



# *GoodNEWS* **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

October 2016

**It is good to wait quietly  
for the salvation of the Lord.**

**Lamentations 3:26**

# Bible verse of the month

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things.”

Philippians 4:8 NIV



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See page 23 for more information about our verse this month from Ruth Goodall.

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



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# Editorial

As we move into autumn the nights are drawing in and we are back into a normal routine after holidays come to an end. Prayers are being said for so many of our Church Family who have had sadness and ill health to contend with.

The Art Group has their Exhibition of the Art and Craft work produced by the members; details are further on in this Good News Magazine.

I wonder how many people managed to guess 'Who am I?' in the September Good News, There is a very interesting life revealed.

We have news of a special sort of holiday which two of our members enjoyed; do read this, it is quite different! Our friend Stuart Dew who came to preach at our morning service has a special message for us. Tim Sanderson gives us food for thought in his article. A big thank you to everyone who has written articles for us.

Danny, our Youth Pastor, has much to share with us, how blessed we are to have Ruth and Danny working with our young people. Read Danny's page how he meets so many youngsters in very different surroundings. They can listen to the messages that Danny puts before them which could start a wonderful journey into knowing our Lord.

God bless you all, and may anyone struggling find the Peace and Love they need which is theirs for the asking.

*Anne*

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# Dear friends

The last time I wrote this letter for the magazine we were patiently waiting for our new minister Keith to arrive, twenty months on we are again waiting for our minister to join us. We pray that his sabbatical has been fruitful and restful and that he would have learned much about the subject he was looking into. The subject is 'uniformed organisations in the life of the church'. We look forward to Keith being back with us from the 10th October.

We are all quite often waiting for someone to return to us, someone returning after travel, perhaps coming back from university or after a long stay in hospital. There are many different reasons that we wait for someone to return, of course, the one we all jointly wait for to return is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Revelations chapter 1 v 3 says,

***"Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near."***

Chapter 22 v 7 says

***'Behold I am coming soon, blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this book'***

We must have faith, trust and belief that one day the Lord will return, until then we should read our Bible daily, so much to learn and feed our spiritual needs and pray often. Jesus loves to talk to us not forgetting to thank Him for answered prayers. Jesus' Holy Spirit will be with us every day of our lives.

While Alison and I were on holiday we went to a little Methodist church in Glossop. When it was time for communion the minister asked everyone to form a semi-circle in front of the church where she proceeded to serve each one with the bread and wine (there were about 45). I really felt the presence of the Holy Sprit as we stood and accepted what the Lord had given us by His death on the cross. I pray that each of you will have that experience as you worship your Lord over the coming weeks and months. I leave you with a few verses to read at your leisure, Philippians chapter 4 v 10-13.

God bless you all,

With love,

*Terry Ward*

Terry Ward  
Elder

# Family News

## Elders Elections

November 20th at the Annual Meeting,  
four of our current Elders will have  
reached the end of their period of office:

*Dan McQuillin*

*John Merrett*

*Fiona Tingley*

*David Walters*

All names have to agree to being  
proposed and seconded and have their  
names put forward to the Secretary by  
the 10th November. Nomination slips  
are available from Fiona Tingley ( in the  
absence of Sue Waller at present).

You are asked as a Fellowship to give  
prayer and thoughts to whom you may  
wish to ask to fulfil the role on behalf of  
the Church. Please do speak to the four  
who are stepping down to encourage  
and thank them for their time already  
given and in their decision making for the  
future.

If you have any further questions please  
do not hesitate to speak to Sue Waller and  
any of the Elders who will be pleased to  
help you.

**Sue Waller**

## All Age Games Night!

Who: Everyone!

Where: Lindfield United Reformed Church

When: **Saturday 29th October,  
5.30pm to 8.30pm**

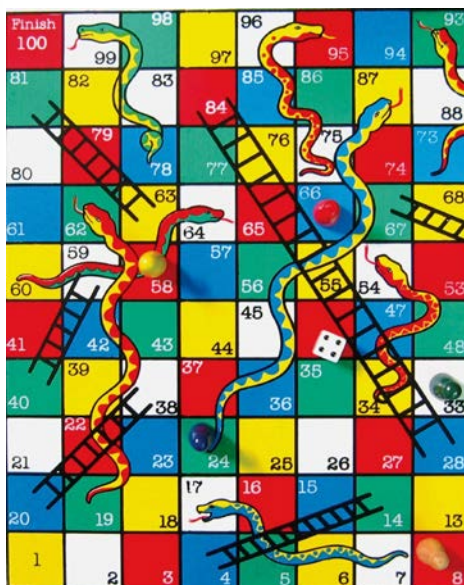
Snacks and drinks will be available during  
the evening.

Feel free to bring a friend or two!

Parents are responsible for their own  
children.

Come and have fun!

**Danny Goodall**





# Family News

There are a number of folk in our Church Family who need our on-going prayers at this time.

Some are anticipating surgery or awaiting for test results, some are in the course of treatment, and others have long-term health issues which make life a struggle and a few are now housebound. Some too, who are grieving the loss of someone they love, or are experiencing anxiety. You may or may not know their names, but God knows. Please do pray for strength, comfort, courage and a real sense of our Lord's presence and peace for each one.

## *The Fellowship*

On Wednesday, 26 October, at 2.30 pm, we will be meeting Lucy Ill and her owners Rosemary and Ray.

We will be told of the work of PAT dogs and, in particular that done by Lucy and "her team"!

There will be the usual Bring & Buy Stall and, at the end of the meeting, a cup of tea and time to chat with friends.

**Pat Phillips**

## *IN Touch*

In August a large number of our group enjoyed a relaxing evening in Betty's garden. We all enjoyed catching up over coffee and cakes and we are very grateful for Betty's hospitality and for also organising the lovely weather for us!!!

On October 25th we meet in the lounge for coffee at 7.45pm followed at 8.0 pm by a talk about the lives and work of some of the Saints. Saint Columba who founded the Abbey on Iona and Saint Aidan of Lindisfarne are two whose lives will be considered. If anyone has any contributions to make during the evening they will be very welcome.

As usual everyone is welcome to join us.

**Janet Wade**

## *The Art Group*

On Saturday 22nd October the Art and Crafts Group are holding an Exhibition in the Church Hall from 10am to 12 noon. Coffee and Cakes will be served, lots of paintings and craft work will be on display.

Please come and join us and chat to the group.

## *Thank you Helen!*

Helen and I were married by the Reverend Richard Tucker in Lindfield United Reformed Church on 2nd October 1976. The photographs show that there have been changes over the years in both us (hair!) and the Church (organ pipes and tie bars out, concourse in!), but not so many! I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you, Helen, for the way in which you have greatly enriched my life with your love over forty wonderful years of married life, inspiring me to our shared faith and giving us our family!

God bless you on our Ruby Wedding Anniversary and for always as we continue our journey together.

### **Martin Hall**



# Holiday with a Difference!

Our Sat/Nav was doing its' best as we wended our way through narrow Yorkshire lanes. 'Are we there yet?' I kept asking. After a few more wrong turns we discovered the pretty village of Kettlewell. 'Calendar Girls' had been filmed in this village and it all seemed strangely familiar to us. However, we were looking for Scargill House and so we continued onward.

Suddenly our excitement waned as we anxiously thought about our fast approaching holiday. It had seemed a good idea to book 'a holiday with a difference' but now we had second thoughts. The holiday was entitled, 'Write for your Soul' and it certainly would be a different sort of holiday.





It was too late now to change our minds. After a few more twists and turns we entered a long drive leading up to a large and friendly looking house. We were warmly welcomed by a crowd of young people eager to carry our cases and to show us to our well-appointed room.

The beauty of the surroundings and the gathering throng of happy people calmed our fears and we began to feel at home. After a nourishing meal and a good night's sleep we were ready for anything!

Next morning we met our leader, Becky Widdows, a gentle and deeply caring woman. Becky introduced us to our series of studies. Our sessions would direct us into keeping a spiritual journal. We would consider why it is necessary to keep a journal, what we should put in our journals, how to use colour, pictures and poems and then to just keep going! It was all so helpful, why hadn't we done this before? There were about 25 of us and sometimes we broke into small groups and discussed what we had learnt.

So, what had I learnt? I discovered that my memory wasn't as good as I had thought. Over many years I have prayed and asked God for many things, He has graciously answered and then I have forgotten the answer and rushed on to my next prayer request.

In keeping a spiritual journal I can record all that God has done in my life, I can see His fingerprint. I have kept a sort of spiritual diary before but in a half-hearted way and now I was challenged to take my spiritual journey through life more seriously.

My new approach would help me to share what is in my heart, to be honest about my feelings, to build a deeper relationship with the God who loves me and made me, and to lead me into thankfulness.

I learnt that we don't always need to 'journal' using words. We can draw, paint, make a collage, and really do anything that expresses what is in our hearts as we seek to draw near to God.

Can this sort of holiday be fun? Yes! It was serious but there was lots of fun and laughter as we 'journalled' together.

I would love to tell you more.

Please ask me.

**Jean Gardiner**

# Who am I?

## *Revealed*

None of the Good News Editorial Team were able to guess the identity of last month's "Who am I?", so if you thought it was Geoffrey Cocksedge congratulations! You might have been aided by Geoffrey being brought to mind when he was called up in the morning service on Sunday 11th September to receive a study Bible, as a tribute for his devotion to the Boys Brigade over many years. Geoffrey joined LURC in 1999, after being told by Roy Munday's daughter Janice that the Church had BB and GB Companies. He went along to the BB Display, told Terry he could "help out a bit if required" and has been active in the BB ever since! Geoffrey describes below how he found Christ through the BB as a child.



*"The state of Assam in north-east India, where I was born, is one of the most beautiful places on earth, with lush green jungle through which runs one of the world's great rivers, the Brahmaputra, with snow-capped mountains to the north, and a vast expanse of hill country to the south.*

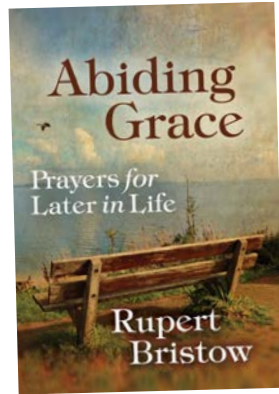
*My father was Deputy Chief Engineer of Assam province and often went on tours of inspection into the jungle regions. He used to take me, a small child, in his jeep on some of these trips, with a chuprasi (Indian servant) to take care of me. Those trips into the jungle were magical. Full of the most exotic wildlife, including elephants, rhinos, deer, and other animals one did catch a glimpse of through the foliage, and many, including tigers and leopards, which one didn't.*

*The family came to the UK in the mid-50s, and what a contrast the vast urban jungle of south London was to the green jungle of northern India!*

*My father in particular never really recovered from leaving the land he had known as home. However, we were fortunate: the house that my parents bought was next door to a Methodist manse, and we had only been there a day when the Minister called and invited us to join his church a few yards down the road.*

# Book Review

## *Abiding Grace*



By Rupert Bristow, Kevin Mayhew

*I joined the BB there as did my younger brother – the 9-12 section known in those days as the Life Boys. I settled down in BB and came to love it and make many friends (some of whom I am still in contact with), but the great joy of my time as a teenage BB Boy was camp at Freshwater on the Isle of Wight. There amid the greenery, and the expanse of Tennyson Down behind, one could spend a very happy week's holiday.*

*When I was 17, the camp padre was a Baptist Minister, who challenged us boys to give our lives to Christ. I accepted and, with a close friend, knelt in the tent to be received into Christ's Kingdom and begin my Christian journey."*

The later years of life are also filled with blessings and challenges. Here is a storehouse of prayers that enable the reader to reflect and meditate on them.

Abiding Grace begins with a reminder that there is much indeed to rejoice in, be that the simple joys of laughter and retirement. Rupert then gently guides the reader through the anxieties and worries that are part of growing old. Regrets and mistakes are brought before God and through His grace we are released from our past.

Abiding Grace is a rich and much needed aid for anyone turning to prayer in later life. Indeed, as Rupert writes, it is through God's saving grace and an awareness of His presence in our lives, 'that we can all seek to make the seamless transition from life to death without fear or regret, but in confidence and trust.

**Parish Pump**

# Love Lindfield

Lindfield United reformed Church wish to offer our support to people, just like us, who need a little extra help from time to time. Please can you help us to LOVE LINDFIELD more by providing information which will influence our plans for new groups and courses in the future to serve the needs of this community better?

Please complete the questionnaire on the next page and place it in one of the boxes in the church

Or return it to :

*Lindfield United Reformed Church*  
*52 High Street*  
*Lindfield*  
*West Sussex*  
*RH16 2HL*



# Love Lindfield Questionnaire



To help our church to serve Lindfield please ☒ anything you may be interested in

## Parenting Courses

Young Children

☐

Teenagers

☐

## Life's Challenges

Marriage/relationships

☐

Debt/Money matters

☐

Low self esteem

☐

Dealing with loss or bereavement

☐

Unemployment

☐

## The Church

Learn about the Christian Faith

☐

Learn about Prayer

☐

## Preferred Time

Daytime

☐

Evening

☐

Optional Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_ [lindfieldurc.org.uk](http://lindfieldurc.org.uk)

# Our journey

*on a new road with God*

The only constant is change! This seems to have become a bit of a mantra for me over the years. It is so easy as a Christian to get into a rut where everything is going along in a very predictable manner and we feel settled and comfortable. This can apply especially to church life where the seasons and festivals come around so quickly and we seem to spend most of our time just trying to keep up!

Having said this, every so often God breaks through our busyness and self pre-occupation and sets before us a different path. Sometimes we respond positively and at other times we just carry on as usual. My wife Val and I had one of those moments recently. Well actually it was a number of moments which have combined to set us on a new path of service in a different part of the country.

At the Keswick Convention in 2014, which was the first time we had attended this great gathering, we were convinced that God was calling us to commit our future to him in a new way and effectively say "anything, anywhere, anytime". We thought this would be about some time in the future, maybe some call to service in retirement or similar. As we returned home we felt no great calling to anywhere or anyone in particular so we took it that we should remain in our current situations.

Earlier this year I was suddenly told that my role at work was "at risk" of redundancy and I started a 30 day period of "consultation". Right from the start, even though it was a shock, we felt God was in this thing and we should look to him to show us the next steps. I recall standing up in church and asking people to pray and being greatly encouraged by peoples' interest and concern. Thanks (you know who you are!).

Fairly early on I made the decision that I would not try to get back into the Oil Industry as it was in turmoil (once again!) so looked at Christian mission organisations. I discovered a good website called Christian Vocations which had a list of mission and church openings. After a number of deadends I saw an advert from Christians Against Poverty (CAP) for an IT Business Analyst / Project Manager. This was something I had done for a short while in the mid noughties for a national bank locally.

Each investigation I made and every application form I filled out took me further on in my thinking about what I wanted to do.

The more research I did about CAP the more interested and excited I became. This was tempered by the thought that this might not be the next step or I might not get very far.

Anyway I was called to interview, all the way to Bradford for an hours session. Once again we called on the church and close friends to pray and lo and behold I was offered the job!

Then the hard work began; we had to sell the house, sort through 21 years of "stuff", prepare for a new role, look for somewhere to rent while we looked for a church, etc... As I write this in mid-Sept I do so having just moved into our temporary (6 months?) rented house. Again a provision of God. I have had 3 weeks at CAP now and found it to be a challenge on so many fronts but also so worthwhile. Last week we had a great celebration up in Harrogate for 20 years of CAP. Over 1600 people from around the country, both head office staff and front line workers from over 500 churches came together to thank God for his faithfulness to this organisation.

Interestingly while the services that CAP provide are debt advice, job clubs, release groups, and life skills training, a quote from one of the leaders struck me: CAP are not debt counsellors who happen to do evangelism, but evangelists who happen to do debt counselling!

At the end of August, for the previous 12 months, over 1,000 people had become Christians through CAP's ministry. I like this holistic vision which is summed up like this "serving the poor, saving the lost, with the church across the land".

There are still many unknowns for Val and I but we know God has called us "up north" to a new place of service. This is also about lifelong discipleship where it is not about passing an exam and then sitting back and taking it easy. But it is about continuing with Jesus as our guide and Lord and being aware we are not perfect (yet!) so change is required, and we are not our own, we are his, so he calls the shots. Easy to sing about but more difficult to put in practise!

### **Adrian Cookney**



# Service Times

*Please take careful note:*

Up to and including the 9th October the Sunday Service times will be :

**10.00am & 6.30pm**

Refreshments will be served following that 10.00am service when it is hoped there will a time for fellowship to be had together.

From the 16th October there will be two Morning Services:

**9.30am & 11.15am**

Refreshments will be served between the services.

As usual Holy Communion will be on the 4th Sunday at 9.30am & 11.15am and 2nd Sunday at 6.30pm . When there is a 5th Sunday the evening service will combine with the Evangelical Free Church.

## Prayer Meetings

Mon	9.30am	An Hour of Prayer
Thur	8.00pm	Church Prayer Evening 'Engine Room' (4th Thursday)
Sat	8.45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting. Venue rotates between the three churches

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

## Regular Activities

Mon	10.00am	Art Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys (5-7 years)
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (8-11 years)
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade - Company Section (11+ years)
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	5:00pm	Rooted
	7.30pm	Pulse (Years 6-9) games, craft, tuck and a bible message (term time)
Sun	7.30pm	18-25 Group

The church is open on Tuesday (Concourse) and Thursday (Pop-In) 10.00am - Noon.



# October Church diary

1st Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	17th Monday	6:30pm	Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service
2nd Sunday	6:30pm	Harvest Festival Barn Dance	20th Thursday		House Groups
	10:00am	Harvest All Age Service	22nd Saturday	10.00am	Art Group Exhibition and Coffee Morning
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Val Cookney		8:45am	Prayer Meeting, URC
5th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	23rd Sunday	9:30am	Communion
				11:15am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
6th Thursday		House Groups		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
8th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	25th Tuesday	7:45pm	In Touch Ladies Group
9th Sunday	10:00am	Mission Sunday Andrew Wilson	26th Wednesday	2:30pm	The Fellowship
	6:30pm	Communion Mike Gardiner		7:45pm	Elders' Meeting
15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	27th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
16th Sunday	Return to two morning services		29th Saturday	8:45am	Prayer Meeting, URC
	9:30am	Morning Worship	30th Sunday	9:30am	Family Service
	11:15am	Rev Keith Morrison Evening Worship		11:15am	Morning Worship Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Rev Keith Morrison		6:30pm	Joint Evening Worship Evan Free

# YOUTH



*Hello!*

A new academic year has begun and church groups are in full swing!

On Monday evenings, Boys' Brigade takes over the church premises. Anchors, 5-7, runs from 6pm to 7pm; Junior Section, 7-11, runs from 6.30pm to 7.30pm; and Company Section, 11+, runs from 7.30pm to 9pm. We are getting about 15 boys throughout the evening, but we are always welcoming more boys who want to join!

The Boys' Brigade Enrolment Service is in the evening of Monday 17th October, it would be great to see as many of the church family there supporting the boys at the beginning of their year.

Stepping Stones on Tuesday mornings has a new feel to it once again. We had to say goodbye to those who reached the age of three, but we say hello to brand new faces who take their place.

The Christian Union at Oathall has already got 25 pupils attending each week. This term we are looking at 'Why might we want to share the gospel, and how do we do it?'. We hope that the Christian Union provides a place of support and encouragement to continue being Christians in the school.



Rooted and Pulse continue on Friday evenings. For those who don't yet know, Rooted is our new name for Pulse Junior, the group for 7-11's.

It was named Rooted, with the tagline: more than meets the eye. We are not just a group who meet to have fun, we also learn about God, and how He is, can be the roots in our lives.

There will be another all age games evening at the church on Saturday 29th October! The last two games nights have been a great success with over 50 attending the last one, including a good number of boys from Boys' Brigade!

Details and flyers about the games evening will be available shortly, but put the date in your diary now, and keep that evening free!

Finally, looking beyond Christmas, January will see the start of Messy Church. This will run once a month on a Friday afternoon from 4-6pm. Messy Church includes playing games, having a go at a range of different crafts, a Bible focus and finishes with dinner. Messy Church is open to all families, specifically aimed for families with children aged 3 – 11. More details to come!

Any questions about the term ahead, feel free to email Danny. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for all of the children and youth work within the church.

We long to see growth in God's Kingdom and the young people in this community need to know the gospel. Let's keep our eyes on Christ, and bring God's Kingdom to Lindfield.

*Danny*

**PAGES**

# Boys' Brigade

All sections started back in September and are now settling in to the new session with great enthusiasm.

With changes in staffing, and our Chaplain away this month, we have a few details still to finalise but boys are all enjoying a full programme. We are looking to recruit boys to all sections.

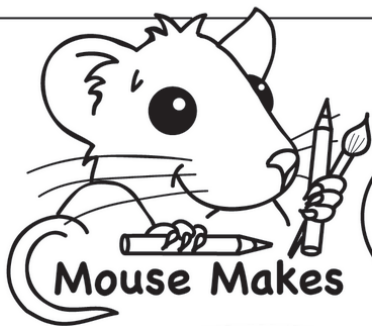
Anchor Section 5-7 age, Junior Section 8-11age, Company Section 11+age. Please speak to any boys you know, or let us know of any boys who may be interested and we will follow up.

We have an Enrolment Service every year where boys make a recommitment to the BB and in particular their Company for the year ahead. This takes place in the Church on our normal meeting night Monday 17th October at 6.30pm. This is the first occasion our Chaplain is back with us following his sabbatical and he will be leading this service together with our Youth Pastor.

Your support at this service will be much appreciated.







## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

### GOD'S WORD IS...

Look up the bible verse and fill in the blanks.

Your \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ for my  
\_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ for my \_\_\_\_\_

*Psalm 119:105*



### BLESSING COMES FROM...

Cross out every second letter to read the bible verse.

"BALEEYSYPESDV ADREEM TKHCOUSMED  
WAHROS HPEKAMRS TWHAEU WHOGREDN  
ATNODL OABLEPYW IFTO"

*Lpurkdes 11:28*



### WISDOM COMES FROM...

Change the backwards words to read the right way.

"For the Lord gives wisdom;  
from His mouth come knowledge  
and understanding."

*Proverbs 2:6*

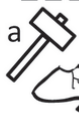


Is not my \_\_\_\_\_ like



\_\_\_\_\_ declares the Lord, and

like a \_\_\_\_\_ that breaks a



\_\_\_\_\_ to pieces?

*Jeremiah 23:29*



### UNDERSTANDING COMES FROM...

Change each letter to the letter **after** it in the alphabet.

SGD SDZBGHMF NE XNTQ VNQC  
FHUDR KHFGS RN DUDM SGD  
RHLOKD TMCDQRSZMC

*Orzkl 119:130*

# Stained glass window advent calendar

**T**hank you to everyone who helped to make the stained 'glass' panels at Lindfield Arts Festival. The panels will now be put together to make a stained glass window advent calendar which will be displayed at the front of the church.

The advent windows will be opened on the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. We will be asking all the groups connected to the church to design one of the pictures to be hidden behind the advent windows. If you don't belong to a group but would like to contribute to a window design there will be an opportunity during coffee time on Sunday 30th October.

**Jacquie Odell**



# Do you believe

This is the question that the apostle Paul raises in 1 Corinthians 15:12-28. His, possibly convoluted argument is that if we believe that Jesus died and rose from death (and I do) we can be sure that we, who believe in Christ as Lord and Saviour, will surely also be raised to new life after we die. But if we do not believe in resurrection, then not even Christ has been raised, and therefore we are without hope in this world (verses 17-18).

It is the hope of new, perfected life after death that not only gives us reason to persevere in this current life, with all its troubles and challenges, but is the basis of consolation when we face the death of a loved one.

In some sense, Paul had the advantage that he lived soon after Jesus' resurrection, and was able to speak to those who had witnessed this event. However, for us, we have the testimony of the Bible, in the gospels, Acts, and various letters. In Jesus words (to Thomas who had doubted His resurrection) "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29). So be encouraged to trust in God, and believe in the truths we have handed down in the Bible – Jesus says we are blessed!

(I acknowledge my inspiration from the daily bible study notes by Jeff Lucas, in preparing this short discussion).

**Tim Sanderson**

# Bible Verse

“*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.*”

Philippians 4:8 NIV

This verse reminds us to focus on the positives in life. Our minds can easily get overcrowded with worry, doubt and fear, but these words encourage us to give all those thoughts to God, and keep our minds fixed on all things true and worthy of praise. All of these adjectives can be used to describe God, and by staying focused on Him we will become more like Him.

We should take time to think about the good things, and give thanks to God for the many blessings he has given us.

**Ruth Goodall**



It is Operation Christmas Child time again when we as a fellowship send shoe boxes to children all over the world.

By now, leaflets would have been made available which gives more details of how to go about packing a shoe box. The ready-made boxes will be on sale mid October if they are easier for you to use. Please see information in the concourse.

The drop off date and dedication will be **Sunday 6th November** at the morning service.

Thank you once again from all the children wherever they are.

Any queries please contact me.

**Jill O'Mant** - [jomant55@gmail.com](mailto:jomant55@gmail.com)





# Home Groups

The new term is under way and that includes our home group activities. In our groups, this autumn we will be studying; The Creed using a Bible study guide by the same name. We are going to spend time studying the Creed because what we believe shapes how we live, and the Apostles' Creed doesn't waste time with the less important matters, but focuses only on things that are essential - the areas of Christian belief that we are to grip firmly and immovably.

You may or may not know already that as a church we have generally changed home groups every 2 -3 years. The Elders and Home Group leaders have been discussing the process of a reorganisation of the home groups and to this end the Elders will be sending out a letter to explain the changes and the process of change more fully.

We are aware that change can be hard and even daunting. As a way of moving towards new groups we are proposing that we have a time between January - April 2017, when we meet altogether as a church family on our home group Thursdays (first and third Thursdays in the month).

During these gatherings there will be time for 'mingling' followed by a short talk on the passage. After this we will then divide into small groups for discussion and prayer.

If you have never been part of a small group or haven't been in one for a while we would love to extend an invitation to you to consider the idea of joining a new group. So please do come along to these central gatherings to get a 'taste' of being in a small group.

The new small groups will then meet as usual from Spring 2017.

Thank you for your commitment to the life of the church family in small groups and consequently to the church as a whole and may God bless you in that commitment.

## **Val Cookney**

On the behalf of the Elders and Home Group Leaders





# The gift

## *of building up the Church*



One of our congregation arrived at church on 11 September saying he'd heard there was a good preacher scheduled for that day.

Unfortunately, as Stuart Dew told us, the good preacher couldn't make it, and had sent him instead! Stuart was a member of this church but moved to Hassocks seven years ago. His jokes haven't improved since then.

We continued our study of 1 Corinthians by looking at 14.1-5 which stresses the importance of our Spirit-given gifts being used for building up or strengthening the Church, rather than ourselves.

A preacher called Harry Emerson Fosdick, who was regarded by Martin Luther King, as "the greatest preacher of the 20th century" said a preacher's main business should be to throw some light on a problem that exists in the lives of members of the congregation.

That is what Paul is doing in this passage, and what he does in many of his letters. Paul has become aware of a problem in the congregation at Corinth. Instead of unifying the church, the use of spiritual gifts is splitting it. They have become a symbol of power, with some people being thought more spiritual than others.

Paul particularly warns about the danger of people speaking in tongues - unless someone can interpret, so that the church can be built up.

He commends prophecy which, as Stuart pointed out, doesn't only mean foretelling the future, it means communicating God's message to people - what preachers try to do, Sunday by Sunday. But that also needs to be for the building up of the church and not the preacher.

We were encouraged to use our Spirit-given gifts. Some may speak in tongues and others interpret. Some may prophecy and preach. But we can all exercise the gift of encouraging one another. By doing that, we help build up and strengthen the church.

# Hospital Chaplaincy

There are at least three of us from LURC who have made the decision to offer this form of service to God in a chaplaincy role at the Princess Royal Hospital.

I find the weekly visits around the ward I have been asked to cover a most humbling experience. To wear the volunteer ward visiting badge is the entry permit to my designated ward. I find the charge nurse as I arrive each time in order to gain their permission to circulate among the patients.

Each person I greet I believe has been uniquely created by God, and that their time in hospital is an opportunity to acknowledge His Power of Healing.

I introduce myself and ask them "How is your stay in hospital being for you?"

This usually sparks a short conversation into which I am often able to offer to pray for them, if they wish it. The choice is always their's.

Any folk who shrink from a conversation I respect, and readily pass them by.

Some weeks God richly blesses this time and on other occasions my offering of service goes without any awareness of The Kingdom.

I conclude this comment by stating that I attempt to put into practice, always, Jesus' command "To love my neighbour as myself." Matthew 19 v 19.

**Janet Drayton**



# Missions Group



**I**t is with great pleasure that Lindfield United Reformed Church welcomes Andrew Wilson from Release International to speak on Sunday 9th October at 10am. Release International provides pastoral care and practical support to the thousands of Christians who are abused, imprisoned and martyred for their faith every year. Release International provides a voice to the forgotten, a hope to the lost, faith to Christians in despair, and a brotherhood of love that can only come from the throne of God. So, as we welcome Andrew, we fulfil Jesus' words when he said of our family in Christ who are suffering:

***'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'***

So how does Release International help us to engage with our Christian family around the globe from the relative sanctuary and security of our suburban lives? What can we learn about growing up in Christ through the sufferings of others?

There are individual prisoner profiles with addresses to write to. Release International have produced a booklet called 'Reach Out' which describes what to write and what not to write. I quote from the booklet:

***'Lonely, isolated prisoners are often tormented by guards who tell them that no one knows about their suffering, and their faith comes under great pressure. Receiving a letter or card from someone is a practical demonstration of love and helps to keep their faith strong.'***

There is a similar booklet on how to write to the authorities regarding individual prisoners or your MP.

Release International provide an opportunity for prayer through their daily prayer shield alerts:

Helen Berhane a former Eritrean prisoner of faith says

***'My fellow prisoners are always in my mind and in my heart, I cry for them every day, for I know the situation I left them in. Please carry on praying***

***for them just like you did for me; that way my joy would be complete.'***

There are fundraising ideas on the website, including getting rid of your old car for recycling ( I think I'll keep that one!) or recycling your old mobile phone. 'Give as you Live' an online fundraising tool will donate to your chosen charity for every purchase you make on sites like Amazon or ebay. It doesn't cost you any more than it would normally.

'Release Women' is dedicated to stories of female prisoners and their supporters. 'Release Potential' targets Christians aged 15-25 to connect with and understand persecution.

Release International produces a monthly news magazine where you can buy DVDs about specific countries, you can access online petitions and use your citizenship of the UK to maximum effect on foreign governments and powers!

I encourage you to engage with the work of Release International in order to learn about and support persecuted Christians. I believe we are living at a time when there is an increasing sense of isolation in our country to declaring a faith in Jesus Christ. What we learn from our suffering brothers reminds us of the suffering Saviour. It reminds us of the cost of the cross. If ever we needed a wake up call to what we



declare we believe, it is demonstrated in acts of faith in the fire, of being a Christian, even to the point of death.

Stephen a Vietnamese evangelist and prisoner of faith says:

***‘You can beat me as long as you like, you can imprison me for ten years if you like, but I know who I believe in.’***

God Bless you indeed in your service to His suffering.

Love in Christ  
**Harry McCleery**

All Quotations Courtesy of Release International

# Wider World

## *China*

**A**lthough Chinese authorities recently launched a crackdown on Christian house churches, as well as tearing down crosses on Christian facilities, there are still many Chinese who are thirsting for knowledge of Jesus.

That is why the news that ten million Bibles have been printed and distributed throughout China is so welcome. This happened after an appeal by the church-planting Asia Harvest ministry. They state that "This wasn't a human accomplishment, but a miracle from the Living God". Asia Harvest says support from around the world poured, resulting in millions of Bibles being printed and delivered across China.

Instead of there being a few large donors, the Lord chose to link together hundreds of ordinary believers throughout the world which is a wonderful example of the amazing things that can happen when God's people come together for the Gospel.

## *Paralympian Believer*

**W**hen Bethany Firth, a Paralympian swimmer from Northern Ireland won her second Gold Medal in Rio last month, she had no doubt who to thank for it.

As she regained her breath after swimming two hundred metres freestyle, she raised her eyes, clasped her hands together and praised God. Bethany puts her success down to the support of her family and church back home and added that "God puts challenges in your way, but shows a path if you work hard and put your mind to it."

What a good example Bethany sets for us all by overcoming the many difficulties in her life, whilst giving God the credit.

### **Carol Marsh**





# Phonebook

## Keith Morrison (Minister)

Telephone 01444 484791  
Email kmorrison@lindfielddurc.org.uk

## Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

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

## Church Secretary

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

## Treasurer

Terry Ward 01444 482986

## Boys' Brigade:

Keith Morrison (Chaplain) 01444 484791

## Flowers

Betty Billins 01444 484494

## Hall Booking Secretary

Shirley Anton 01444 482819

## In Touch

Sue Waller 01444 455047

## Lunch Fellowship

Sue Waller 01444 455047

## Pastoral Group

Fiona Tingley 01444 483419

## The Fellowship

Pat Phillips 01444 484507

## Stepping Stones

Zoe McQuillin 01444 484364

## Transport

Janet Drayton 01444 483621

## Lighthouse (Junior Church)

### Co-ordinator

Dawn Walters 01444 441601

# Flower Rota

## Arranging

## Distributing

### October

2nd	Harvest Festival	Meta Orchin
9th	Harvest Flowers	Janet Sanderson
16th	Jessie Green	Lesley Sparks
23rd	Heather Swann	Iris Bingham
30th	Winifred Scopes	Heather Swann

### November

6th	Janet Wade	Fiona Tingley
13th	Armistice Sunday	Nick Bingham
20th	Sue Waller	Liz Cantwell
27th	Carol Walters	Sue Tester

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

# Around Lindfield

## Wednesday 5th October

8.00pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall  
Talk : 'The Lost Village of Tide Mills' by Kevin Gordon

## Saturday 8th October

10.00am-12noon Lindfield Horticultural Society In King Edward Hall  
Coffee Morning and Plant Sale

## Wednesday 12th October

12.15 pm Tiger Arts - Lunch in Lindfield URC  
1.00pm Concert : Helen Arnold - Harp  
8.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall  
Talk : 'Victorian Gardens'

## Thursday 20th October

7.30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall  
'Golden Years' starring Virginia McKenna and Simon Callow



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