

GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

February 2020



Bible verse of the month

“Love your
neighbour as
yourself,”

Matthew 22:39 NIV



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

I hope that all our New Year Resolutions are still intact! Keith has given us some new ideas to follow if we need any guidance. Firstly I must thank all our contributors for being so wonderful in the way they support our Good News! We have followed up news of so many things that took place over the Christmas period. The Traditional Christmas Concert was yet again such a huge success, with so many being able to enjoy the evening. Our thanks to Peter and all his wonderful team!

2020 could be a special year if we all take to heart the text for this month! What a wonderful world we would have.

Children sleeping in a garage? See what our young people have been doing and what they thought about it all. Danny our Youth Pastor has another great time available for our youngsters, see what is planned for the next half term. A home Group had a special outing which Jeanie has written about, allowing us all to share this outing with them.

We also look forward to a special time for the World Day of Prayer being held in our Church, do read when it is and learn how to take part. So much to take part in over the coming weeks and months so do come and join us, you will always get a very warm welcome.

Enjoy our Good News,

With Love from

Anne

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Dear friends

Over the course of the past nine months something has been slowly developing, not just my beard length, but my ability to run. Having turned fifty on Palm Sunday I thought perhaps I needed a little exercise more often and I started to follow the NHS Couch to five k running plan listening to “Laura” the coach on a pair of headphones. The plan takes you from a day where you are running no longer than one minute a number of times, to running continually for thirty minutes.

The plan is supposed to last nine weeks, it has taken me four times that length mainly because after the first three weeks, which included my time at spring school last May, I stopped and did not start again until the kids returned to school in September.

I did not mean to stop, to take a break through the warmest and driest time of year, but a two day pause became a week, and then a month, and then another month, and then it was nearly a fourth month before the headphones, shorts and trainers were back on. I set off from the manse, up the High Street, down Brushes Lane, following the footpath to Snowflakes Lane, along East Mascalls Road to Scamps Hill, Lewes Road, Luxford Road, Newton Road and back to the church. I had done this route before, walking Bracken our Labrador, but somehow introducing an element of running, seven lots of one minute, left me gasping for air.

I tried the route again four days later, I got home two minutes quicker, two days later and I had dropped another minute off the time.



Family News

As days passed the app on my phone challenged me to do less walking and more running, and by the fourth week I was six minutes faster than that first "run". I then had to stretch the route. Having got to the final week I am now able to run the thirty minutes / five kilometres without stopping, though I still feel a bit breathless at the end. Our stamina can build, but we need to keep at it, however if we do have a break, a gap, we can start again.

I wonder whether you have had good intentions at the start of the year, a New Year's resolution not to run but perhaps to sit and know the presence of God. Maybe now we are a few weeks in and a day or two has passed when you did not sit, did not pray, and did not read. Maybe this gap is longer than days, or weeks, maybe it's something you said you would do a year ago or even more. Do not let the gap, the time away, stop you restarting, but build a healthy attitude to finding that time with God. Maybe have notes that are dated, or if you are like me an app on a phone or tablet. The "Lectio 365" app from 24-7 Prayer Network gives a daily reminder and if you turn the volume up it will read the passage and guide you in prayer. For a more simple one verse reading the "You Version Bible" is useful, and of course you can use it as a bible too. If paper is still more to your liking, there are the booklets "Our Daily Bread" or UCB's "The Word for Today" to name but two. Even if you did not have a new year resolution it's not too late to seek that space. At the end of this month Lent will begin (Ash Wednesday is the 26th February) why not begin in a new exercise regime of daily stillness?

Your minister

Keith

By now I guess that most members of our Church Family will be aware of the sudden and very premature death of our good friend, Nick Bingham.

From the age of seventeen the illness Tourette's began to manifest itself with involuntary physical movements and tics and as the illness progressed so Nick suffered constantly from harassment, rejection and misunderstanding making it almost impossible to get employment. For the last few years Nick and Dawn have lived in France and in recent months they had found an English speaking church where they felt loved and cared for. During this time Nick's faith and trust in the Lord strengthened which is a great comfort for the family.

At this very sad time for his wife, Dawn, and his parents Iris and Gordon, please uphold them all in your thoughts and prayers. To them we send our love and deepest sympathy.

Fo Tingley

Family News *Contd.*

Condolances

It is with sadness that we share the news of Terry Oliver's passing. Our dear brother in Christ Terry, had been ill for a number of months and died peacefully on 15 January. Many of you will already know of Terry's massive contribution to missions' work at home and abroad, including through the LURC Missions Group and as a member of Prison Fellowship.

Please pray for Terry's wife, Christine, and their family at this sad time.

The Fellowship

This month The Fellowship will be meeting on Wednesday the 26th February at the usual time of 2.30pm. Because of inclement weather!, this will be a members' afternoon.

There will be the usual Bring and Buy table and at the end of the meeting, a cup of tea and time to catch up with friends.

All who come will be made most welcome.

Pat Phillips

Thank You

I want to thank all the kind folk who have sent flowers and phone messages whilst I have been laid up. I'm being well cared for with the NHS.

May I take this opportunity for Tony and I to wish you all a very Happy New year.

Blessings and love from
Margaret and Tony Stevens

Post Box 2019 review

A very big thank you. It may be somewhat late to thank you all for using the church Christmas Post Box, but we only knew the final total donated in January.

We raised £230 which was almost double the 2018 amount! Well done! All monies have been sent to 'Turning Tides' to help them with their wonderful work with the homeless in Worthing and Mid-Sussex.

From your Post Box team
**Sue Gooch, Anne Parker, Janet Wade,
Pat Phillips, Carol and Stuart Marsh**

Wednesday Worship.

Monthly Lunch Fellowship

It was jolly nerve wracking doing this for the first time but thanks to some old hands and new helpers we got through! The date for the next lunch is Wednesday 5th February 2020.

If you haven't already signed up please make sure you do so in plenty of time.

Penny Fanner

The Bank That Just Keeps On Giving!

In December we took delivery of a new notice board to coincide with our extended opening hours. I'm delighted to tell you that this has had a staggering effect. In one week alone we received 340 items! The collections throughout December amounted to 26.6% of the total collected throughout the year.

Having the board outside and the door open means that the Food Bank is now highly visible and people are able to drop off their items at a time that suits them.

Penny Fanner

As the Wednesday Worship service begins its third year it is good to celebrate this time of gathering. This service takes place at 11.30am on the first Wednesday of the month. Our time together lasts for about half an hour, which includes a couple of traditional hymns, prayers, a reading and a short address.

The timing and nature of the service fits a number of our members, who are unable to be with us at 10am on Sunday mornings, but welcome the opportunity to gather and give glory to God in the middle of the week.

Although meeting the same day as our church's lunch club please do not see the two as necessarily linked. It is timed so that one may attend both, with a slight break between, but a number choose to attend our service then head home, and others will have booked their lunch. Please do consider coming.

Our next Wednesday worship service will be on the 5th February, and then on the 4th March

Rev Keith Morrison

Traditional Christmas Concert 2019

Wow, what an evening. To see the audience almost stand as one to share in Auld Lang Syne was wonderful and made it all worthwhile.

I had some feedback from an individual who thought it highlighted the true meaning of Christmas and I thank all the participants, performers and front of house, for putting that message across.

Especially I would like to thank Dan for guiding us through the event with his customary aplomb.

The audience were generous and the collection amounted to £500.

Hope we can have a similar event this year.

Peter Swann

PS: The Sunday morning singers have already sung at the Autumn Club Lindfield and Compton House this year. We are going into hibernation for February.



New Website

In January Lindfield URC launched a new look website. As well as the latest information about the church, events and activities our website also delivers live streaming of services and contains a library with hundreds of past sermons available to listen to on demand.

The new site is designed to be significantly easier for different people to update content, as well as adapting dynamically to work better from tablets and mobile phones.

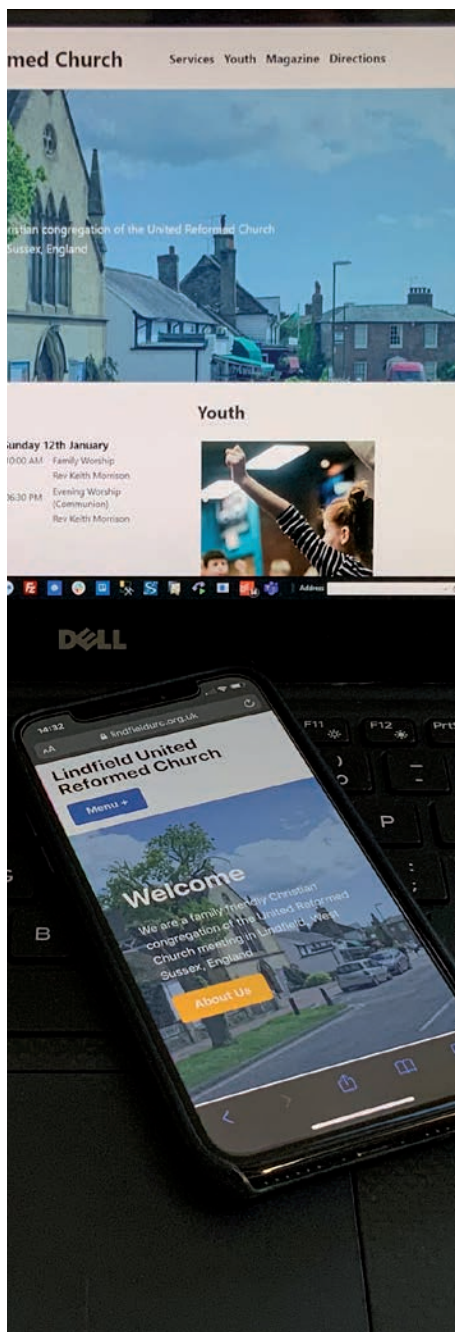
In addition, the site provides much improved encryption, security and privacy capabilities.

While the start of the new site is live more content will be added and the design and layout will continue to improve and evolve throughout 2020.

lindfieldurc.org.uk

Also this year a new digital church group is being formed to help the church to further improve our use of technology to support our worship, enhance our teaching, better serve our fellowship and further our outreach. I hope there will be more exciting news to share very soon.

Dan McQuillin



Hands

The language of the heart

Hands are for touching,
reaching out
caressing
holding.

Hands, the language of the
heart,
telling of love -
in the eager embrace of
united friends,
in the comforting embrace
of a frightened child
in the gentle hold of the
dying,
in the joyful holding of a
newborn baby.

Hands are for giving;
Open hands
that hold out
a generous heart.
Hands that offer healing
and hope.

But all around I see
closed fists!
Hands that claw and scratch,
Hands that thrust away
the needs of others.
Tight, tense fingers

clutched round fear.
Hands telling of fear.
Hands telling of hate,
shrieking of
imprisoned hearts,
locked up in pain.

Hands were made to touch
and hold,
not to hide and push away.
The same hands
that speak of enmity
could speak of peace.

Once I saw, as in a dream,
hands held wide enough
to hold the world in their
embrace.
Hands strong enough
to prise apart the clenched
fist.
Gentle enough
to melt away the deepest fear.
Hands scarred by a world
of bitterness and greed.
But hands stretched wide
enough
to transform
hatred into love.
The hands of a crucified God.

Well, here we are, already a month into 2020! It is hard to believe that it is 20 years since the arrival of the new millennium. 2020 will be a momentous year for many different reasons – a leap year, one in which we leave the EU, celebrate EURO 2020 and the second Tokyo Olympics. In a January LEDs Junior Church session, we discussed some New Year traditions including resolutions. Many people set them but less than 10% manage to keep them – however, research shows that those who make resolutions are ten times more likely to achieve their goals than those who never bother to explicitly make them.

We studied an article in The Christian Post regarding what God's resolutions for us might be. This suggested that they might be the answers that Jesus gave the Pharisees when they asked him which was the greatest commandment in the Jewish Law, which was made up of over 600 commandments! Jesus replied "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself" (Matthew 22 vs 37-39, NIV).

For love Jesus used the Hebrew word "agape", the highest form of love, like the love of God for humans: an unconditional commitment to place the other person first, not just a feeling, but a lifestyle. God's intention for us is that we put God first

with our decisions, attitudes and thoughts and love our neighbours as ourselves – what a world it would be if we kept such resolutions, but what a challenge too!

I always associate the numerals 2020 with 20/20 vision. I used to think this meant perfect vision but it is just "normal" clarity and sharpness of vision at 20 feet – still, that is without glasses and it is something most people would be grateful to have. Perhaps in 2020 we can resolve to have 20/20 vision when it comes to seeing Jesus and, consequently, for others to see something of Jesus in us. This is something that would flow naturally if we were able even in part to meet the two commandments, not suggestions, that Jesus considered most important in our lives.

The Christian Post offered four guides to help us pursue these goals:

- *Resolve to put God and neighbour first in all you do;*
- *Begin the day in God's Word;*
- *Walk through the day in His presence;*
- *End the day with Him.*

These resolutions are indeed a real challenge, but something to consider striving for in 2020 to help us achieve a 20/20 vision of God.

Martin Hall

A Hope filled new year

Whatever we face



By Emma Scrivener
January 1, 2020

This year. You can have Hope.
Whatever you're facing; (and even if you're refusing to face it).
Not a wishy-washy sense that everything will be okay.
Not a feeling or a temperament.
Not a stake in something that can be torn away.
Hope.

Not something you work up by yourself.
Not dependent on those around you.
Not about your house or your health or your happiness.
Hope.

Not for other people.
Not for when you've earned it and ticked off your list.
Not for when the holiday comes or you catch up on sleep.
Not for when you're better or worse or anywhere but here.
Hope.

This moment.

As you read this. As you run for your train. As you make the lunch and drive the car and open the computer and feed the dogs. As you sorrow and as you laugh. Every challenge, every heartbreak, every celebration. Hope.

A fact, not a feeling.
A gift, not a reward.

Hope.

"Christ in you, the hope of glory"
Colossians 1:27

"an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."
Hebrews 6:19

"on Him we have set our hope"
2 Corinthians 1:10

"And hope does not disappoint."
Romans 5:5

Whatever you are facing and whatever you may feel. Now. Tomorrow.

This year – and forever.

Here is the URL for more blogs by Emma:

<https://emmascrivener.net/2020/01/a-hope-filled-new-year-whatever-we-face/>

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.

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

Regular Activities

Mon	10:00am	Art Group
	6:00pm	Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6:00pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7:30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10:00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7:30pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	11:30am	Wednesday Worship (1st Wed) a midweek service
	2:30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	8:00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thursday, Alternate Months)
Fri	5:00pm	Rooted (Years 2-5)
	7:00pm	Pulse (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)

The church regularly opens midweek on Tuesday 10:00am - Noon

February Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free	16th Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship
				6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
2nd Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Michael Davies	17th-21st	1:30pm	Holiday Club
	6:30pm	Something Different Adam Earle			
5th Wednesday	11:30am	Wednesday Worship	20th Thursday		House Groups
	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship			
6th Thursday		House Groups	22nd Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free
8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free	23rd Sunday	10:00am	Communion
				6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
9th Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship	26th Wednesday	2:30pm	The Fellowship
	6:30pm	Communion Rev Keith Morrison		7:30pm	Elders' Meeting
14th Friday	4:00pm	Messy Church	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free	29th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evangelical Free

YOUTH PAGES

Hello!

In December, soon after village night, Pulse spent a night sleeping in Keith's garage! We kept it set up with the stable scene and called it 'Sleeping in the Stable'.

There were 10 young people, me and Keith sleeping in the stable – which meant we were a bit tight for space! In the morning, we asked the young people to think about Mary and Joseph's stay in the stable, and we also talked about how it must feel to be homeless. However cold we may have been, we had many layers, and people around us! I asked the young people to write up their experience and below are five responses:

“It was cold and I feel sad because the homeless sleep outside every day. The rest was fun, but my feelings are sad because of the homeless.”

“On Friday we had a good learning experience at Pulse – we slept in a stable!

It was cramped and not very cold. It was very fun, and we enjoyed it. It relates to Mary and Joseph sleeping overnight in the stable with all the noisy animals and hay.”

“My experience for sleeping in the stable was cold, fun and tiring. Being homeless must feel lonely and sad.”

“It was so very fun and a bit crazy! I thought it was quite cold, so I went in for a bit and kept warm. When I went to bed I was freezing by the morning. It felt like sleeping like a homeless person in the cold.”

“It was tiring, sad, lonely but fun!”

Calling all Apprentices!

Apprentice Holiday Club is running in February half term! Come and learn how to be God's Apprentice!

Ages: **5-11 years (School years 1-6)**

Dates: **Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
1.30pm – 4.30pm
Plus Sunday 23rd February 10am – 11am**

Location: **Lindfield United Reformed Church.**

For more information or to apply please contact Danny Goodall at:

Email: dgoodall@lindfieldurc.org.uk

Phone: 07443 438970

We look forward to hearing from you!



Standing Firm

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Recently we watched on T.V. the story of Torvill and Dean the great ice skaters of Olympic standard who won many great awards around the world. It occurred to me that in the beginning they were two young people who, when they came together their friendship and vision for perfection somehow made them become great. This couple came to the very top of their profession and made their names for years to come in the media. They made training their priority.

They worked so hard and had tears and setbacks but kept on going and not giving up doing strict training for hours, days, weeks, months and years. It reminded me about getting ready for the Christian life.

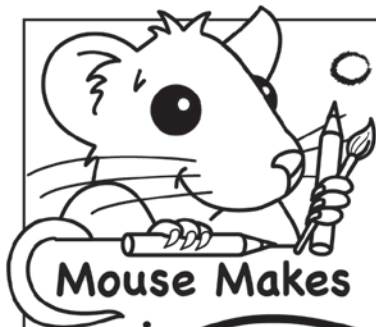
I felt in the Christian life we know it's the Holy Spirit who brings power into people's lives. but only as we yield our very selves to Christ and His work in our lives. As we submit to Christ's love He can really use us to help to make the world a better place. And there is always satisfaction in doing what God has called you to do. If it gets tough going you can always call on the Lord in prayer to help you, or talk to a trusted Christian friend who is able to help you. Daily scripture readings also help.

We are now in the New Year and we know for most of us the clock is ticking on in our lives. Most of us want to continue leading a worthwhile life and Jesus is the one who can make this possible for us as we look to Him and trust Him. As our dear friend Alice once said in her north country accent: "I'm looking up and pressing on!"

The things that are impossible for man are possible with God. In November He helped us to buy our bungalow at the price agreed ten months before in January 2019. He has kept His word to us through a long step of faith. Praise God.

Wait on the Lord and when you feel ready there are always some things God can use you in to further the work of His Kingdom. Sometimes people just need to step out in faith and God will do the rest. It all works through love and faith. Simple really. I would have really worried once but I know Jesus has always been faithful to me and meets people where they are at. He does not push but is kind and encouraging to all in His love for us. PTL. Let your light shine in 2020.

Ray Tijou



After **Jesus** was baptised He was led by the Spirit into the **wilderness** for **forty** days where he was tempted by the devil.

READ the story in **Luke 4:1-13**

Mouse Makes

JUMP
JERUSALEM
HIGH
HOLD
IF

THUNGRY
EOHFOOT
MLIFTDE
PYMOJBO
TSBREAD
APATSRE
TIPYUAV
IRTESTI
OILEDL
NTSTONE
STEMPLE
HDAYS

What was Jesus' reply when the devil asked Him to turn a stone into bread?

Who did Jesus say He would only worship and serve?

What did Jesus say you must not do?

Can you find these words in the word search?

JESUS • BAPTISED • RIVER • JORDAN • LED
HOLY SPIRIT • WILDERNESS • DESERT • TEMPTATIONS
DEVIL • FORTY • DAYS • HUNGRY • ROCK • STONE
BREAD • WRITTEN • SCRIPTURE • ALL • KINGDOMS • WORLD • GLORY
WORSHIP • SERVE • GOD • ONLY • JERUSALEM • TEMPLE • HIGH • IF • SON
JUMP • THROW • DOWN • ANGELS • HOLD • LIFT • FOOT • LORD • TEST



A growing prayer meeting

In 2001 the foot and mouth disease epidemic took hold across the United Kingdom. It has been described as 'the most serious ever to occur in a country previously free of the disease; a national crisis... probably one of the greatest social upheavals since the war.' Members from the three churches in the village felt called to meet together regularly on a Saturday morning to pray, particularly for farmers, and the rural communities mainly affected by the epidemic. Communities were affected for many months and some for years and we continued to meet weekly praying for them. The epidemic is over but this group has met almost every Saturday morning since 2001, praying mainly for our nation, our government and also local issues. Numbers have varied over the years averaging around 10. However over the past few months numbers have grown and around 20 people now gather every week. We have a great time of fellowship and prayer. The venue changes monthly, each church hosting in turn. In February we meet in the Evangelical Free Church, Challanor Road - 8.45am - 9.30am. Why not join us?

David Walters

New Mission Strategy

As agreed at our 2019 annual meeting a new approach to Mission Partnership will begin in January 2021. What had been our six, two month, projects will be replaced with a more focused OM partnership. This will allow relationship with mission projects both overseas and in the UK through one organisation. We will also continue to support Turning Tides (formerly known as Worthing Churches Homeless Project) as a more local mission partner. These partnerships will not be set to certain times of year but it is hoped to have a relationship, with engagement, all year. Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection will also remain.

It is imagined that those with Romans 1:11 child sponsorships, will continue until the children have reached maturity. Our church will facilitate this, but not directly support any new sponsorships, or new work. The church will continue to tithe its giving into a Mission Budget. From the Mission Budget we can increase giving to the two key partnerships. Some of our mission funds will also be used directly for mission conducted by ourselves (a local pot), e.g. towards costs of outreach activities, or elements of youth work. Where appropriate we will also sponsor participation on short term Mission opportunities for people within our fellowship.

As we move towards this new model the 2020 two month programme of giving from our Mission Budget will be following the pattern and partnerships of 2019. If you have any questions on these changes please do ask me.

Keith Morrison

Bereavement Care Awareness

A training course to help churches
support bereaved people



“I have found the day's course extremely helpful. The advice and discussions have been so informative. Very well presented.”

Your local course:

Saturday 15th February 2020
10.00 am–4.00 pm at
All Saints, High Street,
Lindfield RH16 2HS Contact:
07902 285436 or
carrie.britton@lindfield.info



For more information visit
www.careforthefamily.org.uk/bereavementcare
or call (029) 2081 0800

Blessings

Do we deserve blessings? No!! But from the fullness of His grace He wants to bless us.

In November I received a blessing beyond my imagining. Lee Abbey Christian Retreat Centre had been a favourite place of my late husband Ted. When Jean Gardiner asked me to go with her to Lee Abbey for five days, I was speechless (which is unusual for me).

We chose the course called 'Book of Blessings' which was run by an amazing lady called Val Turner.

I was challenged by the enormity of this beautiful place, which was built overlooking the sea and this gave us the opportunity to walk, be at peace and praise God the Creator of the world.

The week was filled with joy as we met and drew alongside all these people who were longing for a closer walk with God.

Everyone smiled at each other. We felt like a family, which we were...the family of God. We didn't know each other but we possessed the 'ties that bind', the knowledge of being one in Christ Jesus.





I learnt so much about God's blessings.
Blessings heal wounds.

Whatever rubbish we face God is sending
His blessing in it.

Surrender in all circumstances. Leave it in
God's hands.

God's love is tough love.

How do we see blessings...Trust and
Obey...receive that deep relationship
with God.

At the end of each day, count your
blessings!

Some activities pushed me out of my
comfort zone, but I became aware of
overcoming my inhibitions, and the
words of a song came to me..'My chains
fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went
forth, and followed Thee'.

At Christmas the Lee Abbey Community
sent me a card.

It contained.....A prayer for the year
ahead.....which I'd like to share with you.

Dear Heavenly Father

***As a new year begins, help us to
find space to hear your voice.***

May we listen and be changed.

***Help us to see the beauty in your
creation.***

***May we recognise the love that
surrounds us.***

***Help us to find peace in the
busyness of life.***

May we rest in you and be renewed.

***Strengthen us, Lord, to share your
love with the world.***

Amen

Lesley Sparks

Wintershall Nativity

Our Home Group's visit.

This was something I had never experienced before, it was so real. We first saw in the fields shepherds with their sheep and lambs, together with some cattle. We were all waiting for Jospheh and Mary to arrive. Mary was riding on a donkey, looking for a place to shelter as she was nearly due to give birth. The Inn Keeper said he had no rooms vacant, but he found a stable that they could stay in. They were very glad to accept his offer.

The shepherds in the fields were looking after their sheep, when there was a bright light in the sky and an angel appeared and they were told to follow the star to Bethlehem, and they should not be afraid. They were told that they would find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. This baby was the Lord most high. The shepherds immediately gathered their flocks and we watched them go on their way.

The crowds of people were all shown the way to a large barn. We took our seats and, while we waited, the people were telling the story relating to the scene we saw. Carols and music also set the scene. The shepherds wandered into the barn, and saw Baby Jesus lying in a manger, they marvelled at the sight, they all bowed down and worshipped Him. The Magi who had travelled so far following the star, came in looking very grand and very puzzled, they marvelled that they had found the Baby Jesus! They also bowed down and worshipped Jesus and gave Him gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. Suddenly there appeared an angel, which told them not to return the way they came, but said to go back another way home.

With all the colourful costumes, animals and music relating to everything, I found it all very moving as it brought it all so much to life. We all found our outing as a House Group very enjoyable. To see this as a group it was so uplifting and it was a fitting start to our Christmas.

Luke 2 Verse 6-20

Jeannie Welch



World day of prayer

Rise, take your mat and walk



Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Rise, take your mat and walk' to join this day of prayer.* Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service and they encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future. They encourage us to 'Rise, take your mat and walk' with them as they continue their often turbulent journey towards full reconciliation.

World Day of Prayer is an international inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans

Finally, at a church near you on Friday 6th March 2020, people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Zimbabwe.

A women led, global, ecumenical movement the Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas - before finishing in American Samoa more than 36 hours later.

The local World Day of Prayer service will be held this year at Lindfield United Reformed Church on Friday 6th March at 2 pm.

All are welcome to come to pray and worship our one true God in harmony and unity with others throughout the world.

Jo Bloxham

Who am I?

Once again we have a mystery member of the congregation for you to guess the identity of, using the information provided in their answers below to the usual questions. Can you start the year with a correct identification? All will be revealed in March!

Where were you born?

Harrow

What was your favourite subject at school?

Geography

What was your first Church?

At Andrew's Eastcote

What is/was your job?

People, accounts & administration

What's your favourite sport?

F1

What is your favourite hymn/worship song?

Lord of all being thrown afar

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

Definitely half full

What's your favourite food?

Welsh rarebit

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

South Australia

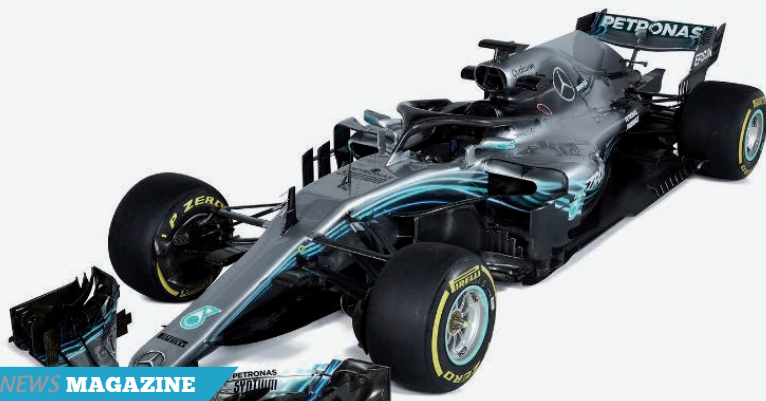
What makes you laugh?

The antics of the world's top politicians (if it were not so sad).

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

Railways

Martin Hall



Phonebook

Keith Morrison (Minister)

Telephone 01444 484791
Email kmorrison@lindfielddurc.org.uk
Normal day off Friday

Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office 01444 487607
Mobile 07443 438970
Email dgoodall@lindfielddurc.org.uk
Normal day off Saturday

Church Secretary

Sue Gooch 01444 455047
Email spgooch48@gmail.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 Gooch 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship

Sue Gooch 01444 455047

Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

The Fellowship

Pat Phillips 01444 484507

Stepping Stones

Zoe McQuillin 01444 484364

Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

February

2nd	Sally Ross-Clark	Heather Swann
9th	Carol Walters	Fiona Tingley
16th	Jessie Green	Carol Marsh
24th	Zoe McQuillin	Jo Bloxham

March

1st	Zoe McQuillin	Iris Bingham
8th	Betty Billins	Anne Elvin
15th	Heather Swann	Heather Swann
22nd	Janet Wade	Fiona Tingley
29th	Flower Fund	Carol Marsh

If anyone would like to be involved with distributing the church flowers on Monday morning at 10:30am please contact Heather Swann 01444 450335

Around Lindfield

Saturday 1st February

9:30am Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Coffee Morning, Plant Sale and Seed Swap

Tuesday 11th February

2:30pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall
"An Odd Thing Happened today at the Airport"
Talk by Neil Sadler

Wednesday 12th February

12:15pm Tiger Arts – Lunch in the Tiger
1:00pm Concert in All Saints : Sarah Milner – Violinist
8:00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
"Life in Leonardslee" – Talk by Head Gardener Ray Abrahams

Saturday 15th February

7:30pm Haywards Heath Music Society : HH Methodist Church
Jonathan Radford, saxophone. Works by Debussy, Schumann
and Gershwin arranged for alto, tenor and soprano saxophones
and accompanied by Ashley Tripp on piano
Information from Christine Colbourne: 01444-456227
www.haywardsheathmusicsociety.org.uk

Thursday 20th February

7:30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall
"Cats" PG – Tickets available from Tufnells from 27th January



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk