

GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

May 2017



Ascension

**I am ascending to my Father and your Father,
to my God and your God**

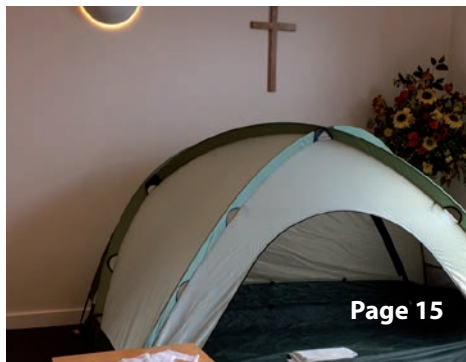
Luke 20:17

Bible verse of the month

“ Have I not
commanded you?
Be strong and
courageous.

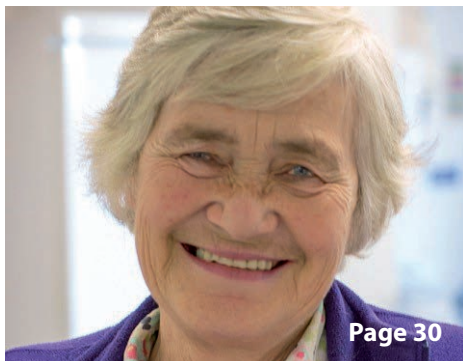
Do not be afraid: do
not be discouraged,
For the Lord will be
with you wherever
you go”

Joshua 1:9 NIV



Our verse this month comes
from Peter McCleery.
For more information see
page 7

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



Editorial

I hope that you will enjoy reading about our Church Weekend away, which is not too far off now. Do read more about what is happening. There are pointers about specific things to pray about, particularly for Rev'd David and Lorna Bedford who will be leading our time away at Pilgrim Hall.

Danny tells us about the visit to Spring Harvest and how our Church family were inspired by their time away. Read what Peter McCleary has written regarding Trust which is our Text for the month.

There is something new happening to our 6.30pm evening service, see what our minister Keith writes about this new venture.

There are two interesting artworks which relate to Genesis and Revelation, find out what it is all about. At a recent morning service we were delighted to sing a hymn that Mathew Newman has written. Please read the words of that hymn, they are really so good, as they touch on so many truths.

It is very encouraging to see all the trees in blossom and spring flowers in abundance,

I hope that these things make us ready to be thankful for what we have to keep us joyful and ready to serve our Lord in any way we can.

God Bless you all,

Anne

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Dear friends

It was good to be able to host the members of the other two Lindfield churches as we shared communion at the Maundy Thursday Lord's Supper. We demonstrated here that we are one body who share in the one bread, the bread broken for us, the bread of life, our Lord Jesus. We will again play host to the other churches, at the start of June, when we join together in the evening to celebrate Pentecost.

The month of May, this year, falls completely between these two important festivals, which mark the victory of Christ over the curse of sin, and the coming of the Holy Spirit upon his followers. It is a time of waiting, but quite a different time from the waiting of Lent where we may have fasted; instead we need to think of it as a season of celebration for it was during this period the risen Jesus appeared to his followers and spoke about the kingdom of God.

What joy it must have been for those disciples to discover the grave could not hold Jesus, for the Father had raised him to life. What joy it still can be for us that Christ is risen, this good news can put to death our fear of death, it reveals the truth that life is found in the Lord, and gives us a hope of which we can be certain. Christ's Kingdom, is here now, but is not yet in its fullness, which we will only see when Christ comes again.

We therefore live in a time of the "now but not yet." We are used to such times in other contexts, such as how a pregnant woman will carry her child but has yet to give birth; there is life but yet the infant is not yet born. Indeed Paul wrote to the Romans saying that "the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time" (Romans 8: 22). This time of waiting has within it moments of agony and despair, but the promise of joy, fullness, and life.

Politically we are now in 2 times of waiting, in our relationship with Europe, article 50 has been triggered but we remain within the EU for two years as the divorce is negotiated, and a general election has been called, but polling day has not arrived. As regards both of these issues, whatever our political colour or flavour, and even if we have had enough of politics for now and just wish the news would move on to something else, we should be praying that something new, and something more, of God's coming Kingdom might be seen.

Please pray for righteousness and justice to be central in politicians' hearts, and for words of God's love to be in the mouths of their advisors.

Your Minister

Keith

Family News

Congratulations

Congratulations to Val and Colin Lane who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on April 1st. We send them our love and warm good wishes.

Lunch Fellowship

Lunch Fellowship will be on Wednesday May 3rd, do join us if you are able.

For the cost of £4 you receive a homemade main meal followed by a variety of desserts and then tea/coffee. Please contact Sue on 455047 to book your place if you haven't done so already.

Note for your diary July 5th is the date of the Outing to Snowhill Garden Centre.

Look forward to seeing you.

