

Dan McQuillin



Your gift, has a reason

If we are not practical, it's good to know we can call on plumbers and electricians to sort out our house problems. Some people are gifted with practical knowledge and skills, and we could not do without them.

Other people are more creative and artistic. Such folk may not be able to build a house, but they can fill it with beauty and meaning through their music, painting, sculpture and books.

The Bible mentions Bezalel and Oholiab, who lived in Moses' time. Bezalel's specialty was working with metals; cutting and setting jewels and carving wood. Oholiab was an engraver, a designer and a weaver. Together, these two men had great skill, understanding and creativity, and made the Tabernacle the beautiful dwelling that it was.

Many years later, King Solomon commissioned Hiram, a native of Tyre, to make objects for the Temple out of gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone and wood. He also made coloured cloths and linen. Without Hiram's expertise, the magnificence of the Temple in Jerusalem would not have been realised or remembered!

Such people should encourage us as we seek to discover God's plan for our lives. We, too, are called to be faithful in serving God through using whatever particular gifts He has given us. Faithful obedience is what matters, not whether or not we end up in a position of responsibility, or in a quiet backwater. 'Success' for a Christian is not fame, but a deeper walk, and more fruitful walk, with God.

In fact, the majority of Christians are called to serve God without fame or recognition. Our aim should be to simply love God and to express this in the service of others, with whatever skill or gift we have been given.

If we give ourselves to God, He will prepare us and use us in the way that best suits our gifts and personalities. We might not have the special skills of Bezalel, Oholiab and Hiram, but there is always something we can do for God. Let's seek out God's gifts and use them for His glory.

Parish Pump



What, no toast!

There we were, on the last morning of our holiday, looking forward to our cooked breakfast and, of course, some toast. All four couples gradually gathered at our round table. The first Mr and Mrs that had arrived had ordered toast with their hot meal. By the time they'd eaten their bacon and eggs, etc, still no toast had appeared. At this point the rest of us had got to the toast and marmalade stage, so politely added our request for some toast. We waited and we waited and we waited! And then – bingo – we were presented with one plate of toast, followed by another, then another and another! We had a table full of toast. Amid much hilarity, we consumed as much of the aforesaid toast as we could, but still left enough to feed a small army!

Our prayer life can sometimes seem like that. Perhaps God has answered your specific prayer, and blessed you as you had hoped. (Like the cooked breakfast – yummy! “Wow! Thanks God!”) But there's something missing that you had prayed for. So you ask Him again, and then again and again!

You may ask “Why the delay? I really need that prayer answered now!” However, God's timing is more often than not different to ours. Of course, God does not always answer prayer in the way that we would wish, but it doesn't mean He is not listening! When the time is right, He will pour out His amazing love into whatever our situation. It's then that we can feel overwhelmed by God's generosity and care.

The ‘toast’ analogy may not be in quite the same league as prayer requests. But the episode gave eight happy holiday makers hysterics, and they say that laughter is the best medicine! Knowing God as our Saviour and Lord ensures that we have more than enough of His blessings, with some over to share with others!

Betty and Fiona



Big Church Day Out

This year, Big Church Day Out South took place 26th-27th May on the beautiful and vast Wiston Estate near Steyning.

BCDO was founded by Tim Jupp, a member of the popular and internationally successful Christian rock band Delirious? back in 2009. Having been to the very first event, it was good to be back to celebrate their 10th anniversary this year.

It has been amazing to see the development of this festival, which started as just a Sunday afternoon/evening, and is now run over two sites, with camping over the bank holiday weekend and several localised events throughout the year.

We started off our day sat on a hay bale, bumping around the site on a tractor shuttle that takes the people who do not fancy walking to where they want to be.

We wanted to get up to the Tearfund Tea Tent, one of the many stages dotted around the site. Pitching up our camping chairs and picnic blanket, we settled down with a ginger beer (sadly no Pimm's for me this year!) to hear Tim and The Glory Boys, a Country Bluegrass Gospel band from Canada. They were excellent; they really got the crowd going with their passion for music and Jesus.



A cream tea and a couple of acts later, we made our way through the Field of Fun, an area focused on families. There were all sorts of creative things going on, as well as soft play, storytelling, archery tag and a treasure hunt that took you all over the site. A little further on, big kids are catered for, with MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) running a flight simulator, and Christian Aid hosting an escape room. It is great to see charities finding new ways to get people involved and share the work they do.

We then headed down to the Main Stage, to find a space amongst the thousands of people gathered to enjoy the main worship acts of the day. We saw

'Housefires', whose songs we have sung at Spring Harvest, and Martin Smith, who was also in the band Delirious?, and as the sun was going down, Matt Redman took to the stage to lead us all in his powerful, well known song 'Bless the Lord'.

Big Church Day Out has such a brilliant atmosphere, and there really is something for everyone. Rap music, poetry, theatre, gospel and worship lead by people who have written songs we sing regularly in Church, such as Graham Kendrick. We did not try to see it all this year, just wandered here and there discovering new things. We are very blessed to live so close to this wonderful event!

Ruth Goodall



God's calling

Last month I spent a few days visiting my family in Kent. It was a wonderful time of sharing, and deepening the bonds of our relationship. I'd like to share with you how God has had His hand on the lives of one of our family units.

In May 2011, my cousin's daughter Rachel and her family moved to a small village outside of Mostar as missionaries with Novi Most International, a Christian charity pioneering youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Up until then they had been living in West London.

In a newsletter Rachel says - We were answering God's call on our lives to love and serve Him through loving and serving the young people of Bosnia Herzegovina. God has brought us through a long process to get to this point, but confirmed His calling by moving mountains along the way to make this possible for us.

In all aspects of our lives we seek to share God's love through our actions and words, and to demonstrate God's reconciliation power to what is still a very divided community.



Adam and Rachel have a beautiful family of five children. Micah, 15, Talitha, 13, Ezekiel, 11, Hadassah, 9 and Izak, 5.

They all attend local schools, and are bilingual. In October Micah and Talitha went on a youth weekend organised by the church in Sarajevo. Both were really touched by the talks and worship and on his return Micah said that he wanted to be baptised.

Micah's testimony

As most of you know, I have been deaf from birth and it has been an absolute blessing in my life. There was one moment two years ago when I thought that being deaf was because I was going to do something wrong in my life. However, when I went to Christian camp in Poland it showed me otherwise.

During the camp I realised all the good things that came out of me being deaf and I should be thankful to the Lord.

I believe that getting baptised is the only way to say thank you to our Heavenly Father for sending Jesus to die for our sins.

I believe that I am ready to turn a new page in my life and follow the Lord Jesus Christ. That is why I am getting baptised.

The family are part of an evangelical church in Mostar. They reach out to the local community through humanitarian work, food packets, clothes distribution and a Centre for Care which grows food to both give away and sell.

Adam plays the drums, preaches and helps with Sunday School. Rachel heads up the Sunday School and helps with cooking for Alpha courses and organising pampering afternoons for local ladies. Both Micah and Talitha also help in Sunday School and have other responsibilities during church services.

In their House Group they have been studying and praying for revival, particularly personal revival and the potential impact of that on those around them.

They are encouraging us to pray for Revival not just for Bosnia Herzegovina but for our own lives and where we are living too.

They constantly praise and thank God for His love and guidance in their lives, and the work He is doing through them and their fellow workers.

I also thank God that He used my mother's witness to spread His love within our family, which has led to a continuation of His work in so many ways.

Lesley Sparks

A bottle full of Joy

I was encouraged by a dear friend of mine, Jacqui Adams, to join her in attending a Kingdom Come conference recently. Well, it was all a bit of a shock, if I'm honest! Just as we arrived there on the first morning Jacqui warned me to 'expect anything'! What had I let myself in for, I wondered?

After I had got through the first Worship time (which lasted about an hour), I began to feel I knew the real meaning of the word 'Charismatic'! But the teaching that followed over the two days was so powerful and inspiring. There were many testimonies both of healing and financial provision – it almost left me open-mouthed with the wonder of what I was hearing. Included in each session was an opportunity for prayer ministry, yes for healing, but also for the abundance of God's love to bless and provide. Ministering to one another in such a Spirit filled atmosphere was just amazing! One of the prayer times in particular was a great blessing to me.

I am so grateful that Jacqui had encouraged me to be there!

There were 250 attending the conference, many of them praying in tongues and singing in the Spirit in the freedom of that kind of worship. These people were on fire for Jesus, absolutely passionate about Him, and it really showed! By the second day, I was more comfortable with the worship, and was greatly moved and encouraged by the joy and enthusiasm of all those around me. How I longed to be able to bottle up that joy and enthusiasm and bring it back to LURC!

But you know, good friends at LURC, God's Holy Spirit lives within each one of us who believe. If we allow Him, we too could experience freedom and a true sense of 'Joy', both in our worship and in our Church Family life.

Perhaps we are actually missing out on the blessings God just longs to pour out on each of us? Could we all pray about this? Only our loving Lord knows the difference it could make!

Fiona Tingley



A Taste of AMERICA

Tunes & Tea Concert ~ free entry

Celebrate American Humour, History,
Shows & Spirituals in words and song
In aid of the Air Ambulance

Presented by
Sunday Morning
Singers



7th July 2018 at 3-00pm
Lindfield United Reformed Church

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.

Coffee is served after the morning service.

Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

At **6:30pm** Something Different. 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.

July

1st

Sunday

10:00am Family Worship
Rev Keith Morrison
Something Different
6:30pm Rev Keith Morrison

4th

Wednesday

11:30am Wednesday Worship
12:30pm Lunch Fellowship

7th

Saturday

8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
URC

8th

Sunday

10:00am Family Worship
Rev Keith Morrison
Communion
6:30pm Rev Keith Morrison

14th

Saturday

8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
URC

15th

Sunday

10:00am Family Worship
Rev Keith Morrison
6:30pm Something Different
Rev Keith Morrison

21st

Saturday

8:45am Three Churches
Prayer Meeting,
URC

Church diary

22nd Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison	7th Tuesday	Car Outing / Tea at Church
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison		
24th Tuesday	7:00pm	In Touch group Bring and Share Supper	10th Saturday	8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free
25th Wednesday	2:30pm 7:30pm	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting	11th Sunday	10:00am Family Worship Kay McIntosh
26th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting	18th Saturday	8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free
28th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	19th Sunday	10:00am Family Worship Rev Simon Franklin
29th Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison	22nd Wednesday	7:30pm Elders' Meeting
			23rd Thursday	8:00pm Church Prayer Meeting

August

4th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free	25th Saturday	8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free
5th Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison	26th Sunday	10:00am Communion Jean Gardiner
		**** <i>No Evening Service During August</i>	27th Monday	Bank Holiday

YOUTH

*Building
building
everybody's
building!*



Thirty-three junior builders joined us for our Kingdom Builders holiday club in the May half term! It was a great week spent singing, building, creating and playing games!

Each day on arrival, the young people came in with their clocking in card and placed it in the rack to show they had arrived at 'work'. They then joined their group for a short time to recap on the stories we have learnt so far by completing a word search, crossword or maze!

We then came together at the front to sing, learn about someone new, and find out how Jo and Alex were getting on with their building project. Jo was new to the building site and so Alex had to help her learn how to build a house, starting with the plans, going all the way up to the roof.

The junior builders then had a time of either playing games in the hall or creating a masterpiece in the craft room. After a quick drink and a biscuit, they then swapped round to do the other activity.

We then came back together for a team challenge based on the bible story, a prayer activity and we also found out what Jo had learnt throughout the day about the bit of the house she was working on.

The teaching throughout the week was based on four main parts of building a house. The first day was based on the plans of a house. We learnt that God had a plan for Abraham. God made a promise to Abraham and He kept it! (But it took longer than Abraham had thought!) God also has plans for us and we can ask him what they are. God probably won't show us all His plans, but He will definitely show us enough!

The second day was based on the foundations of a house. We learnt about the wise and foolish builders. One built his house on sand and the other built his house on rock. When the rains and wind came, then house on the sand fell flat, but the house on the rock stood firm! Jesus is our firm foundation. If we build our lives on Jesus and his teaching, then we will have a solid foundation for our lives!

The third day was based on the walls of a house. We learnt about Nehemiah and the Israelites rebuilding the city walls of Jerusalem. God provided what they needed, and He will provide what we need each day. We also learnt that the Israelites had to all focus on a little bit of the wall and God brought the whole thing together. Building God's Kingdom can feel daunting sometimes, but if we focus on the small bit we can do, then God will bring things together.

On our fourth and final day we had reached the roof of the house. We learnt about the paralyzed man who was lowered through the roof of a house by his friends. The paralyzed man and his friends had faith in Jesus, and Jesus was able to heal him and forgive his sins. We also learnt that the roof of a house protects the contents from bad weather – from rain and storms and wind. God protects us too. He won't stop the storms in life from happening, but He will be with us and protect us when they come.

We also had a final round off day on Sunday morning in the upper room. On the Sunday we learnt about Paul in Athens teaching them about the true God. Paul was a Kingdom Builder, and we are Kingdom Builders. Building God's Kingdom is not always easy, and it is not a quick build! But God has got the plans, Jesus has laid the foundations. We are called to do our bit to build God's Kingdom, and when the time is right, God will put a roof on His Kingdom.

Let's be Kingdom Builders. Let's build God's Kingdom together here in Lindfield.

Danny

PAGES

Boys' Brigade

The session is now drawing to a close and we are currently spending time outdoors as much as possible. Treasure hunts at the nature reserve and games on Hickmans Lane playing field for Anchors and Juniors are the main activities with the Company Section working on a new bench for the garden area. Generally the year has been good although we have not been able to grow the numbers as we had hoped and our Company Section is still very small.

We had a successful Awards Evening when boys collected awards they had gained over the session. Team games were also included which gave parents opportunity to get involved.

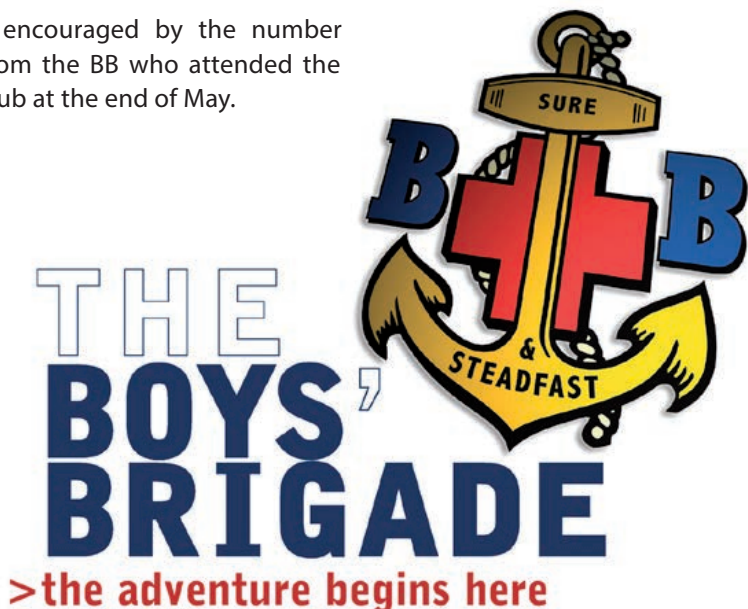
We were encouraged by the number of boys from the BB who attended the Holiday Club at the end of May.

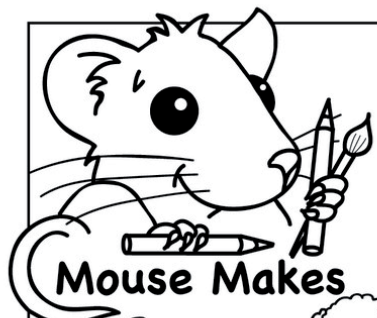
They all thought it was great and some parents changed their plans so that their boys could be there every day.

We received the results of the Juniors International Team Games competition which is a potted sports event covering six activities. Junior Sections from cross the world took part and from the 179 teams that enter we came 41 st. which is a really good result for our small team.

We do not meet during August and this year we do not have anyone attending the Battalion Camp at Glynde.

David Walters





LOST AND FOUND

Jesus told three stories to help us to understand God's love and forgiveness.

The first is about a missing sheep that the shepherd did not give up looking for.

The second is about a lost coin that the owner kept searching for until it was found.

The third is about a young man who returned home after he realised he had made a mistake by wanting to go his own way.

*Read the 'Lost and Found' parables in **Luke 15***



Can you find the lost COIN, the lost SHEEP and the lost SON in the word search? Can you find these other words from the Lost and Found parables too?

- HEAR • JESUS • HUNDRED • LOST • LOOK • FOUND
REJOICE • SINNER • REPENT • TEN • ONE • LAMP • SWEEP • SEARCH
FATHER • JOURNEY • SPENT • HUNGRY • PIGS • BACK • HOME • RAN
ROBE • RING • CALF • EAT • CELEBRATE • DEAD • ALIVE

A dream for the church

Fifty years ago this month, I was baptised. Not only was that a landmark experience, I would go as far to say that it was a life changing experience. I was sixteen years of age at the time and I was baptised by full immersion. The Baptismal Certificate, which I hold dear, bears the following verse from John's gospel, 'Jesus said, "As the Father hath loved me, so I have loved you; continue ye in my love." [John 15:9]. Whilst my life has taken various turns and there have been other landmarks along the way, I have always tried to continue to witness in God the Father's love and have always shared with others that, as my Father God loves me, so I love them in his name and by his grace I pray that we will continue in his love.

As you may know Jilly and I have recently moved to the area and one of the things about moving into a new community, is that you get to play a new game: I call it 'people watching' and I can tell you that there is certainly a rich tapestry of people in Lindfield and the surrounding areas. Young and old, big and small; some looking tired and jaded; some looking fit and seemingly without a care in the world; many, in our recent warm weather, wearing shorts; others not quite that brave, clinging to their trusty umbrellas; mothers pushing buggies, trying to placate their little ones; fathers trying hard to look the other way. Then there are motorists trying to squeeze a twelve-

foot car into a ten-foot parking space, eventually giving up and moving on. All these characters and many many others pass by. Each with differing thoughts, views and beliefs; some occasionally looking toward the church with interest, whilst others look the other way. As I 'people watch' of course, I have no idea what occupies people's thoughts, but I do know that they are all God's children and he loves them all. I also know that we're called to love them and each other in Christian Love; we are encouraged and commanded to do so by our Lord himself. Of course, none of us are the same; in fact we're all different, yet God loves us all equally. As the old chorus goes 'Red and yellow black and white all are precious in His sight'. So I pray that as a church, and as individuals, as our Father God loves us, we will reach out and love others in his name and by his grace, in order that we and they may continue in his love.

The great North American Civil Rights leader, Martin Luther King, uttered those never to be forgotten words, "I have a dream". As I write this letter, football's World Cup competition is about to get under way in Russia and I think every England supporter would echo King's words. I, for one, have a dream of our team winning the cup and bringing it back home.

I also, however, think that that famous phrase has great meaning for the Church.

I have a dream of a Church, the body of Christ in Lindfield, which is baptised in the Holy Spirit. I have a dream of a fellowship that is 100% committed in its ministry and witness, a church that is growing, as together we strive to share the good news of the love of a risen saviour. My dream or vision is that with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we are continually fed, guided and maintained by and through the Spirit, for then we will surely be successful in our kingdom witness.

In a strange way, there are similarities between the church dream and the England football dream. Firstly, the opposition that our football team face will be world class. Well, the forces of evil that we face as a church are also world class. If our treasured church dream is to become a reality, we must be on our guard, for the devious tactics of the devil and his team are second to none.

Secondly, the more successful our footballers become as the World Cup progresses, the stiffer the opposition that they will encounter. Similarly, the stronger we become as a church, the more spiritual or spirit-filled we become, the stronger will be the forces of evil that beset us. As individual believers and as a church we must be strong and vigilant in our faith and loving service.

Thirdly, whichever team wins the World Cup, they will train together to improve and hone their skills. Well, as a church, in order to grow, in order to know success, we need to train together. It's vital that we come together in Prayer and Bible Study, so that we may have a sound base for our work and witness.

Fourthly, the side that is victorious in Russia will play together as a team. As the Church of Jesus Christ in Lindfield we, along with our sisters and brothers from the other local churches must be united as a team in our work and witness.

Fifthly, the team that holds the World Cup aloft in victory will have a skilled captain as leader. Someone who is a good communicator and who can inspire, motivate and encourage his team mates. Well, we, the church, have a captain who is second to none, for we are led by none other than Jesus, the risen Christ. Just as the football team will listen to their captain and follow his directions, so we must listen to our captain and be prepared to follow him.

Question: *Will the England football team do us proud; will that dream of winning the World Cup come to fruition?*

Answer: *Who knows? It did all those years ago in 1966 and I for one will be cheering them on, hoping it does in 2018.*

Question: *Will the church's dream become a reality?*

Answer: *YES, provided we are prepared to give 100% and we are focused upon the Holy Spirit unreservedly letting the Spirit have his way with and through us in love.*

The holiday season will soon be upon us. Schools will break up for the summer holidays and the great exodus in search of sun and relaxation will get under way. Whether you're off to the sunshine or staying at home; whether you're taking an exciting adventure holiday or staying in the peace and quiet of home, may you

know the richness of God's presence and the joy of his love at all times.

I hope you meet up with old friends and make new friends and, as you do, remember that they and you are loved and held dear by our Lord, and by his grace we are always on the winning side.

Yours in the never ending love of Christ Jesus,

Simon Franklin

Lindfield URC & Operation Mobilisation

Saturday - Sunday 15th/16th September

Saturday Afternoon and Evening

2.30 pm - OM "Sharing One's Faith" (Parallel activity for children)

5.00 pm - Reception followed by family-friendly two-course supper

After Supper - OM Vision and sharing of mission work experience by young people

Sunday Morning

10.00am Service: Preacher Simon Lunt from OM (London)

During Service and after coffee: Updates on OM missions supported by Lindfield URC: OM (London) and OM (Kosovo)



Sign-up Sheets will be available nearer the date

Sharing One's Faith

*We need to convey our great JOY
in the Lord, and that by sharing
our faith we are doing His will*

The first event of the Lindfield URC/ Operation Mobilisation Weekend on the 15th and 16th of September is "Sharing One's Faith". It starts at 2.30pm, with a parallel event for children and, for those able to stay, will lead straight on to a Reception at 5pm before the Family Friendly two-course hot supper.

Sharing One's Faith will be led by Mark Handley of Operation Mobilisation (OM). Mark is the Head of Evangelism & Outreach (London). He is developing a programme of teaching, examples and practice, for us, which will include:

- *Thinking about where we will be sharing our faith and in what context?*
- *Looking at styles of evangelism that can be exemplified in scripture. What style suits each of us?*
- *How, in speech, to share our testimony*
- *Thinking about how to be a recognisable Christian*

- *How to make conversations more intentional with respect to sharing faith*

There will be a tea break half way through.

The congregations of other local churches are also being invited to participate.

As Keith says: "In Mark 3, when Jesus appoints the disciples, it is so that they would be with him, and that they may be sent out. Sharing our faith in word and deed is part of us being his disciples. I look forward to OM's visit, and hope each of us will be encouraged in how we may share the good news of Christ's Kingdom."

The programme for the whole weekend is shown Opposite.

The Missions Group

Mission Update

July/August



Do you remember the Hunger Lunch in aid of Release International in October last year when we were delighted to welcome Kenneth Harrod from Release International together with Helen Berhane? Kenneth preached and Helen told us of her time in prison in Eritrea, undergoing torture for refusing to deny her faith. After the service Kenneth and Helen answered questions and then Helen sang one of her Eritrean Gospel Songs. It was a profound and moving experience for all of us privileged to be there.

This year our July and August Mission Giving will be for Release International. It is an inter-denominational Christian ministry, working through local church partners in more than 25 countries, helping persecuted Christians prayerfully, pastorally and practically. It is 50 years old this year having been founded in 1968, inspired by the testimony and ministry of Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, who was imprisoned for his faith for 14 years in communist Romania.

Release International works by providing for the needs of families of Christians who are being persecuted and enabling believers to survive persecution and its effects.

The supply of bibles and literature and other support enables persecuted Christians to bring Christ to those who are opposed to the gospel.

Being the voice of Christians persecuted for their faith is also a very important aspect of its work.

There is more information, including copies of "Voices", the Release International magazine, on the Mission Table.

If you would like to give towards the work of Release International 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.

On Thursday 26th July the monthly prayer meeting, at 8pm, will be dedicated to praying for our persecuted brothers and sisters world-wide

A hand to hold

Recently I accompanied a lady from our church to hospital for a 'procedure'. She was very anxious and feeling uncertain about whether it would be painful.

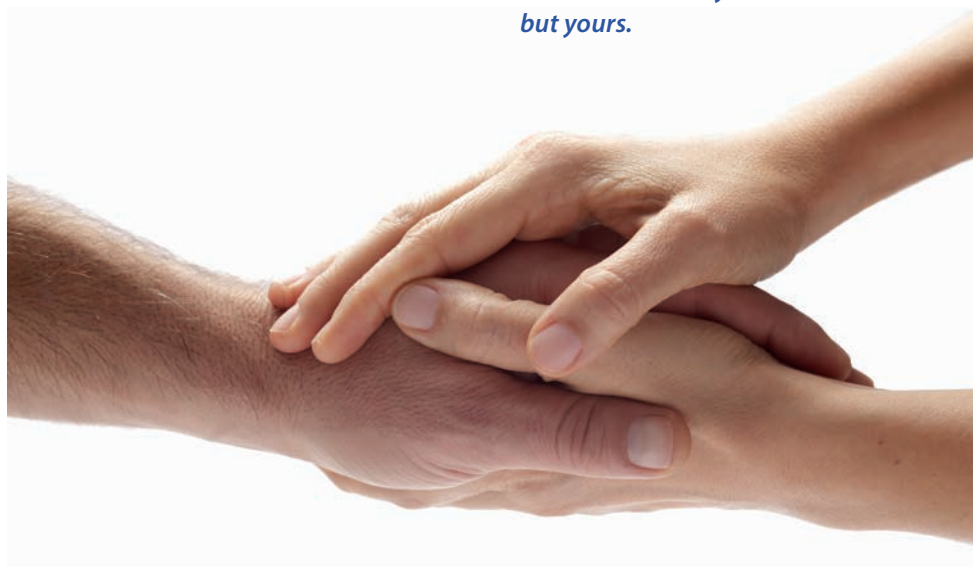
She has a very strong faith and speaks easily about the faithfulness of God.

However, sitting in the hospital corridor, in fear and trepidation, she turned to me and said, "We know that God is with us always..." and there she hesitated. I added, "but sometimes we need a physical presence, and that is why He is using me today, to give you a hand to hold".

It reminded me of that lovely poem by Teresa of Avila.

Christ Has No Body

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which
He looks Compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which
He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands,
with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth
but yours.*



'Unbreakable,

What the Son of God said about the Word of God'

by Andrew Wilson



"Jesus is the new Abraham, who trusts God, leaves his homeland to start a new nation, and ends up inheriting the world with his Galaxy of descendants. Jesus is the new Isaac, the miraculous child offered as a sacrifice out of obedience to God and rescued from death when all seemed lost. Jesus is the new Jacob, who saw heaven opened, received the promises, wrestled with God, and commissioned twelve guys to bless the nations. Jesus is the Lion of Judah, praised by his brothers and victorious over his enemies, to whom the whole world brings tribute and obedience. Jesus is the new Joseph, the beloved son who was sold for the price of a slave, abandoned and left for dead, but who remains faithful and then gets lifted up to the right hand of the King of the world. And that's just in Genesis..."

At Bible by the beach in early May this year I bought too many books. Even though I know that this always happens, I still seem powerless to stop it. Amongst treasures such as 'A good old age' by Derek Prime (a risky present for my Dad's birthday) and 'A better story' by Glynn Harrison I have a little gem of a book by Eastbourne based pastor and author Andrew Wilson.

Andrew's short (65 pages) and engaging book helps us to understand how Jesus viewed scripture, how He broke down misconceptions about it and how He showed that in the end, it's all about Him and God's great love story with all of humanity. As the preface states, when it comes to the doctrine of Scripture, we cannot go wrong if we hold to the perspective of Jesus.

The writing style is very easy to read. For example, I love this simple but powerful paragraph from chapter 5 (It's not about you):

If you're the kind of reader that has a hundred other things going on and tends to dip in and out of books I thoroughly recommend this book as an inspiring and thoughtful summer read. It only cost £1 at bible by the beach so it's pretty cheap too. If finding £1 is tricky you can read the first few chapters here for free: www.wtsbooks.com/common/pdf_links/9781909611863.pdf

David Goodchild

‘Crazy Christians’

A call to follow Jesus by Rev Michael Curry



I was flying between Australia and New Zealand and managed to miss the moment Prince Harry married Meghan Markle. When I woke up in Auckland the next morning I had received around a dozen messages all on the same theme.

“Did you hear that sermon?”

It wasn’t hard to find, the video was headline news on most websites and a sermon which had beamed live to an estimated two billion people was trending across social media. The Reverend Michael Curry had made quite the impact.

Some thought his message was a little long, others just enjoyed the surprised looks on the faces of the more traditional royals, almost everyone agreed that the sermon packed a profound and powerful punch.

There is indeed, power in Love.

I watched the sermon in my hotel room from the video on the BBC News website; and absolutely loved it. Maybe the end was not as strong as the start, but it is rare to find a voice of such faith, wisdom and gravitas that also sparkles with such personality and mischief.

Googling this remarkable man I discovered he had a book of sermons which I immediately bought and downloaded to my Kindle.

I was a little put off by the title but this is no trendy, zany or wacky book. I confess to buying a lot of Christian books that I never quite get around to reading or finishing. I read ‘Crazy Christians’ cover to cover within the next 24 hours. The more time you spend in Reverend Curry’s company the more you will understand the man and the ministry behind that remarkable Royal Wedding Sermon. Reading the book after hearing him preach allows you to hear the rhythm of his delivery echoed in his powerful prose.

The book is easy to read as each chapter is self contained, each being essentially based on a different sermon. The book takes only a couple of hours to read, and that is time well spent in the company of the same wit and wisdom a stunned crowd experienced at the royal wedding. If you need a book to read on your travels this summer I highly recommend it.

Dan McQuillin

Is time running out?

Something happened to me early in the morning recently that I can never remember happening before! I was looking forward to a nice hot bath and I placed my Bible and Everyday with Jesus notes on my reliable bath rack, and sat in the bath with about 6" of hot water, and Radox bubble bath. I sent up a short prayer and began reading the daily reading from the notes. As I pondered deeply over the readings I suddenly noticed that my bath water was not so deep! In fact it had all vanished down the plug hole!! I stared in amazement for a few moments and started to laugh and laugh and laugh. Rosemary was also laughing and we thought it was really funny.

As I dried myself I thought about what will happen when the sands of time run out (Psalm 139.17-18). Will we be ready? What opportunities have we while we still have the gift of life? I have only been a Christian for 46 years but I am still learning things from God and other people, and sometimes even from little children. God's love is new every morning.

Great is His love for us.

Let God have the reins of your heart and be praying people and be free to love and care with compassion for others and be yourself in the Lord, and you will grow as a Christian and keep humble.

We all have spiritual gifts God has given us. Use the gifts He has given you and He may give you even more to work for the kingdom of God. Spread the good news and let your light shine for Jesus. What's more, never never give up, it will be well worth it all one day when we get to Heaven. 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18.



By the way, I adjusted the bath plug and the bath now holds water again much to my relief! I think even Lucy our dog wondered what all the laughter was about that morning! God gave me so many things to think about through that simple little illustration of everyday life. God teaches us things all the time if only we can be still and listen and receive. Psalm 46.10.

How about you?

Ray Tijou

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Church Secretary

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Email waller.s@sky.com

Treasurer

Paul Bloxham 01444 483672

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

July

1st	Winifred Scopes	Jo Bloxham
8th	Betty Billins	Iris Bingham
15th	Heather Swann	Heather Swann
22nd	Fiona Tingley	Fiona Tingley
29th	Donation Sunday	Sue Tester

August

5th	Anne Parker	Carol Marsh
12th	In Touch	Meta Orchin
19th	Zoe McQuillin	Jo Bloxham
26th	Zoe McQuillin	Heather Swann

September

2nd	Wedding Flowers	Iris Bingham
9th	Wedding Flowers	Fiona Tingley
16th	Mac Turner	Sue Tester
23rd	Meta Orchin	Carol Marsh
30th	Harvest	Meta Orchin

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

Around Lindfield

Wednesday 11th July

12:15pm Tiger Arts - Lunch at Lindfield URC
1:00pm Concert at Lindfield URC :
Classical Folk Trio

Saturday 7th July

3:00pm Tunes & Tea Concert at Lindfield URC

Saturday 14th July

2:00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Summer Show of Flowers and Produce

Wednesday 8th August

12:15pm Tiger Arts - Lunch at Lindfield URC
1:00pm Concert at Lindfield URC :
Margaret Watson – Harp

Saturday 8th September

2:00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Autumn Show of Flowers and Produce



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk