

# *GoodNEWS* **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

Winter 2013



## **Bible in a Year**

A new years revolution

## **Christians Against Poverty**

Jim Goodchild tells us about this important work

# Bible verse of the month

"When the Holy Spirit controls our lives he will produce...

Kindness, goodness...  
gentleness."

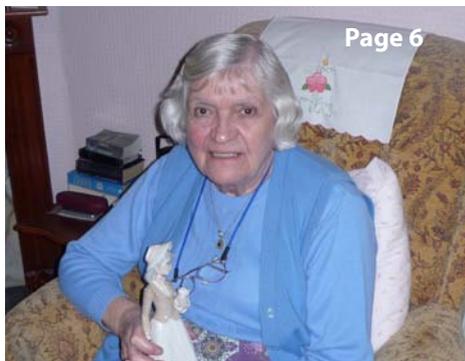
Galatians 5:22-23 TLB



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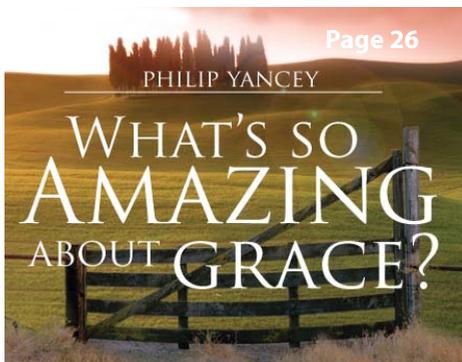
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If you would like to  
share a special verse of  
scripture email :

[goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk)



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PHILIP YANCEY

WHAT'S SO  
AMAZING  
ABOUT GRACE?

# Editorial

This is the double winter issue of the Good News. There are of course the usual contributions and some you get times two.

The beginning of a New Year is always a good time to have another think about our daily devotions time. One thing to consider is reading the Bible in a year. There is an article which contains contributions from different people who have done just that. This is well worth a read.

We have book reviews and interviews. Alex Hall writes about a book that has meant a great deal to him. Whilst Mike Gardiner interviews one of the older members of our church family, who had a job that would appeal to the younger generation!

From the Editorial Team we pray that this year you will experience the Joy of the Lord as your Strength

*Val & Anne*

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# Dear friends

***"I can't wait for this year to end!"***

You can understand someone saying that if 2012 has brought trouble and disappointment. It's tempting to think that a New Year will let you put all your problems behind you. There's something fresh and inviting about a New Year. It's like having a clean sheet of paper, free from smudges and crossings out. You can begin again with hope in your heart! I hope you do have hope in your heart, but if you do, it will not be because the date has changed from December 31st 2012 to January 1st 2013.

Certain things in life never change and there's nothing we can do about it. Time moves on and we get older. Promises are broken and relationships break down. The plans we make fail to materialise and we have to learn to live with disappointment. That's not a very encouraging message, but it's true all the same. So is that all there is to say? No! Faith in Jesus offers a very different perspective.

Above all things, Christian faith is realistic. Despite what many people think, it doesn't offer an escape into fantasy land. On the contrary, it forces us to face the truth about ourselves and to realise that what can and must change is the self-centredness that is the real source of most of our frustration and unhappiness.

It offers hope – hope that will not be disappointed – because it doesn't depend on the change of a calendar date. It depends on a God Who keeps His promises and Whose love and grace is enough to carry us through the worst that life can throw at us.

I sincerely hope that 2012 has not been a difficult year for you. If it has, I hope better times are in store, but all the same, there is no guarantee. For Jenny and me, 2013 will bring tremendous challenge and change.

In October, I shall cease to be a full-time minister. We shall have to uproot ourselves from a caring and supportive community here in Lindfield. There will be a new home, a new community and in every sense a new life, because what has defined us for more than forty years will no longer apply. I find all that rather daunting, but none of it robs me of hope.

I know that amidst it all, the care of a promise-keeping God won't change. Wherever we find ourselves, He'll be there to meet us. Whatever the future may bring, He'll supply our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus, just as He has at every turn of the road and this is the best part - you can have that assurance too - if you want it.

Your Pastor and friend,

*Charles S Martin*

## *In Touch*

In Touch finished their 2012 meetings with a most interesting visit from a member of the Chaplaincy Team from Beachy Head, who made, what could have been a distressing talk very positive and most helpful. A lady with a great sense of humour and a strong belief in her role as a volunteer for this Group. As the group is totally self-funding and the hours covered immense, we were pleased to make a donation to the fund and some £80 was given to them for which we have had a most pleasant thank you.

On the 22nd January we will share in a meal together on the church premises beginning at 6.30pm. All are most welcome to attend, but I would ask that you please let me know early in January if you are able to join us. A gift of £2.50 given before the 22nd would be helpful towards the cost of the meal .

The programme has yet to be finalised so I can give no information with regard to the February meeting on the 26th at this stage, but do please watch the notices for that.

Happy New Year to you all

**Sue Waller**

## *The Fellowship*

### **Welcome to 2013**

Our next meeting takes place with the Art Group when a coffee morning will be held at 10:30am on Saturday 19th January. Do come along and see the wonderful work produced by our group of artists.

The Wednesday meeting follows on 23rd January at 2:30pm when our Pastor, Rev. Charles Martin, will be the speaker.

In February, on the 27th, our old friend Stuart Dew will talk to us about "coping with disappointment"

There will be the usual Bring & Buy stall, a cup of tea after both meetings, and a warm welcome to all who come

**Pat Davies**

## *Joint House Group Meeting*

**Thursday 31st January - 7.45 pm**

We start with pudding & coffee !!

Then, following a time of worship and feedback from our study in 1 Thessalonians, Gill Story and Con Nash who live at Little Compton will share about the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators who they worked with for many years

It will be great to see a good turnout as we share together and are reminded of the importance of the Bible in our own lives and the work that is being done to enable everyone throughout the world to have access to the Scriptures

# Elsie Anderson

Many of us have been served by bright young students in McDonalds in this country and around the world. So I was rather surprised, to say the least, to learn that our own Elsie Anderson is proud to have been a McDonalds crew member for six years – when she was in her fifties!

Mike Gardiner recently interviewed her for GoodNEWS in her home in Hanbury Lane, where her parlour is filled with photos of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



**MG:** Tell me, Elsie, how did an East End Granny become a McDonalds crew member?

**EA:** I'd been working for a catering company, and when they moved, we were all made redundant. At the same time, McDonalds were recruiting staff for their new store in East Ham High Street. Lots of the youngsters were applying and urged me to. When the interviewer saw me, his response was, "Are you sure you want to work for McDonalds?" At that time, I knew nothing about McDonalds – I'd never ever been in one – so all I could say was "They talked me into it!" "Well, I expect we can find something for you to do," he replied and signed me on. So at 54, there I was, a McDonalds girl!

**MG:** How did you enjoy the work?

**EA:** It was lovely – I was in my element, once I'd got the hang of the cash register system. It was a busy restaurant, with upstairs and downstairs and I knew lots of the customers – many of them were our neighbours. The people who were surprised to see me were the bosses who came over from the States for the annual inspection!

**MG:** Didn't you feel out of place, though, working with a crew of teens and twenties?

**EA:** No way. They were like my own children, and soon everyone was calling me Auntie Elsie. We had youngsters from

different ethnic backgrounds, and many were lonely or had family problems. They came to regard me as their real auntie, and would tell me their troubles and ask my advice. I got to meet their boy- and girl-friends, and Les and I were invited to their weddings. In all, went to twelve!

[Elsie shows me the photos in an album, including the wedding of Bob, the manager. And then a photo of Bob's son's wedding last year – sent with a Christmas card. The son whose Christening Elsie attended twenty-odd years ago!]. .

**MG:** How did you get to know them so well, if you were so busy?

**EA:** Ah, our friendships went beyond working hours. They trusted me with the profit from the pool table in the staff room, and I used it to organise parties and regular staff outings. We went on coach trips around the country, and did several day-trips to France.

I pose a last question: "What about the jibe that McDonalds serve junk food?" This makes Elsie cross. "McDonalds serve good food cooked under the highest standards of hygiene. – their food is better for you than fish and chips." She proudly shows me the figurine that was presented to her when she retired at 60. And where's the gold bracelet?, I asked her. "Oh, I gave that to one of my granddaughters" Typical of Elsie, I thought.

**Mike Gardiner**

# Wider World

## *Persecution in North Korea*

Christians in North Korea are reporting that their situation has not improved at all under the new leader Kim Jong-un. N. Korea has topped the Open Doors World Watch List of the fifty worst persecutors of Christians for ten years in a row.

Open Doors USA says the new leader has not made "any essential changes" in the year since his father's death. Kim Jong-un has reportedly increased the number of spies in China, where Christians have helped N. Korean refugees. Border patrols put pressure on captured smugglers to disclose information about Christians helping defectors. Some arrested Christians are tortured then released in order to betray others. They are often deliberately badly injured in the hope that their Christian friends will come forward to help them and then be arrested themselves.

Every aspect of life is strictly controlled by the authorities and Christians (who number over a quarter of a million) are reporting that they feel just as isolated from the outside world as they had done under Kim Jong-il, and 50,000 to 70,000 are in jail suffering horrific conditions.

As an Open Doors co-worker involved in ministry among N. Koreans says "We can only pray for them. We know that Jesus will never leave them, nor forsake them".

## *Bibles in China*

The only printing company authorised to print the Bible in China announced in November 2012 that over sixty million copies of the Christian scriptures have been printed and distributed throughout the country, although many poorer Christians in rural areas are still waiting to receive a copy. Many worshippers have never even seen a Bible.

There are officially around sixteen million Christians in China today, although it is believed that there are many, many more who worship separately from the churches run by the government.

Sadly, the Chinese government continues to persecute church groups not affiliated with the state's church organisations.

**Carol Marsh**

# Family News

## *Prayers*

Please remember all those who will have an empty place at their table over Christmas and New Year.

Our sympathy and prayers go to Pat Davies whose husband, John, died in October.

Also to Ruth Thompson who has recently lost both her husband and her mother, and to Sandra Bainbridge whose husband has died.

The first Christmas without a close loved one is always a very difficult time, and all in this situation need the love and support of family and friends

**Fo Tingley**

## *Thank You*

Vera Dorton wants to thank everyone for their cards, care and prayerful support during her period of prolonged illness and is hoping to attend services again in the New Year.

## *Moving*

Dorothy Forster has recently moved into Compton House

## *Congratulations*

Congratulations to Tina and Chris Elphick who have become grandparents.

Their son Tom and his wife have a baby daughter, Edith.

**Fo Tingley**

## *Thank You*

A big 'thank you' to all of you who used the Post Box this Christmas.

We think that all the cards reached their correct destinations and we are pleased to announce that over £250 was raised towards the Worthing Churches Homless Project.

**Stuart Marsh**

## *Congratulations*

Congratulations to Andy Cookney and Katlin Barnes on their engagement.

**Val Cookney**

# Bible in a Year

Several years ago a group of us accepted the challenge to read the Bible in a year (- daunting!). We did, using the original one volume “Cover to Cover”. At the end of the year the question for me was “what now?”.

So I repeated the exercise using another Bible programme and again the next two years (Everyday with Jesus Bible, The Message etc). Each one added a different approach. Then the new complete chronological “Cover to Cover” was published, much easier than the original where you had to find all the texts. Now just published is the NIV edition of “Cover to Cover” with more charts, maps and illustrations as well.

This variety prepared me well for reading, last year, “The Big Story”, which reveals God’s covenant Plan for everyone. It is a journey of discovery through the Bible following God’s story from cover to cover, from first creation to final creation. It is fascinating and, as I near the end second time through, I’ll probably go back to the start and do it a third time in 2013 – remembering that we (you and I) are part of that story – what a challenge!

**Norna Derham**

The new “Cover to Cover Complete” is available from all good book stores and Amazon (from around £17.77 including p&p) and uses, for the first time, the NIV 2011.

CWR’s one year chronological reading plan incorporates the full Bible text and each day ends with a devotional thought

written by Selwyn Hughes and Trevor Partridge. It is divided into manageable daily sections with maps, diagrams and timelines, which enhance your understanding of the Bible and biblical times and provide a highly motivating reading experience.

For the last couple of years I have been reading the Bible in a year

as part of my quiet time.

I was challenged a few years back by the thought that if I haven’t actually read the Bible, how can I claim that I believe it? Surely I’m only really claiming that I believe the bits that I’ve heard in church or studied in House Group. The WHOLE Bible, however might have some really interesting things to say and I need to investigate.



For the last two years I have worked my way through the 'Cover to Cover Complete' Bible in a year as it happened.

This is a great resource as it presents the whole of the Holman Christian Standard Bible in Chronological order, so on the first of January you read Genesis 1 and John 1, In the spring you'll work your way through Kings and Chronicles side by side and in the autumn you get to the gospel accounts, again side by side.

Just before Christmas you work through Paul's letters to the churches at the same time as Luke's accounts of these missionary journeys in Acts.

If anyone would like to borrow my Bible for 2013, just ask. It will be sitting on my bookshelf unused as I will try something different next year. I would encourage anyone who struggles to read the Bible or who thinks they know all about it to go on this adventure in the New Year. It takes about 10 minutes a day and you'll be amazed what you discover.

**David Goodchild**

## **Bible in One Year**

NIV, Hodder and Stoughton

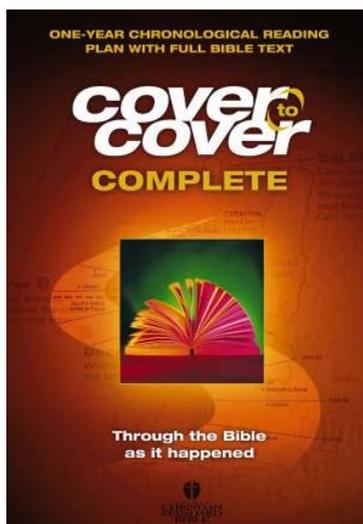
In this Bible, each day comes neatly set out with a New and Old Testament passage along with a segment from Proverbs or Psalms, which can all be read through within half an hour. Having never read the Bible from back to front before, I found the format of this Bible just right for me, and having all the day's verses in one place makes it very accessible. There is no commentary associated with the readings, however a daily email is available for free from HTBs Nicky Gumbel which offers a thought on each of the day's passages. I opted not to use a commentary this year as I've found that just reading through and learning more of the 'big picture' has been incredibly rewarding.

**Alex Hall**

## **'Bible in One Year' Blog with Nicky Gumbel**

Nicky Gumbel from Holy Trinity Brompton, who heads up the Alpha Course, writes each day a commentary on the Bible in One Year. The insights are helpful and challenging, and can guide your thoughts and thinking over the passages.

Subscribe online: [latest.alpha.org/bioy](http://latest.alpha.org/bioy)



# January Mission



**F**eba UK is a Christian charity, committed to reaching people who are unable to easily have access to the Christian Gospel. Feba works with hard-to-reach communities in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, serving them at their point of need.

They might be communities:

- Living in remote geographical locations or cultural isolation with little or no access to support and services such as medical facilities
- With high rates of illiteracy
- Facing reduced life expectancy due to insufficient health information
- With reduced access to news, information and varied ideas due to lack of media exposure or media being heavily controlled by authorities
- Facing discrimination and oppression leaving them voiceless and lacking empowerment
- Experiencing high levels of unemployment or low-yielding daily work leaving them unable to provide for their needs

Feba programmes are produced wherever possible in-country by local followers

of Jesus, often in partnership with like-minded organisations. The good news of Jesus is brought to people in a language they understand, and to those who may also be visually challenged. The most suitable media is used for each community reached. In some communities, that will be short wave. In others, it may be community FM, medium wave or the Internet and social media. In disaster situations, it's sometimes appropriate to distribute radios to those affected so that they can access vital information.

The programmes produced are fresh, compelling and engaging, developing innovative approaches to address issues facing individuals, families and communities. Broadcasted material can:

- Provide information and education relevant to a community's needs and issues
- Enable communities to help themselves and make positive life changes
- Provide an opportunity for self-expression, giving communities a voice
- Encourage reconciliation between individuals, families and communities
- Instill joy and relief through entertainment and humour
- Awaken the possibility of a relationship with Jesus
- Provide Bible teaching and encouragement for those who choose to follow Jesus

# February Mission

## *Bible Society Wycliffe Bible Translators*

**T**hrough the Bible, God speaks directly to every man, woman and child. But unless people have the Bible in their home language, they cannot read his message of life, hope and salvation. Thousands of languages still don't have a single verse of Scripture.

These two agencies are both committed to the translation and distribution of The Scriptures throughout the world. The following is an extract from the Wycliffe website which gives information about what has already been achieved and what is still to be done so that everyone has access to the Bible

How many languages have Scripture? Over 2,800. Of these, 518 have a complete Bible, another 1,275 have the New Testament. 1,005 others have at least one book of the Bible.

How many languages still need translation? In addition to over 1,500 active projects, work needs to begin in a further 1,967 languages.

How many people have no Scripture? Around 209 million speak these languages where translation still needs to begin.

In how many languages have Wycliffe been involved in the completion of a New Testament or Bible? Between 1999 and 2012 Wycliffe personnel have helped in the translation of more than 300 New Testaments and begun new work in over 700 languages.

What is the potential impact of work that's underway? Wycliffe staff are currently involved in 1,537 active language programmes. About a third of these languages have populations less than 10,000, a third between 10,000 and 100,000, and a third over 100,000 speakers. Additional work is being undertaken by other organisations in a further 500 languages.

How many countries are affected by the work of Wycliffe? Almost 100. This includes work among people who live outside their traditional homelands.

### **Missions Group**

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For more information please see the Missions display in the concourse or visit the following websites; [www.febea.org.uk](http://www.febea.org.uk). & [www.wycliffe.org.uk](http://www.wycliffe.org.uk)

If you would like to give towards the work of Feba in January or Bible Society/Wycliffe Bible Translators in February please use the special envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any Sunday service. Please also complete a gift aid if appropriate.

# 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 (2nd Thur)
Fri	7.15pm	Zest (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	Youth Fellowship

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

# January Church diary

1st  
Tuesday

New Year's Day

19th  
Saturday

8:45am Three Churches  
Prayer Meeting  
URC

5th  
Saturday

8:45am Three Churches  
Prayer Meeting

10:30am Art Group and  
Fellowship Coffee  
Morning

**6th**  
Sunday

9:30am Communion  
11:15am Morning Worship  
The Pastor  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
The Pastor

**20th**  
Sunday

9:30am Morning Worship-  
Jigsaw  
11:15am Morning Worship  
Ron Goodenough  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
The Pastor  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

7th  
Monday

Start of Term

10th  
Thursday

8:00pm Church Meeting

22nd  
Tuesday

6:30pm In Touch Ladies  
Meal

11th  
Friday

12:30pm Lunch Fellowship

24th  
Thursday

8:00pm Church Prayer  
Meeting

12th  
Saturday

8:45am Three Churches  
Prayer Meeting  
URC

26th  
Saturday

8:45am Three Churches  
Prayer Meeting  
URC

**13th**  
Sunday

9:30am Morning Worship  
11:15am Morning Worship  
The Pastor  
6:30pm Healing Service  
with Communion  
The Pastor  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

**27th**  
Sunday

9:30am Morning Worship  
11:15am Communion  
The Pastor  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
Mike Gardiner  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

17th  
Thursday

12:30pm House Groups

31st  
Thursday

7:45pm Three Churches  
Prayer Meeting  
URC

# February Church diary

2nd Saturday 8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting

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**3rd** Sunday  
9:30am Communion  
11:15am Morning Worship  
Dan McQuillin  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
David Jones  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

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5th Tuesday 8:00pm Music Group

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9th Saturday 8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting

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**10th** Sunday  
9:30am Morning Worship  
11:15am Morning Worship  
6:30pm The Pastor  
Healing Service  
with Communion  
The Pastor  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

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12th Tuesday Shrove Tuesday

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13th Wednesday Ash Wednesday  
Start of Lent

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14th Thursday Lent Home Groups

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16th Saturday 8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting

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**17th** Sunday  
9:30am Morning Worship-  
Jigsaw  
11:15am Morning Worship  
David Sprouse  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
The Pastor  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

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18th Monday Half Term

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19th Tuesday 8:00pm Music Group

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21st Thursday Lent Home Groups

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23rd Saturday 8:45am Three Churches Prayer Meeting

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**24th** Sunday  
9:30am Morning Worship  
Josh Thomas  
11:15am Communion  
The Pastor  
6:30pm Evening Worship  
Mike Gardiner  
7:30pm Youth Fellowship

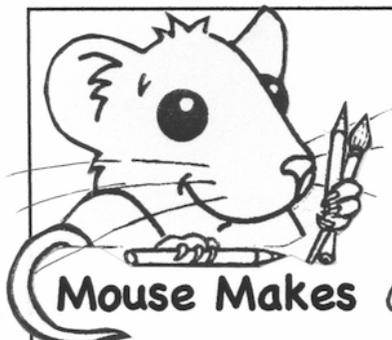
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28th Thursday Lent Home Groups

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

[www.lindfieldurc.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldurc.org.uk)



## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus came from Nazareth and was baptised by John in the Jordan. As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw heaven opening and the Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you"

See Mark 1:9-11

Colour in the picture then carefully cut out. Glue onto bright card and pin on your wall



## Josh Thomas Writes...



### *Synod Together*

On the 10th November last year we were able to take a group of four young people to the annual Synod Together youth day in Orpington, Kent. It was during this event that we were presented with our Child Friendly Church Award.

The day started with a time of all age worship together after which our award was presented. The rest of the day was made up of various workshops exploring the topic of multi-sensory worship and culminated in putting all the things we had been doing in our workshops into an act of worship at the end of the day.

The workshops focused on all of the senses; smell, taste, hearing, sight and touch and we explored different ways in which worship could incorporate all of these. This included doing activities such as song writing and arty things to enhance worship. The young people rotated through all of the workshops throughout the morning to get a taster session and in the afternoon they were able to choose the activity that resonated most with them to fully focus on planning

the final act of worship.

The day ended after worship and we had two new songs, various bits of artwork to look at and an agape supper.

### *Synod commitments*

As many of you will know as a condition of receiving Synod Turn The Tide funding which goes towards my employment, I have a commitment to run certain aspects of the Synod's youth and children's work.

In this article I want to give you a flavour of some of what I am involved in and ways in which you can pray for the work going on in the wider youth activities run by our denomination.

**Synod Youth Executive** – This was set up when I first arrived in Lindfield and its main aim is to ensure young people have a voice and are actively involved in

the planning of various youth activities in the Synod. It is made up of around ten young people all aged between fourteen and twenty-five from around the Synod and Lindfield is currently represented by Alex Jeffs who has been involved since the beginning.

As well as the planning of events the group are supported in their development as leaders and we are able to offer training to them in areas such as presentation skills, first aid and leadership skills. The group meets four times a year and you may well have seen them on their residential weekend in Lindfield back in February.

The group has changed a bit over the two years but they always enjoy meeting together for fun, fellowship, and most importantly, being able to worship together. The group, as I said, has changed recently with key members moving on to new things such as university so our first meeting back next year in Reigate will be very different, please pray for them as they adapt to their new positions.

**Synod Together** – As in the above article, this is a fun youth day, which is run in conjunction with the annual Synod Together meeting. I have been involved in the last three of these days as part of the organising committee and through running various workshops, helping to lead worship and leading other games and activities. This year I was in charge of leading the workshop on hearing and

we made this into a mini songwriting workshop and, amazingly, the group came up with two new songs and a poem on the day. Matt Redman, watch out!

**Training** – The last major aspect of my Synod commitment is running training sessions. This could be alongside Nick White (Southern Synod's Children's and Youth Development Officer) or on my own. Over the past two years this commitment has been fulfilled through running a safeguarding training day at the Tiger in Lindfield and also opening up our Young leadership training event. As you can see, although these activities benefit the Synod they also benefit our leaders and young people!

The work with the Synod is very important to me as, when I was growing up, the youth work at my home Church was limited, it was through getting involved in activities such as those listed above that I personally came to faith. I am therefore very passionate in ensuring that there is quality youth work available for all young people in our Synod, whether they come from a Church like ours, blessed with young people or if they are perhaps the only young person in their Church, they all deserve to learn about Jesus' love in an accessible way which they can understand.

**Please pray for the above activities and all those leading and helping them. Without them many young people would have no way of meeting other young Christians.**

# My Story



*Jim Goodchild*

**A**lthough many of you won't know me, I am sure you will know my brother, David. We moved as a family to Lindfield in 1985 when we were both in our teens, and started attending the church with our parents, Harry and Diana.

I was strongly influenced by the preaching of the minister at the time, Norman Smith, and also the love and support shown by so many in the church, and became a Christian in the summer of 1987.

After a few years away at University, I then worked overseas for several years as an aid worker in Cambodia and in Tanzania, before returning to the UK and settling down in Nottinghamshire and starting work in a financial role in industry. I also met my wonderful wife Stella, and we have 2 children, Rebekah (12) and Peter (9).

Despite being involved in a lively church, and in many ways being quite settled, Stella and I both felt a strong desire to seek God for a new direction in our lives. We both have a passion to see the church respond to God's special concern for the poor and vulnerable

I had been helping in a church project to help those with needs related to drug and alcohol dependency, and we realised that many of the people we were working with also had significant financial problems. I was invited to a training day run by Christians Against Poverty, to be able to run the CAP Money Course.

CAP Money is a revolutionary money management course for churches that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. This course will help anyone to get more in control of their finances, so they can save, give and prevent debt.

After running the course several times, I applied for a job at CAP's head office in Bradford, and started work in January 2011 as a Caseworker, working with clients to support them on their journey out of debt.

Since moving to Brighouse we have been really blessed as a family, I am really enjoying the work, and we have settled in a great church in Huddersfield.



## The work of Christians Against Poverty

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) was started in 1996 by John Kirkby; the vision for the charity was borne out his own situation, when the lives of he and his family were devastated by the misery associated with spiralling debt and brokenness.

16 years later CAP has grown beyond anything John could have imagined, with 210 church based centres and over 400 workers throughout the UK, helping over 20,000 individuals each year.

In the UK today there are hundreds of thousands of people, from all backgrounds, who live in fear due to their financial situation. Debt causes isolation, fear of answering the door, sleepless nights, hiding from family and friends, shame, brokenness.

In Matthew 25, Jesus says 'Truly I tell you whatever you did for one of the least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'

CAP is a 21st century expression of God's heart for the lost and broken, we pray with clients, invite them to church and as well as helping with their debts, every year hundreds are brought into local churches and see their lives transformed.

Before working with CAP:

- 67% of clients missed meals, with 1 in 4 doing so regularly.
- 80% of CAP clients said they lived in fear.
- 1 in 3 either considered or attempted suicide before seeking help.

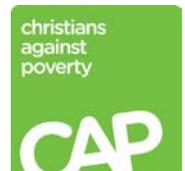
The CAP budgeting system prioritises food, so that families can feed their kids. We negotiate with creditors on behalf of our clients, to ensure that a sustainable plan is in place to help them to deal with their debts and live with dignity.

CAP is committed to working through local churches to help give practical expression of God's compassion for the poor and bring the love of Jesus to the local community.

For more information including inspiring client testimonies visit:

[www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)

**Jim Goodchild**



# Australian Adventure

I have just returned home after being away for 6 weeks in Australia and New Zealand. I travelled with a friend who, like me, has family living in Sydney, and for the first three weeks we spent time catching up with everyone before my friend, my sister and I went on to New Zealand for 2 weeks.

Sydney is a beautiful city and as it was late spring the weather was very pleasant. I love all the Australian flowers and many were already in bloom. Probably the most striking at this time were the Jacaranda trees which provided avenues of mauve colour everywhere. We went to the theatre and a couple of concerts at the Opera House passing Circular Quay en route where all the ferries and some cruise ships dock.

Aborigine groups were also present displaying their unique art work and playing their musical instruments, while some were deep in conversation on their mobile phones!!

After three busy weeks we flew to Auckland and drove to Rotorua where we experienced noxious fumes in the air coming from all the hot springs. We went to an area where mud bubbled in pools and where many of the pools in the volcanic craters were bright green, orange or yellow. Surprisingly life (bacteria)

existed in these toxic environments. We were treated to the eruption of a geyser where hot water shot in the air reaching heights of about 25 metres.

We returned to Auckland and flew to Queenstown in South Island. From here we followed old gold mining trails ( but didn't make our fortune!), we went to part of the area where some scenes from The Lord of the Rings were filmed, and we had an overnight cruise in the beautiful fiord region on the west coast where albatross, seals, dolphins, penguins and other amazing wildlife could be seen.



Circular Quay & Opera House, Sydney

We also went to a morning service in the Parish church in Queenstown where there was a warm welcome and a greeting in both English and Maori. Their text for the day was " I am the first and the last says the Lord Almighty who is,who was and is to come" A reminder that our God is the same faithful God wherever we live in the world.

It was interesting that they also ran a food bank, and that the need to help people with financial problems was as great in New Zealand as in the U.K

We visited a Kiwi sanctuary ( the Kiwi is a very threatened species, vulnerable to many predators) where we had a very interesting talk on the conservation of the Kiwi and wildlife in general. They had various animals and birds on display helping illustrate their talk, and one of their "stars" was a possum called Pestilance! He was a very lucky animal to be kept as a display "pet " as normally they are trapped and culled and end up providing wool for jumpers, gloves etc as they do indescribable damage to the environment and kill young kiwi to mention just a few of their sins!

Our journey home involved a visit to Dunedin where we went to an Albatross sanctuary where the birds were sitting on their nests, and we flew finally from Christchurch to Sydney and on to HongKong for three days before arriving at Heathrow at 4.30 am and back to the cold. We were very glad to be wearing our possum jumpers!!

We had certainly enjoyed a great holiday, and were undoubtedly guided and protected in all our travels by our loving God who enabled us to experience another part of His wonderful world.

**Janet Wade**



# BIBLE BY THE BEACH

Equipping the Saints / Building the Church



Our theme for 2013 is the hope of Christ's glorious return. The certainty of this ought to have a profound effect on us, on our joy and determination to live each day for our Saviour. We live for Him and long for His return when we will see Him face to face.

We invite individuals, families and church group parties to join in a weekend of life-changing Bible teaching, with mind-stretching seminars, spiritual refreshment through praise and fellowship and lively, fun children's activities

Come and be blessed, encouraged and refreshed to continue God's work.

We look forward to seeing you there,

**BISHOP WALLACE BENN**  
CHAIRMAN, BIBLE BY THE BEACH

## WHAT PEOPLE SAY...

"I'VE BEEN RICHLY FED,  
BUILT UP, ENCOURAGED."

"BBTB's strength  
is being faithful  
to God's word."

"An oasis in the  
midst of a busy life."



S

### Hugh Palmer



Hugh is Rector of St. Andrew's Church, Bishopsgate and has been in ministry for 25 years. His ministry has been focused on missions around the world and a national bible

### Richard C...



Richard is the Rector of Dundonald and has been in ministry for 25 years. He is involved in numerous church activities, including the Mens' and Women's Scheme and the Church of Scotland in ministry in the community through meetings and

### Adrian Ho...



Best-selling author and radio presenter who explored Christianity in his book 'The Times newspaper translated into a shock' tackled the issue in the form of a family with his family

### Peter Ma...



Peter is the Director of the Diocese since 1985, and was elected in 2003. He was a member of

### John Stev...



John was appointed as the Federal Secretary in September 2003 and is the chairman of the Steering Group

### Mike Ove...



Mike was once involved in legislation. He has been a curate for 15 years and is teaching at Mill Hill in 1998 and

### Ruth Vale...



Ruth lives in Cornwall. She is involved in the local Community extensively and is also a writer on writing Bible

## PEAKERS

**ner**

Director of All Souls, Langham Place, London. He began ministry in Norwich and served at St Helen's and Sheffield before coming to All Souls in 2005. He has been involved in many student and parish ministries across the UK. He currently chairs New Word Alive, and teaches teaching week.

**oekin**

Director of Co-Mission and senior minister at St Paul's Church. Richard has been involved in launching churches and other ministries, such as the London's Women's Conventions, the 9:38 Apprenticeship and the Passion for Life mission. He is also involved in Westminster - speaking regularly at lunchtime and leading a bible study in the House of Lords.

**Holloway**

Author Adrian Holloway is a gifted communicator who explores the relevance and life-changing potential of the Bible in the 21st Century. Formerly a BBC radio and TV presenter, he started working life as a football reporter on The Daily Mirror. His book "The Shock of your Life" has been translated into many languages and his latest book, 'After the Fall', addresses the most common objections to Christianity. He is based at Christ Church, London.

**den**

Director of OM International, having led OM UK and then taking on leadership of OM International as Chairman of Keswick Ministries until 2011 and as a member of the Global Board of Biblica.

**ens**

Appointed to serve as the first ever National Director of the Federation of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) in 2010. Alongside his other ministries, John is co-chair of the Passion for Life steering group and sits on the National Committee for New Word Alive.

**y**

She is a civil service lawyer drafting government legislation. She was trained at Ridley Hall Cambridge, and worked for four years at All Saints Crowborough before joining Moore Theological College, Sydney. She joined Oakwood and became Principal in 2007.

**rio**

She is based in Chichester, where she is part of Revelation Church. She has been involved in issues of community regeneration, chairing the Community Action Partnership. She has written on issues of justice, environment and lifestyle issues, as well as leading bible study guides for Scripture Union and CWR.

## Bible by the Beach

In 2013 we hope to get a group together to attend Bible by the beach at Eastbourne Please contact Val or Adrian Cookney : 01444 440029  
amcookney2@aol.com

## Prayer Focus

There are two areas on which I would like you to focus your prayers over the next two months.

First and foremost is the ALPHA COURSE which will be running all through January and February at Ryecroft.

- Please pray for the leaders and helpers (both in the small groups and the kitchen!)
- Pray that the DVDs will carry the message of the Gospel clearly and effectively and that the Holy Spirit will do His work in making folk aware of their need of Christ.

Second, we must pray for our EASTER SERVICES. There will be some changes this year. We will have only one 10.30.am service on Easter Sunday morning. It will be a joyful celebration of Holy Communion to celebrate the Resurrection and as it will be, for me, my last Easter as a full-time minister, I intend to make the most of it!

**Charles Martin**

# Book Review

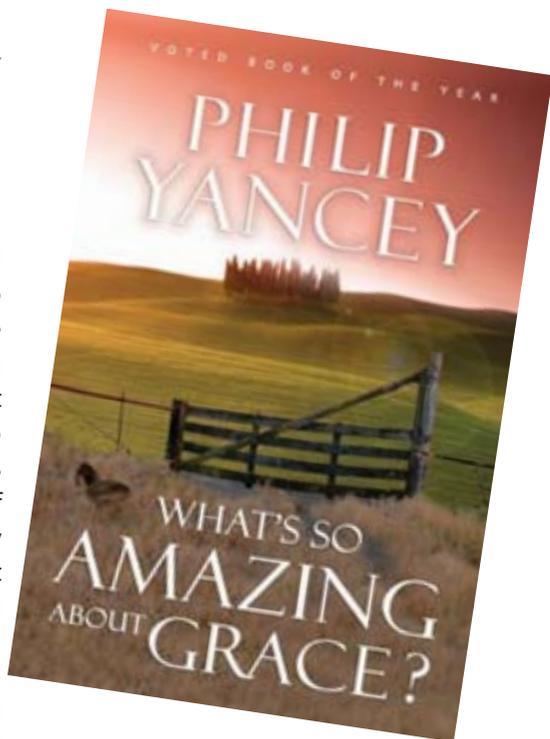
## *What's so Amazing About Grace?*

by Philip Yancey  
Zondervan, 1997

Philip Yancey is a successful and compelling author and journalist who has made it his mission to “speak to those living in the borderlands of faith”. Having rebelled against his fundamentalist Christian upbringing in America’s Deep South, he began a journey back towards faith far removed from the ‘toxic’ church of his youth that, as he highlights, frequently lacked grace during his upbringing at the height of the African-American Civil Rights Movement.

In this book he attempts to reveal the nature of grace and its profound implication on our lives. Exploring the intimate relationship between grace and forgiveness he chews over many difficult issues, such as what grace really looks like and how it fits in to a world full of pain and un-forgiveness.

Brought into focus by many startling stories that shine a light on, as Yancey describes it, the ‘scandalous’ nature of grace, he challenges us to move away from our comfort zone and live lives that outwardly proclaim the amazing message of God’s grace.



“*All too often the church holds up a mirror reflecting back the society around it, rather than a window revealing a different way.*”

*Philip Yancey*

An enjoyable and provoking read, this book lays bare the author’s incredibly personal journey to understand the significance of this message – I thoroughly recommend joining him for the ride!

**Alex Hall**

# Phonebook

## Charles Martin (Pastor)

Mobile 07821 904785  
Email [cmartin@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:cmartin@lindfieldurc.org.uk)

## Josh Thomas (Youth Pastor)

Youth Office 01444 487607  
Mobile 07598 779553  
Email [jthomas@lindfieldurc.org.uk](mailto:jthomas@lindfieldurc.org.uk)

## Church Secretary

Sue Waller 01444 455047  
Email [waller.s@sky.com](mailto:waller.s@sky.com)

## 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

## Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

## The Fellowship

Chris Comber 01444 482641

## Stepping Stones

Janet Goodenough 01444 417002

## Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

## Zest Co-ordinator

Josh Thomas 07598 779553

## Lighthouse (Junior Church)

### Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

# Flower Rota

Arranging

Distributing

## January

6th	Gladys Porter	Janet Sanderson
13th	Barbara Shepherd	Sue Tester
20th	Lesley Sparks	Jane Foreman
27th	Mary Comber	Barbara Shepherd

## February

3rd	Audrey Saunders	Jo Bloxham
10th	Winifred Scopes	Iris Bingham
17th	Jessie Green	Heather Swann
24th	Heather Swann	Fo Tingley

## March

3rd	Janet Wade	Janet Sanderson
10th	Betty Billins	Sue Tester
17th	Carol Walters	Jane Foreman
24th	Mies Campling	Barbara Shepherd
31st	Easter	Jo Bloxham

# Around Lindfield

## Wednesday 9th January

12.15pm: Tiger Arts: Lunch in the Tiger - Organ Recital

8.00pm: Horticultural Society in KEH: "Four Days in the Nursery"

## Thursday 24th January

7.45pm: Film - "Great Expectations" in KEH. Doors open at 7.30pm,  
Tickets available from Tufnells in the High St.

## Saturday 2nd February

10-12: Horticultural Society in KEH: Coffee Morning and Plant Sale

## Tuesday 12th February

2.30pm: Preservation Society in KEH: "The Legacy of Charles Eamer Kempe - A Lindfield Person" - Talk by Brian Tester

## Wednesday 13th February

12.15pm Tiger Arts: Lunch in the Tiger

Concert for Piano, Baritone and Soprano

8.00pm: Horticultural Society in KEH: "Growing and Showing Daffodils"