Sue Waller

New Address

Val and Adrian Cookney's new address.
White Horse,
Baghill Green,
Tingley,
West Yorkshire,
WF3 1DL

Tel No: 0113 3454053

Can you help?

On Saturday 20th May from 9am to mid-day the managers are arranging a spring clean and carrying out some minor repairs. Our new cleaning contractor keeps the premises very clean but there a number of 'one-off' items needing doing. Many outside.

If you can help please come along on the 20th and there will be a job for you. Any questions please speak to David Walters. Thanks

David Walters

Fellowship

Our next meeting "Over to you" on Wednesday, 24 May, at 2.30 pm, celebrates all things involving flowers, and is a 'Home Spun' afternoon!

Do please bring along a reading, a poem or an artefact relating to flowers - you could even bring a flower!

There will be the usual Bring & Buy stall, and a cup of tea at the end of the meeting. All who come may be sure of a warm welcome.

Family News

Remembering Hilary

After a prolonged period of increasingly poor health, Hilary Shepherd journeyed home to be with his Lord and Saviour on April 1st. It is, of course, a very sad time for Barbara, her daughters, Jacqueline and Christine and their families, and we want to assure them all of our love, sympathy and on-going prayers.

Hilary and Barbara came into membership at LURC in January 1974, and they have both played a valuable part in various ways in the life of the Church here ever since. It was a privilege to serve with Hilary on the Eldership, and when he took on the role of Church Secretary he fulfilled his duties faithfully, efficiently and with a humble heart. Back in 1978 Hilary was instrumental in producing the Christian musical "Spirit", and what an awakening to the power of the Holy Spirit that production made to the life of LURC at that time! I for one, and I'm sure many others, will always be grateful for "Spirit" and "The Witness" that followed.

Until very recently, and despite failing health, Hilary continued to serve at Communion, as a door Steward, and carried out duties as the Authorised Person for Weddings, as well as playing an active part in a House Group.

Many will remember Hilary's beautiful Tenor voice, which he loved to use to praise God, either as part of a choir or singing solos. It was a sad day for him and for countless others (including the Sunday Morning Singers) when he had to give up singing, something that had been an important and enjoyable part of his life.

In the latter part of his working life, Hilary worked in Ministry alongside Bob Gordon and Colin Urquhart, (two local well known Christian authors and speakers).

Hilary was an inspiration to me and to many others that were on the receiving end of his wise counsel and Christian ministry. He showed amazing courage when facing very serious health issues, and afterwards gave testimony to God's healing grace. His faith, which didn't seem to waver, shone through, and to my knowledge he never complained! What a tremendous example of a true Christian gentleman he was! Hilary, such a kind and caring friend, will be very sadly missed by me and by our Church Family. We praise God that he has been such a well-loved and highly respected member of LURC for over forty three years.

He is now safe in the arms of Jesus whom he had served so faithfully!

Fo Tingley

Bible Verse

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid: do not be discouraged, For the Lord will be with you wherever you go”

Joshua 1:9

There are many things in life that call us to wonder and explore certain elements and in particular a series of specific events that have happened to us or will happen to us over a certain period of time.

I find that the Bible clearly summarises the word “Trust” pretty well as the following verse from Joshua Chapter 1 Verse 9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid: do not be discouraged, For the Lord will be with you wherever you go”

This particular verse is a very popular but easily relatable, translatable and relevant, that should help us develop a closer and more dynamic approach at putting God at the centre of our lives so that we will be able to enhance our relationship with him, as a result creating a greater bond of trust as well as Development of our Christian Faith.

In particular I have found at times during my life very hard to keep trusting in God, perhaps because of bad situations, times of uncertainty (e.g. Brexit), a long gap of unanswered prayer (e.g. unemployment) or no clear direction (e.g. Lack of guidance), however I have found that God does lead the way, even though we might not always understand it or see it, he is still there.

This particularly reinforces the point of trust, perseverance as well as making sure that we don't give up on him, even when times do become difficult for us, we must always look to him with the help and support of others.

I have found that throughout my life so far although it may not always be easy and we may struggle to make the right decision or choose the right path, I have found that God is always there, all you have to do is call upon him, ask him for guidance, put your trust in him and then respond.

Peter McCleery

Poems from Killarney

Perseverance

The perseverance of the sower challenges us to ask ourselves "what could I resolve to do today that could eventually make a big difference to my own life and the lives of others?" For no matter how small the seed sown, when that spirit of generosity, hope and perseverance are present, the result can be remarkable.

When things go wrong
as they often will;
When the road you're trudging
seems uphill;
When the funds are low,
and the debts are high;
And you want to smile,
but you have to sigh;

When care is pressing
you down a bit –
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Success is failure turned inside out;
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt;
And you can never tell
how close you are;
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight
when you're hardest hit –
It's when things go wrong
that you mustn't quit.

Slow me down, Lord

Slow me down, Lord, Slow me down!
Ease the pounding of my heart
By the quieting of my mind

Give me amid the confusion of the day,
The calmness of the everlasting hills
Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles
With soothing music of the singing stream
That live in my memory.
Help me to know the magical
restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking minute vacation
Of slowing down to look at a flower,
To chat with a friend, to pat a dog,
To read a few lines from a good book.

Remind me each day of the fable,
Of the Hare and the Tortoise,
That I may know that the race
is not always to be swift –
There is more to life than increasing speed.

Let me look upward into the branches
of the flowing oak.
And know that it is great and strong
because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me
To send my roots deep into the soil
of life's enduring values
That I may grow toward the stars
of my great destiny.

Don't forget Ascension Day

It is usually overshadowed by Easter and Pentecost, but we should not forget Ascension Day, celebrated this year on Thursday May 25th. Unlike our friends in the Anglican and Roman Catholic traditions, it's not our custom to mark the day with a special service, but let's not not overlook the significance of Jesus' ascension to heaven, just 40 days after his resurrection, and recounted in Acts 1v1-11 :

- 1 It proclaims Christ's triumph (Acts 2v32-36)
- 2 It ensured the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2v33)
- 3 It established Christ's authority as Head of the Church (Eph 1v20-22)
- 4 It initiated Jesus' priestly ministry for us (Heb 7v24-25)
- 5 It embodies the promise of Christ's return to this earth (Acts 1v11)

What does this mean for us in 2017?

- *We have security in an insecure world. "All authority has been given to me", said Jesus promising us that he is King and Lord in all our circumstances, and that nothing can afflict us without his permission*

- *We have comfort in our suffering, knowing that our great high priest is praying for us in heaven*
- *We have Jesus' authority to proclaim the Gospel. When Jesus proclaimed his authority, he added "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations." (Matt 28v18-19)*
- *We have, as individuals and as a church, all the resources we need to serve him on earth. The ascended Christ gives gifts of the Spirit and anoints us with power and authority (Acts 1v8)*
- *We have a glorious hope, as we look forward, firstly, to being taken home to be with Jesus in heaven, then to Christ's return from heaven and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom in a new heaven and new earth (1 Cor 15v23-26, 2 Peter 3v13)*

So let us exult with Charles Wesley as we celebrate Ascension Day:

*Jesus the Saviour reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Mike Gardiner

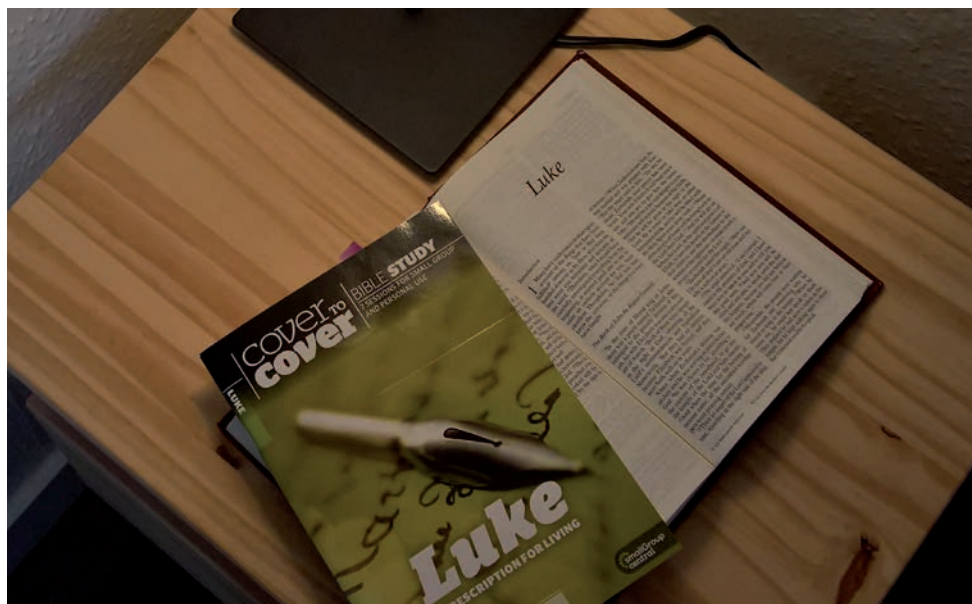
Home Groups

From January to April we went “Journeying with Jesus” in 7 sessions from Bethlehem through to Christ’s anointing in Bethany during Holy Week. I am thankful for those who prepared the sessions I was not leading; Mike Gardiner, Dan McQuillin, David Walters and David Goodchild. I am also thankful for Richard Walters’ work on the sound desk – he had to sit through all the talks twice!

If you missed these sessions there is, as with our Sunday morning sermons, audio of the talk available via our church website, and if you would like a copy of the questions discussed in the groups please do ask me.

Having had a rest over Easter our new home groups commence in the first week of May, where we will still be looking at the life of Jesus but focusing particularly on the Gospel of Luke using a “Cover to Cover” study book. I do ask that you take a little time to pre-read the bible passages and session notes as your preparation for time together. There will be three different groups in the morning, led by Mike Gardiner, Heather Swann and myself. In the evening there will be four; Janet Wade, Carol Walters, Emmeline Morrison, and Graham Campling. Individuals have been allocated to these home group leaders, if you haven’t joined a group but would like to, please do contact me.

Keith Morrison



Lindfield

Whenever I think of Lindfield
I picture a bright sunny day;
The sound of the leather on willow
And laughter of children at play.

The Common, wide open, inviting
With bowls and the tennis near by.
And memories of coloured balloons in the past
That floated so high in the sky.

Events like the Village Day, stalls on the green;
And later, the bonfire and bright fireworks seen.
Sports of all sorts as the year turns around;
Snowmen in winter with ice on the ground.

Walk down the High Street and picture the past
Great stately homes that were built here to last.
Horses were changed when their coach passed this way
At Inns on the road where we still eat today.

Our pond with the ducks swimming round in the reeds,
And small friendly shops that supply all our needs.
Churches with doors that are open to all;
For every event they will answer the call.

This village we love, what more can we say
But thank kindly fate that has sent us this way.
Wherever we roam, whatever the test,
Lindfield, dear Lindfield, you're always the best!

Dorothy Brown

March 2017

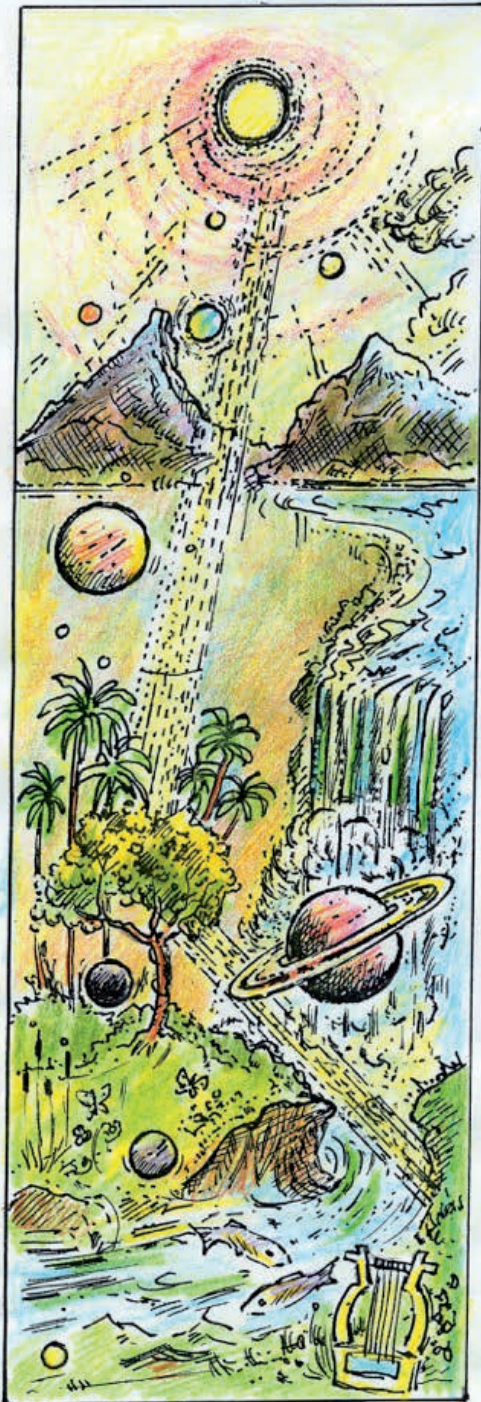


Genesis & Revelation

Illustrated are two of six designs modified from a set originally intended for stained glass windows.

The two were inspired by Genesis and Revelation. The Genesis design indicates the impact of unseen forces upon nature with a burst of cosmic energy that is no mere accident. The lyre is a symbol of poetic and musical responses to the creative process typified by psalms.

The Revelation design includes a Roman oil lamp to symbolise the light of truth as revealed by scripture and the church which provides and proclaims it in diverse ways.



GENESIS PANEL.

The Revelation design includes symbolic representations for four evangelists. The winged lion for St. Mark, the angel for St. Matthew, the ox for St. Luke and the eagle for St. John.

The set of designs were produced for myself and never intended to be viewed by others. When asked to create designs suitable for a banner to use for Lindfield United Reformed Church, I offered all six to be utilised.

It is interesting to re-discover work produced in the past which may have found a new purpose.

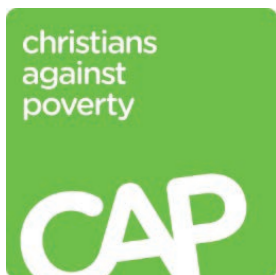
Brian Tuppen



Mission Update

Christians Against Poverty

Our mission focus for May and June 2017 is on Christians Against Poverty (CAP). www.capuk.org



CAP exists because it believes nobody should be held hostage by debt and poverty. It is passionate about releasing people in our nation from a life sentence of debt, poverty and their causes. Through its services, which are all run through local churches, it is tackling poverty head on. CAP's vision is to bring freedom and good news to people in every community through 1,000 CAP projects by 2021.

CAP was started in 1996 by John Kirkby, with a small donation and much faith. The organisation has been on an amazing journey of growth. As well as debt services, it now helps people to step into employment through CAP Job Clubs, helps people get control of their addictions through CAP Release Groups and a brand new service, CAP Life Skills, to equip people to live well on a low income.

On Sunday 7 May we are looking forward to welcoming Adrian and Val Cookney back to LURC and to Adrian telling us more about the organisation. Adrian and his wife, Val, moved away from Sussex last year to take up a post with CAP. He will be giving a brief insight to CAP during the Morning Service, followed by a talk after the post-Morning Service coffee.

Please see the mission display for more information or contact one of the Missions Group team – Jean Gardiner, Terry Oliver, Lesley Sparks, Alex Hall and Helen Hall.

As always, if you would like to give please use the special envelopes and place your donation in the offertory at any Sunday Service.

Thank you for your faithful support of missions whether through prayer, giving in time and/or financial support.

#SomethingDifferent

At a recent elders day we spent some time discussing the evening service. The number attending was often small, some felt uncomfortable, and there was a thought that something had to change in order for it to develop in a way that may encourage people in their worship, strengthen them in their faith, and challenge them to live proclaiming the coming kingdom.

There was pain in the discussion but not a clear solution. Meeting with Danny afterwards the two of us had a sense that the evening service had to be something different from the 10am act of worship, it had to allow more participation, but not be so removed from the familiar that it would be too uncomfortable. It had to incorporate worship music, prayer, exploring the Word and be welcoming.

Our plan has become #SomethingDifferent. The format will not be the same each week, but it will embrace new and familiar aspects to being God's people together in worship. Our first service of this style, if it can be thought to be a style, was on Easter day, where we had the opportunity to engage in prayer spaces. These were located across the ground floor of the church building including 9 based on Holy Week in the hall. People could write their praise on leaves for Palm Sunday, consider their friends at the Lord's Table, write their big questions to God on cardboard, and say sorry seeking forgiveness at the cross. An empty tomb was in the lounge, where folded grave clothes reminded us Christ is Risen!

Please do join with us at 6.30 on Sunday nights it may well not be prayer spaces but it will be #SomethingDifferent.

Keith Morrison



Sunday Services

The **10.00am** service is an opportunity for all age groups to join in a relaxed informal time. Most weeks, children leave after 20 minutes for their own activities (including crèche). Lighthouse (Junior church) is for children and young people up to age 14. Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

Coffee is served after the morning service.

Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

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

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday)

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

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

Recordings of services can be borrowed free from the church.

Prayer Meetings

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

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.

May Church diary

3rd Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	21st Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison
4th Thursday		Premises in use for Local Council Elections		6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev Keith Morrison
6th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church	22nd Monday	6:30pm	BB Awards Evening
7th Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison	23rd Tuesday	7:45pm	Ladies In-Touch Group
	6:30pm	Communion Rev Keith Morrison	24th Wednesday	2:30pm 7:45pm	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
11th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Meeting	25th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
15th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church	27th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church
14th Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Tim Griffiths	28th Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
	6:30pm	Evening Worship Rev David Goodenough		6:30pm	Evening Worship
20th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, Evan Free Church	29th Monday	Bank Holiday Monday	
	9:00am	Spring Clean and repairs morning			

YOUTH PAGES

Hello!

Over this Easter break, a few of us went off to Spring Harvest! Spring Harvest is a Christian event held at Butlin's in Minehead, and Skegness.

The theme this year was 'One for All', exploring how although we are different denominations and may have slightly different beliefs, we are all one church and aim to see God's Kingdom on earth.



Here are some thoughts from some of those who came with us!

Danny and Ruth





Spring Harvest 2017 was a phenomenal call to unity. We welcomed and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit on day one and continued to praise God in all types of worship as the week went on. Paula Gooder's bible teaching intricately explored a really tricky chapter of the Bible, John 17. We were challenged to awaken and unite the church through the gentle, humble and, at times, hilarious words of the Most Revd and Rt Hon Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, or "Archbishop Justin" as he was affectionally known. As a Church, we learnt the importance of unity and togetherness in a broken nation, and a broken world. And as people, we learnt how to argue well, how to love through differences and also about the history of the early Church.

I attended a brilliant after hours sketch show, where we rediscovered the Reformation through hilarious skits and songs.

Every single speaker was humble and spoke with love and passion about the subject of unity, and we all felt the incredible sense of fellowship that comes when you gather with other Christians. It was an incredible experience, and I really hope you'll join me and many others in Spring Harvest 2018: 'Only The Brave'.

I made a short video about the week, which, if you are able, I'd love you to check out here. Make sure you turn your audio on!

freyaspringharvest2017.weebly.com

Freya Goodchild

Spring Harvest 2017 was titled “One for All” and the theme of unity resonated throughout the early morning all age worship, morning bible reading, mid-morning practical application sessions, afternoon seminars and evening celebrations. The speakers proclaimed that the solution to a divided United Kingdom is a united Church - there is so much more that unites us than divides. Specific points that I made a note of included: The Church is One In Him - different, but divinely connected. God forms a family out of strangers and calls it church. All Christians are adopted children of God and therefore Brothers and Sisters and as we gather to the cross we grow closer to each other.

We need to know ‘Whose we are before Who we are.’ The root of our unity is being one in Christ as we seek righteousness, not right-ness. The world is watching how Christians debate difficult issues and what they publish on social media. There is a need to disagree well and seek unity and not division, whilst keeping to scriptural truths.

So, the teaching was challenging and timely!

We also enjoyed meeting together to celebrate Dan McQuillin’s birthday, dinner out on the last evening and the LURC team won the pub quiz!

Lydia Goodchild





We hadn't been to Spring Harvest for a few years but this April we turned our wheels towards the setting sun and headed back down the M4. The theme this year was 'One for All' and we were looking at unity from John 17. The theologian Paula Gooder was delivering the morning sessions and unpacking the theme. I made lots of notes over the days but the thing that struck me most was her unpacking of the name for God used throughout the Bible 'I am who I am' (see Exodus 3 v.14). I had always struggled with understanding what this simple phrase can tell us about who God really is. Paula told us that unlike English, there are only two tenses in Hebrew - perfect (things that have finished) and imperfect (things that have not yet finished). A more accurate translation therefore is: I am who

I am, I was who I was, I will be who I will be, I will be who I was and I was who I will be. This (albeit wordy) translation points us to God who was, and is, and is to come, unchanging and eternal.

Other highlights for me included Justin Welby, Miriam Swaffield, Pete Greig and a visit to Samaritans Purse to see how their 'raising families' projects are transforming the lives of the poor through the local church.

This is us experiencing how sour poverty can be (with the help of some raw lemons).

Spring Harvest this year has offered good theology, practical discussion, inclusive worship and a lot of fun.

David Goodchild

I enjoyed the worship sessions, particularly the one about how we can connect with God and the Holy Spirit to deal with offence in a positive way. I also enjoyed the Go-Karts and spending time with family and friends, as Spring Harvest has allowed me to connect with everyone in a unified way. We have discovered several interesting themes such as how we share, love, unite and serve, which have all been good thinking points for all of us. As a result, I would highly recommend anyone who is interested in learning more about God and developing their faith further to come to Spring harvest.

I am so looking forward to next year!

Peter McCleery

Spring harvest 2017 was an amazing experience not just physically but also spiritually, the theme taught us that every Christian has different ways and preferences of praising God and that we should look past our differences as we have the same goal. I also enjoyed spending time with great friends from the church and will never stop loving Spring Harvest.

Kieron Harfield

Spring Harvest this year was even better than last year! I shall forever remember this week where I fully became Christian and fully submitted myself to God!

Allan Kay



Spring Harvest was amazing! There were some amazing highs and a literal low. Typical me, I fell during the conga! Now iScape (15-18's) call it a health and safety hazard! The worship was amazing and the Holy Spirit was there throughout the week. The talks were amazing and I have learnt so much more about the Lord and myself! I cannot wait until next year!

Jo Harfield

What struck me most about Spring Harvest this year was the sense of community and identity among everyone who went there. This mood was reinforced by this year's theme, unity within the church, but it was there on the first day, before this idea was even introduced. In the spirit of this unity, a key speaker at the event was Archbishop Justin Welby, who was true to form in every respect. Funny, insightful and relatable to everyone there, he was a definite highlight of the week, who, in the words of Paula Gooder, went through an entire three-morning programme in one address.

I think I appreciated my time there all the more after a year's sabbatical, I've changed enough in a couple of years to look for entirely new aspects of God. This week has helped my re-evaluate both my Christian and 'secular' life (that is the everyday), and I'm immensely thankful for it.

Joe Goodchild

Spring Harvest this year has been full of twists and turns both physical and spiritual, the theme for this year was 'All for one' about a united church. Many of the talks were engaging and just a joy to listen to and take in its meaning. We had a visit by the Archbishop of Canterbury who gave, from what I hear was fantastic talk, I found out later that he had spoken about the same things as the preacher we had in the mornings in the morning worship in the skyline for the next 3 days. Spring harvest 2017 was a lot of fun and I look forward to 2018.

Alex Harfield



Boys' Brigade

We have been encouraged by an increase in numbers over the past month with a number of boys joining Anchors and one boy joining Juniors. We hope that building the Company up in these sections will give a stronger company section over the next few years as this is our weakest section, numbers wise, at present. The Juniors entered the Battalion Spring Competition which consists of a number of memory tests and games.

Unfortunately we were low on numbers on the evening but the boys who attended did well. We are now practising for the International Team games competition and making preparations for the weekend holiday at Carroty Wood.

We hold our Awards Evening on Monday 22nd May at 6.30pm. If you are free we hope you will join us for an hour that evening.

David Walters



>the adventure begins here

Mouse Makes



The Man in the Tree

With Jesus passing through the town
A crowd of people gathered round,
But as Zacchaeus could not see,
He ran ahead and climbed a tree.

Jesus stopped as he passed by,
And saw Zacchaeus there up high,
Said, "Dear Zacchaeus, come with me,
I'm going to your house for tea".

Zacchaeus climbed
down to the floor,
And walked with Jesus
to his door,
Amazed the Lord would
want to be
With such a liar and
cheat as he.

Zacchaeus, sorry for
all he had done,
Said, "Lord, I'll pay
back everyone,
Half I own I give
to the poor,
Those I've cheated get
four times more."

Jesus said,
"Today you're saved!"
Zacchaeus replied,
"May God be praised!"



S E E K L O S T S
I G F O Z H M S A V E
N I O T A X H A L F
N V U T C G O D V A J
E E R I C H U Z A D E
R X G M H T S I T O S
P F E A W E I W U
P O S S E S S I O N S
F O U R U N G
T R E E S

Can you find these
words from the story
in the word search above?

JESUS • ZACCHAEUS • TAX
RICH • TREE • DOWN • HOUSE
SINNER • HALF • POSSESSIONS
GIVE • POOR • FOUR • TIMES • GOD
SALVATION • SEEK • SAVE • LOST

READ
Zacchaeus'
story in
Luke 19:1-10



Church Weekend Away

16th to 18th June

ABBA:

Knowing Me, Knowing You

As the date for our church weekend away at Pilgrim Hall near Uckfield on the 16th to the 18th June fast approaches we ask you to pray for God's blessing upon our preparations.

To ensure the weekend is accessible to all we are not setting a price we ask you to give as you are able. We will be holding our second Gift Day on Sunday 14th May. Please consider prayerfully what your contribution may be.

If you can enhance your gift through Gift Aid this would be much appreciated. Envelopes for your donation will be available in advance of the Gift Day. Should you prefer to make your donation in instalments, methods of payment or information about Gift Aid please speak with Paul Bloxham.

We hope that you feel welcome to come along, it is not too late to book your place, either as a resident for the weekend or to attend during the day. Please prayerfully consider if you could support and encourage a member of our church family to attend by offering companionship or in other practical ways such as transport.

Our accommodation does include disability friendly bedrooms and transport will be available to Pilgrim Hall. If we can assist with any needs to enable you to attend the weekend please let us know.

The programme for the weekend is being prepared and will be led by Lorna and The Reverend David Bedford from Dorking United Reformed Church.

As the theme of the weekend David explains that Jesus used the word 'Abba' (Aramaic), a very intimate title best translated 'Daddy' to speak to God: come and renew your intimacy with Him, with your brothers and sisters, and in the light of such a dynamic relationship share the hope in your heart with others. Jesus says, "Lay all your love on me": come and discover what it is to be loved by God and by His Family, and to become a channel of His Love to others.

Throughout the weekend, David and Lorna will lead six teaching sessions which will start and end with parts of the Prodigal Son. We will explore how we can move forward together, trusting Jesus, our relationships with one another, mission on our doorstep, the challenges we face and our dreams for the future.

David asks that we consider the words of the song by Chris Bowater - Make Me Lord a Dreamer for Your Kingdom;

*Rags or robe?
Pig pen or banquet?
Bare foot or sandals?
Rejection or ring?
You choose?*

Throughout the weekend there are activities for children and young people, time for worship and for us to grow together sharing this special time over meals and whilst relaxing. The venue also has a heated swimming pool and a games room.

You are invited to arrive on Friday evening from 5.30pm for dinner at 7.00pm. On both Saturday and Sunday, we start with prayer time at 8.00 am, breakfast at 8.30am and the first session at 9.45am. On Saturday, the final session ends at 5.30pm with dinner at 6.00pm followed by family time. On Sunday, we anticipate that the events will finish by 2.00pm, and there will then be an opportunity for a time of reflection with David and Lorna, for those that would like to join them.

If you would like more information please speak to a member of the committee; Jeremy Campling, Zoe McQuillin, Danny Goodall, Paul Bloxman, Laura Sykes or Mike Odell or email us at weekendaway@lindfieldURC.org.uk

Mike Odell



ABBA
Knowing Me
Knowing You

Prayer points

Growth

That we may have a deepening sense of our heavenly Father and grow as His children in relationship with Him, and our fellow Christians

We are Here

For David & Lorna Bedford

May they be inspired to bring the Word alive to us, and proclaim the message we need to hear in our heart.

Youth Work

That the right people may be available to lead the children's and youth work. For all ages to know God's presence and grow in faith.

Those unsure of attending

That God will lead them to the right decision for them.

Gift days

Pray that our giving may serve and encourage others

We Are Here To Meet With Jesus is a "gathering song" for the start of a worship service (like As We Are Gathered from the 70s or the more recent Come People of the Risen King), with a particular focus on coming together to encounter the Lord Jesus. I remember a minister at the time I wrote the song would often begin a service by saying that of all the reasons we were at church, the most important was to meet Jesus, and we should leave changed as a result of meeting Him. I tried to capture some of the range of things we do in church – worship, Bible study, prayer, offering – and centre them on a meeting with Jesus. The tune is fairly straightforward and repetitive, though if you listen carefully there's some more complicated stuff going in the chords and accompaniment underneath to make it more interesting. I sometimes use the song at the beginning of the service, and then refer back to it later on – speaking the words of verse 3 for example during a time of praying for others.

Wherever and whenever we meet as God's people, we need to remember that we are there meet with Jesus: to worship Him, to look to Him, to pray to Him, to give ourselves to Him.

Matthew Newman

South Parade Baptist Church
Headingley, Leeds



*WE ARE HERE TO MEET WITH JESUS,
We have come to worship Him;
To sing the praises of God, our Father,
Who sent us Jesus, His only Son.
For Christ has died, and Christ is risen,
And we know that He will come again.
We honour Him, our Lord and Saviour:
We have come here now to worship Him.*

*We are here to meet with Jesus,
We have come to look to Him;
To ask our Saviour for His forgiveness,
For grace so we can be more like Him;
To hear His word, the Bible's teaching,
As the Spirit guides us into truth;
To seek His will, the mind of Jesus:
We have come here now to look to Him.*

*We are here to meet with Jesus,
We have come to pray to Him;
To bring before Him the needs of others:
The world, our nation, our town, our street;
To pray for peace where war is raging,
And for light to shine, where darkness rules;
For all the sick, the lost and lonely,
We have come here now to pray to Him.*

*We are here to meet with Jesus,
We have come to give to Him;
To offer Jesus our time and money,
The gifts our Father has giv'n to us;
To bring our thanks for all His blessings*

*And to bring ourselves and all we have;
To serve the one who came to serve us:
We have come here now to give to Him.*

We have come here now to meet with him.

Who am I?

Revealed

The mystery subject of last month's Good News was Janet Wade - did you recognise her from the answers?! Janet has been a member of the LURC congregation for some 40 years, since she arrived in Lindfield with her late husband, Sandy, who took up the position of Head of Junior House at Warden Park School and also taught in the Science Department.

They arrived in Lindfield with their two daughters, Susan and Sarah, who were soon joined by a brother, Andrew. Janet also spent her working life in the teaching profession, ending it as Head of Geology at Haywards Heath Sixth Form College.

Janet has been and remains very active with many groups in the church, including BB and GB.



She was a wonderful leader of the House Group I most recently attended, always full of warmth, good humour and a love of the world around us.

Do have a chat with Janet over coffee and find out more about her....so she can find out more about you!

Martin Hall

Phonebook

Keith Morrison (Minister)

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Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

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Treasurer

Terry Ward 01444 482986

Boys' Brigade:

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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
May		
7th	Boys Brigade	Sue Tester
14th	Fo Tingley	Janet Sanderson
21st	Carol Walters	Meta Orchin
28th	Carol Marsh	Lesley Sparks

June

4th	Serena Nathan	Jo Bloxham
11th	Brian Tuppen	Iris Bingham
18th	Away Weekend	Heather Swann
25th	Zoe McQuillin	Fo Tingley

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 10th May

12.00 noon Tiger Arts - Lunch in The Tiger

1.00pm Concert in All Saints Church :

Students from Seaford College, Petworth

8.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall

Talk : Secrets of Hever Castle by Neil Miller

Thursday 18th May

7.30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall

"Allied" (15) Starring Brad Pitt & Marion Cotillard

Tickets available from Tufnells

Saturday 3rd June

Village Day on Lindfield Common



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk