

GoodNEWS MAGAZINE

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

September 2012

Street Pastors

Hope and Help on the high street

It's a dogs life

Lucy brings four legged love to all

Book Review

Francis Chan reminds us not to neglect the Holy Spirit

"I urge you brothers (and sisters) in view of God's mercy to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God which is your spiritual worship."

ROMANS 12:1

NEW LOOK!

Still includes!

Family News
Mission Focus
Dear Friends
Church Diary

Bible verse of the month

Psalm 119:33-40

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

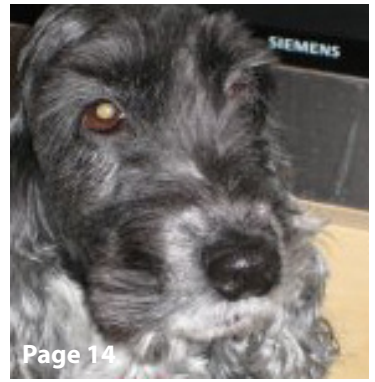
36 Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain!

37 Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

38 Confirm to your servant your promise, that you may be feared.

39 Turn away the reproach that I dread, for your rules are good.

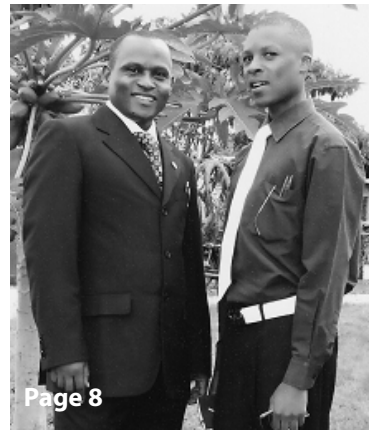
40 Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life!



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Please think; do you have a special text for next month's Magazine that you could share with others? It can be good to bring special verses of the Bible to our attention that can help others in their daily life.

Editorial

September is a strange month. It is identified most often with two seemingly contradictory viewpoints. It can be seen as a new start or beginning, especially for those connected in any way with Education. For others, it may be seen as the return to routine after the holiday period. So I think we cover most angles in this month's magazine!

For those beginning something new we remember our young people. Alec and Vi's granddaughter Rosie writes about what she is doing at University. We also welcome Dan McQuillin to the Good News team. In his own words he is going to add the 'sparkly bits'. It is actually much more than that in that he will be taking over from Tim Sanderson, to transform the magazine from individual bits to a coherent whole.

Now as to going back to routine; we have reminders of different groups starting up again after the summer break. So you may want your diaries/ calendars near to hand.

Anyway whether you feel as if you are about to start out on to new adventures or just returning to the same, let us take time to pray for one another that 'the joy of the Lord will be our Strength'

Val

(Fear not Anne will be back next month!)

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Dear friends

2012 has been quite a year and it's not over yet! With the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games behind us, there may be a sense of anti-climax. Now that they're over, it would be easy to feel flat. That would be a great mistake, because something just as exciting and challenging will still be in full swing – the Paralympics begin on August 29th and don't finish until September 9th.

For me, the prospect of someone who is disabled refusing to let that disability stop them from taking part in Olympic sport, not only inspires me, but it shows me how much more I could achieve, if I spent less time moaning about my problems. I don't want to sound like an old fashioned schoolmaster, but it's easy to let life's difficulties obscure its opportunities and that can be just as true in church as it is at home or the work-place.

You will already know that we are in the midst of a stewardship exercise and on **September 8th** the Elders have called us all together to share both our gifts and the needs of the fellowship. This is all in an effort to follow-up the great time we had at Pilgrim Hall on the last weekend in June. Paul Stokes, who was our speaker, gave us a lovely picture of the way God wants to take us onto the dance floor and teach us new steps.

I have to confess that I can't dance for toffee – or anything else for that matter – which makes me feel very inadequate and the Christian life can feel a bit like that sometimes. We try to explain our faith to non-Christian friends, but their eyes just glaze over and they do their best to change the subject. Society seems to be getting more and more hostile and it's easy to feel pushed to the margins and ignored.

That's why we want everyone in the fellowship to find out what gifts the Holy Spirit has given them and how we can share them together in response to the teaching we received at Pilgrim Hall. We mustn't let the momentum disappear! Over the next few weeks, I'm asking you seriously to consider how you can use the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you in the life of the church, so that when we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving Services on **October 14th**, we can share a "Harvest of Talents" and let God carry us forward into all that He has in store for us.

There's no sense of anti-climax in my heart. How could there be when we have a God like ours?

With sincere good wishes from your Pastor and friend,

Charles S Martin

In Touch - Ladies Group

It feels too soon to be thinking of Autumn when it doesn't seem we have had Summer yet (at least not at the time of writing this), but welcome to the latter part of the year!

In Touch enjoyed a very informative evening with Fi McLachlan from the Trussel Trust, in July , having heard at the end of last year of the plans for the Food Bank it was good to hear the progress that has been made. Thank you to those who contributed on the night to a food parcel to be added to the tons of food already logged in, and thank you too that we were able to make a monetary contribution of £25 to help in other ways.

By now we will have (hopefully) met in Janet Wade's garden for fellowship together and on the 29th September we will be holding our Away Day at the Methodist Church in Perrymount Road from 10.00am to 4.00pm, which is to be led by Janet Goodenough.

You are warmly invited to come along, please bring a packed lunch for yourselves, tea and coffee will be provided and possibly a cake or two if some can be persuaded! It would be very helpful to know numbers, but obviously as you're bringing your own lunch that is not so important and if on the day you feel you want to come then please do.

There will be a charge of £5 a head to cover the cost of hiring the premises and I would be very pleased to receive that before the day. If you should require any further information please do not hesitate to speak to me or phone on 455047.

Come and make this an enjoyable time for all of us.

Sue Waller

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

If you were disappointed last September not to be able to find anyone in Lindfield hosting one of Macmillan's "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" events you will be delighted to know that Alan & Margaret Gomme, will be doing so this year on Friday 28th September from 10 to 12 at 17 Finches Park Road.

As is the tradition Alan's model railway "Horsted" based on Horsted Keynes station on the Bluebell Railway will be operating that morning. In addition to the usual coffee/tea and biscuits, there will be home-made cakes and cards for sale.

All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Alan & Margaret Gomme

Back to Church Sunday

Please pray for our 10:30 Joint morning service on Sunday 30th September to celebrate Back to Church Sunday



Boys' Brigade

The first two weeks of July were even wetter than previous years, and we had some forebodings about camp: was the field going to be so flooded that we would not be able to use it? But the miracle of Glynde (our campsite) was repeated again: the rain disappeared almost as soon as we got to camp, and instead of dripping, we were baking in the most glorious week of sunshine this year! God is good!

The theme of camp this year was the Olympics, and we staged our own "alternative Olympics". We were lucky enough to have a genuine Olympic torch, as Mark Jago, one of the Brighton BB Captains (and Chief Guest at our Display last year) had been a torchbearer a week or so earlier, and brought his torch to camp with him, so a number of boys were able to hold it and be photographed with it.

The Lindfield boys were prominent in the life of the camp, winning the coveted best tent pennant for their Camp Company, and the trophy for the best tent overall.

They also helped their Camp Company win the stoolball competition, and L/Cpl. Wesley Heyward was a joint winner, with a Burgess Hill boy, of a special trophy for being an outstanding Senior. In all, a most happy and joyful week: a brief mention of the highlights does not do it justice.

The week before camp was marked by an Awards Presentation evening, which replaced our usual display this year. The Chief Guest, Bernie Dignum, presented all the awards, including two very special ones, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Awards to L/Cpls. Wesley Heyward and Tom Hewitt. Needless to say, we are proud of both lads. Five other boys are close to gaining their Bronze Awards.

We start up again on 10th September, and would welcome boys coming along to join our fellowship. We are also in need of helpers for the younger age groups, Anchors and Juniors: if anyone in the congregation feels able to help in this way, please speak to me or another BB staff member.

Geoffrey Cocksedge



Neighbourhood Plan

The Joint Working Party that has been formed by Lindfield Parish Council & Lindfield Rural Parish Council to progress our Neighbourhood Plan will be undertaking our initial public consultations during September.

A leaflet and questionnaire will be distributed to every household and business in Lindfield & Scaynes Hill, in order to provide an opportunity for our community to tell us what they think of our villages at the moment and how they would like to see them progress during the next 20 years.

We will also be holding two Exhibitions & Workshops during September on Saturday 15th September at the King Edward Hall in Lindfield and on Saturday 22nd September in the Millennium Centre in Scaynes Hill. Both events will be open from 10 to 4.

There will be displays relating to the area to be covered by our Neighbourhood Plan and opportunities to participate in workshops covering all the elements that need to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan, in order that it can become a real vision for our communities.

Additional copies of the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire can be obtained from both councils' offices, where residents can also discuss the Neighbourhood Plan with the Parish Clerks and Councillors during normal opening hours in September.

Thank you

Cllr Alan Gomme, Lindfield Parish Council

The Fellowship

Our meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except in August and December), from 2.30 to 4.30 pm, and are open to everyone.

We do encourage you to 'try us out'. Our meetings include a talk, slide show or some other entertainment for about 30 minutes. This is followed by a cup of tea and a biscuit and a time to catch up with friends.

There is a 'Bring and Buy' stall, selling books and bric-a-brac. The whole afternoon costs only 50p. – What a bargain!

Our next meeting will be held on 26th September. After a short AGM, Mike and Jean Gardiner will talk about 'North India in 7 Days'.

The art group

The Art group will be having an Exhibition and Coffee morning on Saturday 2nd September 10.00am to 12 noon.

Come and see their latest work and have coffee



*Samuel
with one of the older
students*

September mission

Samuel Muhumuza Uganda

It is now almost eight years since we were introduced to Samuel Muhumuza from Uganda. He is an ordained minister in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Uganda. In addition to his responsibilities of church leadership he established the Sanje Modern Primary School some twelve years ago in the Kibaale District of southern Uganda, a very rural and poor area.

Starting with one teacher and a 'handful' of students who would have no opportunity of education there are now 400 students with a staff of around 20. It has been our privilege to support the work and see it developed.

Our giving, together with the sponsoring of almost 50 children, has made a tremendous difference to both the facilities of the school and the lives of many children. Over the last three years in particular we have been able to provide funding for completing the construction of classrooms, provision of furniture, installation of power supply and drilling of a borehole. Other contacts have provided funding for the construction of new latrines and a nursery block. All-in-all a complete transformation.

Last year we contributed towards the construction of a perimeter wall to provide security for the four acre area of land that the school occupies.

There is always maintenance work to be done and new projects in order to continue to comply with government regulations. This year, for example, two classrooms have been converted into one larger room to enable exams to take place at the school instead of using other establishments. This will reduce costs and enhance the school's reputation.

Financially and politically the country is quite unstable – inflation is currently running at almost 20% and then there are the uncertainties of the exchange rate that can work in favour of gifts made but can equally work the other way.

Clearly these factors significantly affect the running of the school and ultimately increase the costs of educating the children. However, it has been very



encouraging to see from the annual reports and letters sent by the children over the years how many have developed and progressed. It is evident from these letters that the children have benefited both educationally and spiritually.

We now have a number of children who have moved on to secondary education which increases costs even further as most need to board. There are also three or four that are now planning to enrol on university courses, which is great. Clearly numbers in this situation will increase in the future and it would be good if we could continue to support as many children as possible as they progress to higher education.

At the moment we hold some funds in a 'Bursary Fund' from which we are able to top up the support of a few children in higher education but this is quite limited. We would like to increase the amount in the Bursary Fund so that more children can be supported. The giving in September will be used for this purpose

with any surplus being made available to Samuel for the general running of the school.

If you would like to give on a regular basis into the Bursary Fund that would be really helpful. Forms are available at the mission display area or speak to Ron or Janet Goodenough.

We are in regular contact with Samuel by e-mail and he often expresses his sincere gratitude for all that we as a church have been able to do in supporting his work over the years. For us at LURC this is a long term partnership which has already achieved so much for so many children.

If you would like to give during the month please use the special envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any Sunday service. Please complete a gift aid slip if appropriate.

Please take a look at the latest photos that are on the mission display boards, you will not be disappointed!!

The Missions Group

Podcasting postcard

As I finish listening to Charles preach I sit back into the comfortable cushions to contemplate his teaching. An ice cold beer beside me I stare out toward the ocean and enjoy the sound of the waves breaking on the New Jersey shore. I can't think of a better place to hear the word of God and to introduce you to the world of podcasting!

All our morning services are recorded and available in full on CD from the back of the Church. Additionally all the sermon audio is available (usually within 24 to 48 hours) to listen to on the Church website or as a podcast from anywhere in the world.

So if you have missed a sermon, want to hear one again or share the teaching with a friend we have around 60 sermons on the website for you to enjoy. We have streamed these over 1,000 times already extending the reach of the Lindfield URC ministry well beyond the immediate Sunday congregation.

To listen all you need to do is visit our website www.lindfieldurc.org.uk and click Listen Here under the Sermon Audio link. You will see a scrollable list with the latest sermon at the top, the list contains details of the Date, Sermon Title, Series and speaker to help you find the sermon you are after. Then simply click on it to listen directly your computer - as simple as that!

Alternatively if you want to listen regularly or listen offline (away from your computer) you can subscribe to our feed as a Podcast. You can think of a podcast as an audio magazine subscription for a portable audio player such as an iPod. Once subscribed new material is downloaded to you automatically whenever the player is connected and you can then listen whenever and wherever you like. You can subscribe from iTunes on your computer or via a link on our website.

Using podcasts you have access to listen regularly to some of the worlds greatest bible teachers and expositional speakers from around the world.

Online your preaching rota can include Nicky Gumble, Jeff Lucas, Max Lucado and Rick Warren.

Excellent biblical teaching that can make passages come alive. As well as sermon



Family News

podcasts there are podcasts with teaching on worship, prayer or apologetics. Much of the content is from the USA and as with anything on the Internet you need to exercise discretion but it is well worth trying.

Podcasts are not a substitute for the teaching, community and fellowship you will find at Lindfield URC; but they are a valuable additional resource that I have found to be an inspiration, blessing and encouragement in my spiritual life.

I am a sermon junkie and thanks to podcasts I am able to experience a wide range of teaching and preaching not just on special occasions like Spring Harvest and Bible by the beach - but all year round. Many people learn more by listening than reading and Podcasts can squeeze sermons into moments of downtime in an otherwise packed schedule; you can listen on your commute, on the beach, while washing up in the kitchen or in the bath!

I listen while I am running, alternating between sermon podcasts and stand up comedy (that explains a lot) It's a great help to me when I am travelling to be able to keep up with a sermon series, or just hear a familiar voice and feel part of the church from thousands of miles away.

The best news is that all this amazing content is available free of charge.

Dan McQuillin

Congratulations

Warm belated congratulations to Tim and Jackie Griffiths who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in July.

Also, many congratulations to Katie Cookney and Matt Flew who have become engaged.

Thank You

Thank you so much for all the good wishes we received on the occasion of our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. It was lovely to know we had so many friends in the Church, Audrey and Donald McKee.

Thank You

Aubrey and Norna Derham wish to thank everyone for the good wishes and amazing selection of cards received for their Diamond Anniversary.

Very special thanks to our great Home Group who gave us such a delicious, special celebration meal, and the happiest and loveliest of days. It was such fun. How blessed we are with our church family

Sunday Services

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

Coffee is served between the morning services.

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

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)
Healing services as announced

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

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

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

Prayer Meetings

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

Venue rotates between the three churches

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

Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	5.45pm	Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7.15pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)
Tue	10.00am	Stepping Stones (Parents and toddlers - term time)
	7.45pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	2.30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	10.00am	Pop-In Coffee and a chat
	8.00pm	Church Meeting (2ndThur)
Fri	7.15pm	Zest (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
Sun	8.00pm	Youth Fellowship

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

September Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	Prayer Meeting The Tiger-All Saints	20th Thursday	House Groups
2nd Sunday	9:30am	The Pastor Communion	22nd Saturday	8:45am Prayer Meeting The Tiger-All Saints
	11:15am	The Pastor		
	6:30pm	The Pastor		
6th Thursday		House Groups	23rd Sunday	9:30am The Pastor 11:15am The Pastor Communion 6:30pm Ron Goodenough
8th Saturday	8:45am	Prayer Meeting The Tiger-All Saints	24th Monday	6:30pm Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service
	4:00pm	Stewardship Launch Tea	25th Tuesday	<i>Note: No 'In Touch' See 29th</i>
9th Sunday	9:30am	The Pastor	26th Wednesday	7:30pm Elders Meeting
	11:15am	The Pastor	27th Thursday	8:00pm Monthly Prayer Meeting
	6:30pm	The Pastor Communion & Healing	29th Saturday	8:45am Prayer Meeting The Tiger-All Saints 'In Touch' Away Day
12th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	30th Sunday	Back to Church Sunday 10:30am Josh Thomas Joint Service 6:30pm The Pastor
13th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting		
14th Friday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship		
15th Saturday	8:45am	Prayer Meeting The Tiger-All Saints		
16th Sunday	9:30am	Mark Ventham (Jigsaw)		
	11:15am	Mark Ventham		
	6:30pm	The Pastor		

Information correct at time of printing

Further details and a full updated Church
Calendar is available on our website :

www.lindfieldurc.org.uk



It's a dogs life

Hello, my name's Lucy and I'm a blue roan cocker spaniel aged 11 years (and a bit). By the time you read this I will have been doing my work as a Pets as Therapy visiting dog for ten years. I started aged eighteen months old in September 2002.

Sometimes people think I just do it for what I can get out of it, i.e. a lot of fuss made of me and some extra food! While it is nice to be made a fuss of (and we all enjoy that!) there is more to it than that. Ray and Rosemary take some of my quota of food for the day so that whoever wants to give me something can do so and it won't cause me to get fat!"

When I have my fluorescent jacket on I know I'm 'working' and I can't get in the door of the establishments I visit quick enough! I am very sensitive to the needs of the people I visit. I have met some people who have been very poorly and so I am especially gentle with them. One lady I met a few months ago I could see was very poorly and in bed. I laid down beside her and snuggled up to her, just like a baby. It brought tears to her eyes. She even managed to give me some tit-bits which gave her great pleasure as she was a dog lover. I only ever saw her once. I have been told I have a bedside manner.

There are other people it takes a while to get to know and for them to get to know me. Sometimes they can be afraid of dogs

and so I am especially gentle with them. Gradually as the weeks and months go by they begin to relax and want me to sit with them until finally they want to feed me. It takes time and patience but we get there. Others I know like me the first time they see me and I often sit beside them or on their foot. It's my way of saying 'I like you too!'

I have to be very careful too as I know that the skin of elderly people is very thin and so I have to make sure I don't accidentally scratch them. Another occupational hazard is things dropped on the carpet like pills or tissues. I have a fascination for tearing up tissues and swallowing anything I see on the floor! One day I picked up a pill off the carpet and thought it was a sweet. It turned out to be a water tablet, so you can guess the rest!

When it is raining Ray & Rosemary carry me into the establishment so I don't go in with dirty wet feet and wet smelly fur as it's unpleasant for the people I visit. One has to look after one's appearance, and I do dislike my hairdo getting spoilt in the rain!

I have met many lovely people over the years and I count it a privilege to visit centenarians as well as younger people. On reflection I think I must have met hundreds of people over the years.

As for the future, I will continue to visit and bring pleasure to people all the time my health holds out.

Lucy



Stepping Stones

On Tuesday mornings during term time we run a group called 'Stepping Stones' for parents/carers with babies and toddlers. We meet in the Church Hall, which is set out with toys, puzzles, books and a carpeted area, which is partly set up for small babies.

It is always a busy and fun morning and is a great way for parents/carers to meet up and lasting friendships are often made in the group. Children enjoy playing together and learning new skills. During the morning the children have a story while they have their drink and biscuit. It is lovely to see them sitting together as Mel Campling reads a story to them. Later we do a simple craft that they take home and this is organised by the parents/carers. At the end of the morning we move to the lounge for singing and end the session with a prayer.

It is something that we as a Church can do for parents/carers and children as we welcome them and create a happy and safe environment for them. There is always an opportunity to chat to the adults and offer support and prayer.



On the last day of the summer term we had a Teddy Bears Picnic. Usually we go onto the grass area at the side of the Church but as summer had not arrived we were in the hall! There were 41 children and 30 adults and lots of teddies! It was a great time with lots of fun and noise!

We were given a card signed by the parents/carers and these are some of their comments:

“It has been a lifeline to us over the last few months. We cannot begin to thank you for the support and fun for our boys”

“We’ve loved coming and I have really seen him flourish with all the activities”

“We always look forward to our Tuesday mornings”

Please pray for us as a team, Jo Bloxham, Tina Elphick and I are involved every week and Betty Billins, Anne Parker, Jenny Pilling and Lesley Sparks come on a rota basis. Your prayers really make a difference.

It is important to say that anyone wishing to join the group needs to contact me as we are full and have a waiting list.

Janet Goodenough

Praying for our Young People

Billy Graham says, "Prayer is not the least you can do for someone, prayer is the MOST you can do for someone." He also says, "Prayer is the mightiest force in the world."

So this autumn, please pray for the young people who belong to our church's families, whether they profess any faith or not. Let's pray for each and every one of them, for their protection and for their welfare. They are preparing to enter a highly complex, highly troubled society, and need our love and support.

We have asked Rosie Fruin, Alec and Vi's granddaughter, to write for the magazine:

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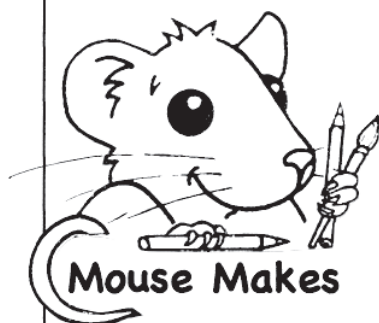
This time two years ago I wouldn't have thought I would be where I am now. It's weird to think that two years ago I had completely different plans. I was going to go to Aberystwyth and study maths. I guess that's just the way things work out, plans and ideas change over time and all you can do is make the best of the situation you're given. At first I was upset that I didn't get the A Level exam grades I needed but it gave me the opportunity to rethink what I wanted to do. At that point I hadn't even heard of Lampeter, let alone looked at the courses the university had to offer. I found a course I liked the look of studying media and applied quickly for it.

It's always strange moving into a new place but the whole experience of being at university; especially in a small place such as Lampeter, but the whole atmosphere of the town is welcoming and it has a real community spirit. Balancing studying

and socialising can be tricky, especially when you're living on a university campus and meeting new people all the time. I met a lot of new people and made a lot of new friends though my best friends there I didn't meet until after Christmas. We had some troubles with sorting out accommodation for the second year but in the end it all worked out and we moved in without too many issues.

I'm now preparing to go into my final year. It's been good fun with lots of up and downs along the way. I'm looking forward to seeing all my friends again and waiting for the new year to start in September. Studying Media may not have been what I'd originally planned but looking back I'm glad I didn't get the results that I was looking for. I've met a lot of good friends and I'm studying a course I have some passion for. Everything's turned out for the best.

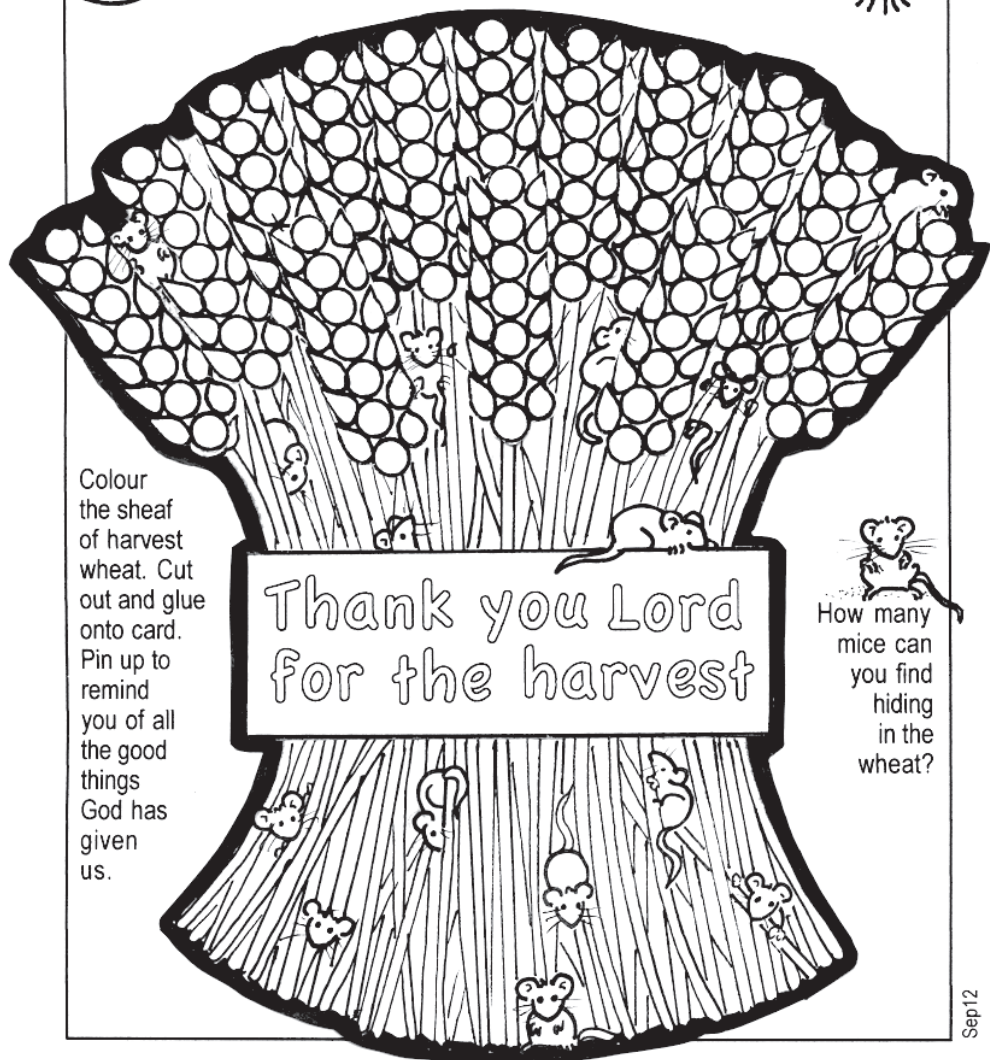
Rosie Fruin



All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above:
then thank the Lord,
O thank the Lord
for all his love.



*"The land has yielded its harvest:
God, our own God,
has blessed us."
Psalm 67:6*



Colour
the sheaf
of harvest
wheat. Cut
out and glue
onto card.
Pin up to
remind
you of all
the good
things
God has
given
us.

Thank you Lord
for the harvest

How many
mice can
you find
hiding
in the
wheat?

Street Pastors

You may have heard of them, but unless you've spent a night on the town recently, odds are, you've never come across the men and women in blue (no, not the police) each with the bold white reflective lettering 'Street Pastor' emblazoned across the back of their standard issue uniform.

Usually seen in pairs or small groups, they are best known for handing out flip flops to young women who have had a few drinks too many, dispensing calm in sometimes volatile situations, lending a listening ear and generally being around

to offer help and advice to vulnerable young people when needed.

Our national dailies have even run articles about them, usually with the more sensational, eye catching headlines such as the Independent's 'A night on the town: Vomit, violence and God', back in January 2010.

Since its beginnings in 2003 the movement has grown rapidly and there are now about 250 Street Pastor projects and 9000 volunteers in cities, towns and villages around the UK, each project being



set up by Ascension Trust (founded by Rev Les Isaac who was recently awarded the OBE for his work fostering community cohesion) and run by a local coordinator with support from Ascension Trust and local churches and community groups, in partnership with Police, Council and other statutory agencies.

David Burrowes MP says "Street Pastors is about Christians rolling up their sleeves and getting involved in practically responding to the problems of crime and safety. They are like beacons on our streets

and I want to see them shining brightly in every constituency"

Not everybody, of course, appreciates Christians trying to make a difference. You're a bit like Marmite – loved or hated. Here are a few recent Tweets from both supporters and revellers.



louisewilsonxx Street pastors jst asked if am ok, that's embarrassin



bethanysister Praying for our Street Pastors & Prayer Teams out there this weekend! We thank God for you all.

Presbyterian London "street pastors" help Olympic visitors bit.ly/MZlsxd

Meg_Mock What a waste #streetpastors @ Blackwood Street Pastors

mirman_eh fell walking home and some street pastors gave me a lolly and a plaster

Whitstable Street Pastors are out supporting our community and our visitors. Busy night tonight. Lot...

justindlong London "Street Pastors" help Olympic visitors on the streets // This is a fascinating way to be a blessing

jimmy_faj RT @ChaleboyThePoet: One of these street pastors came up to me yesterday and was like "I don't even need to talk to you. I know you know God.

So, where are the Street Pastors in our area? Eastbourne, Heathfield, Seaford and Worthing have established teams and Crawley's team is 'under development'. Training of volunteers is rigorous and the cooperation of at least four local church denominations, as well as that of the police and local statutory bodies are minimum requirements, the whole establishment process taking roughly 2 years. Will we ever see them in Lindfield?

Undergirded by prayer and motivated by compassion for the vulnerable, given unconditionally, 'Street Pastors' has made a difference in reducing street crime levels in certain areas and given hope and direction to many young people. Why not use this special Street Pastors' Prayer, composed in January this year.

Living God

We praise you for the vision that gave birth to Street Pastors and for every life that has been touched through this movement of your Spirit.

We thank you for every Street Pastor and we pray for them as they share Your love with others:

Your protection and encouragement, Your wisdom and courage and an ever deeper faith in and love for You.

We pray for those they meet week by week in the pubs and clubs, in the late night cafes, garage kiosks and barbers, on the streets and at the bus stops.

May those who are lonely be warmed by Your presence; those who are bruised and hurting find healing in Your love; those ashamed and without hope be set free by Your forgiveness and grace.

Lord Jesus Christ You came to seek and to save the lost. You walk the streets night after night searching for those lost to your love. Thank you for the privilege of being your hands and feet, your eyes and your heart where we are.

Give us eyes that see as you see, hearts that love as you love and words that you can use to bring life and peace.

And in it all, Lord God, give us thankfulness, generosity and joy in serving you whom to serve is perfect freedom and whom to know is Life eternal. Triune God of Grace, to You be honour, praise and glory, from everlasting to everlasting, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

AMEN

Want to know more?

www.streetpastors.co.uk

or look for literature in the Missions

Display area in the church concourse.

World News

Christians hit by devastating floods in Bangladesh and India need urgent aid

Barnabas Fund is continuing to help provide emergency aid to Christian families in Bangladesh and India who were hit by devastating floods earlier this year. The floods killed nearly 200 people and forced millions to flee their homes.

Heavy monsoon rains submerged several districts in the east of Bangladesh, and also triggered severe flooding across India's north-east; Assam state has been worst hit, with more than 2,000 villages affected. Some villages were completely cut off. Landslides, collapsing walls, lightning strikes, and surges of floodwater have meant that hundreds of thousands of people have taken shelter in relief camps.

Promoting love, in China

Now ALPHA's Marriage Course has been approved for distribution and use throughout China. The course founders, Nicky and Sila Lee, were recently invited to China to run a two-day marriage conference in Beijing for government employees who train foster parents. Zi Wei Li, General Secretary of the Beijing Association of Marriage and Family Department explained: "A strong society depends on strong families and strong families depend on strong marriages. That is why we are interested in your work".

New charter calls for religion to take its rightful place in society

An international group of academics and activists has launched 'The Global Charter of Conscience' at the European Parliament. The Charter aims to bring religious tolerance into the centre of public debate and underlines the challenges of pluralism in a 21st century globalised world.

Dr Os Guinness, an English author and social critic and Dr Thomas Schirrmacher, a German sociologist, were responsible for drafting the Charter, with input from more than 50 academics, politicians and NGOs. Dr Heiner Bielefeldt, United Nations Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, said, "This is a powerful document. It has enormous potential to inspire practical commitment and to contribute to a better understanding of human rights in general".

Book Review

Forgotten God

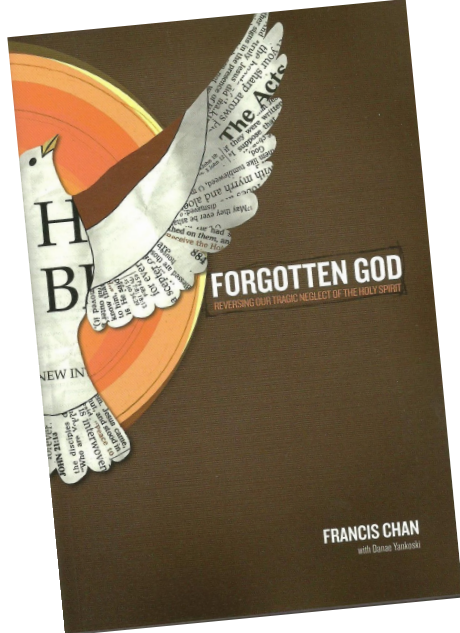
Reversing our tragic neglect of the Holy Spirit

by Francis Chan

Francis Chan has an easy style of writing making his books very readable. They are not long reads, in terms of pages, but they are packed with thought provoking content, which challenges us to take the Bible seriously.

In 'Forgotten God' Francis Chan writes of the message of the power of the Holy Spirit. He looks into why we need the Holy Spirit in our lives, what stops us from allowing Him to freely work in our lives. He then looks to Scripture to get more understanding, and challenges us to desire a relationship with God in which He dwells within us. Finally he writes about the impact on the church when it is filled with people who are prepared to be self-sacrificing servants.

“the world is not moved by love or actions that are of human creation. The church is not empowered to love differently from any other gathering of people without the Holy Spirit. But when believers live in the power of the Spirit, the evidence in their lives is supernatural. The church cannot help but be different, and the world cannot help but notice.”



Each chapter concludes with a pen sketch of different people who have changed as they gave over their lives more and more to God, who works in and through them by the indwelling power of His Spirit.

“Perhaps the core issue is...about our holding back from giving ourselves to God, rather than our getting 'too much' of Him. I'd rather not giveparts of my life that I really care about over to God. It doesn't work like that. ...in Scripture it states the truth and necessity of a life wholly surrendered to and dependent upon the Holy Spirit.”

This book is easy to read, but it is one that bears being given time to read slowly and to re-read as it has the potential to open up new insights into scripture and how God would love to work in and through our lives if we are willing.

Val Cookney

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Church Secretary

Sue Waller 01444 455047
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Treasurer

Terry Ward 01444 482986

Boys' Brigade:

Geoffrey Cocksedge 01444 474007

Cradle Roll

Sue Tester 01444 482810

Flowers

Betty Billins 01444 484494

Hall Booking Secretary

Carol Walters 01444 457938

In Touch

Sue Waller 01444 455047

Lunch Fellowship

Wednesday:
Sue Waller 01444 455047
Friday:
Anne Parker 01444 473519

The Fellowship

Chris Comber 01444 482641

Stepping Stones

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

Zest Co-ordinator

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

Lighthouse (Junior Church)

Co-ordinator
Dawn Walters 01444 441601

Flower Rota

Arranging Distributing

September

2nd	Wedding	Janet Sanderson
9th	Joan Durrant	Fo Tingley
16th	Jean Baxter	Sue Tester
23rd	Carol Walters	Barbara Shepherd
30th	Mies Campling	Jo Bloxham

October

7th	Wedding
14th	Harvest
21st	Jessie Green
28th	Wedding



Saturday 22nd September

Pavlos Carvalho and Friends

Chamber music for strings

7.45 pm at St Wilfrid's

Further info from Christine Colbourne 01444 456227



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk